

DEAD SPACE



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BRAM



Abraham 'Bram' Howard Neumann was born on Mars. His father, whom he idolized, was a cop. Immediately upon leaving school, Bram joined the Martian police to follow in the old man's footsteps. Bram was a beat cop during the infamous independence riots in Mars Capita, the planet's largest city-state. The violence and depths of human behavior he witnessed there led him to try out for Homicide, to get off the streets as much as anything.

He succeeded, but the celebration was tinged with sadness, as his father died shortly after of heart failure. Bram threw himself into work to cope with his grief, and quickly established himself as a tenacious, intuitive cop dedicated to his work.

Unfortunately, the long hours and stress of the department ruined his marriage. Bram had married Joanna back when he was just a beat copand she was unable to cope with a husband who was now constantly on call, always late home, and "too busy" to start a family. Seeking solace, she turned to Unitology, which was slowly growing in numbers throughout the Mars colonies. The religion soon dominated her life, but Bram was — perhaps willingly — blind to its effects on his wife. Eventually they fought when Joanna insisted on hosting a Unitologist group at their apartment, and Bram moved out.

It was at this point that a new commander took over the Capita Homicide division: a stuffy, middle-management suit whom Bram quickly discovered was also a Unitologist. During a particularly heated argument over the department's lack of resources. Bram punched his commander's lights out and resigned. For a day, he was was headline news on Mars.

Perhaps as a result of such a high-profile exit from the departments Bram was contacted soon after by an old Homicide partner, now retired and working for CEC's P-Sec division. He knew they were looking for new hires and recommended the job to Bram as an easy life after the stress of being a murder police. Bram didn't need persuading — right then, he would have taken a janitoring job so long as it was off-planet. He eagerly accepted to get as far away from Mars, his wife and Unitology as possible.

But to his surprise, Bram found he enjoyed the work. It was sociable, low-stress, and paid well enough that he soon became comfortable and had trouble remembering what it was he'd ever liked about being a Homicide detective. He soon rose to Sergeant and transferred to Commander James' squad, where he met and partnered with Detective Cortez.

Though Bram was estranged from Joanna, they were still legally married. He continued to have occasional correspondence with her, and strained irregular visits to see her on Mars. In his heart, he hoped that she would see sense and leave the church with nothing hurt besides her pride. But that day never came, and one year ago Bram discovered that Joanna had given the church of Unitology their entire joint life savings, including money he'd put aside since working for CEC. As Joanna was still officially his wife, the church insisted this 'donation' was legal, and the Mars courts dismissed Bram's complaints. Bram filed for divorce immediately, and it was granted six months ago. He has since developed a casual relationship with Marla Janssen.

CORTEZ



Vera Maria Alejandra Cortez was born on Earth to a poor family in the central American sector, the youngest of five sisters. When she was twelve, her father was killed by street muggers, and her mother turned to Unitology for comfort. Soon the whole family were devout, and Vera has been a believer ever since.

Vera joined the local police as soon as she was old enough, but experienced so much sexual harassment and gender discrimination on the job that she quit and moved to the United States, finding work as a private security guard. Bored with the unsociable work, she applied to CEC for work in P-Sec and was taken on as a standard security officer.

Her diligence and perseverance paid off, and within a few years Vera made Detective. She is intensely proud that she got there through hard work and merit, and brooks no disrespect from the multitude of veteran ex-cops that work P-Sec.

In private, Vera credits her success to her Unitologist beliefs, but while she doesn't deny her faith, she also doesn't shout about it. Most of her colleagues have no idea she is devout.

MARLA



Marla Loren Janssen was born in the Scandinavian sector of Earth, but when she was just ten years old her father took a job on Mars and moved his family there. Already somewhat bookish, Marla became a recluse in this literally alien environment. She spent all her spare time and money on computer tech, an area she excelled in at school, along with math and physics.

When she was thirteen, Marla's parents became suspicious that their daughter seemed to have a lot more money than her weekend job should have been paying her. Their investigations unfortunately led to involvement by the police, and within weeks Marla became the youngest person on Mars to ever be arrested for 'Grade l' hacking. She had been taking orders and payment from anonymous clients on the net, hacking into the central government's database to alter records for these clients.

Three years in Mars juvenile prison put Marla on the straight and narrow. She was released, and her record sealed, on her sixteenth birthday and promptly began working in the Mars shipyards as a systems designer and QA officer. While there she met Bram Neumann, while he was on leave to visit his wife. He told Marla she could earn more and have an easier life with P-Sec, whom he just happened to know were looking for a new control op on Commander James' squad.

Marla followed up on the lead, and within days she was offered the job. Marla has since worked on two colonies with James' squad. Since his divorce, she and Neumann have developed a casual relationship.

NATALIA



Natalia Raisa Deshyanov was born in Earth's North Asia sector, to a large extended family of engineers and laborers going back generations. She spent her childhood stargazing, and would often act out fantasies of living on Mars with her cousins.

Unlike most children, Natalia's fascination with the stars never faded, and while serving out her apprenticeship as an engineer, she continually applied for spacebound jobs. It was the Mars Capita riots that would eventually grant her wish, as post-revolution the fledgling city-state desperately needed good engineers to repair and rebuild its infrastructure. Natalia successfully applied, and was taken on by a general engineering contractor. Forty-eight relatives turned out to bid her goodbye as she boarded the shuttle at Baikonur, and Natalia never looked back.

Later, seeing that the Mars rebuilding was nearing completion and her job would soon be redundant, Natalia jumped before she was pushed. She found a new line of work in Mars' orbiting shipyards, working for a CEC subsidiary. She soon garnered a position within CEC itself as a supervisor.

Natalia has lived and worked her whole life around engineers and laborers, and is completely comfortable working in a predominantly male environment. She gives as good as she gets, and can drink half of her own team under the table.

ABBOTT



Deakin St. John Abbott was born on Mars, a second-genner whose parents were both first-gen Mars natives. An unremarkable early life and education was tempered by his aptitude for mechanics and engineering, which led him to a career in those fields. He came to specialize in 'hostile terrain' vehicles, and was working for the Martian police's vehicle and engineering division during the Mars Capita riots.

Deakin's wife Tina, a civilian and housewife, was killed in those same riots by police fire into a crowded street. Disillusioned with life and the world, Abbott sought solace in Unitology. The church only deepened his growing distrust of government and its officials, even Mars Capita's new 'idealist' administration. Soon Unitology became Deakin's life, and he began lay preaching while continuing to work as an engineer, though he no longer accepted work on state contracts.

Deakin was slowly becoming persona non grata on Mars, and he began looking for a way off the planet. At the same time, a former colleague from his work with the police contacted him. Now working for CEC, his old colleague headhunted Deakin for the company, and he jumped at the chance to escape his bad memories.

Deakin worked his way up to become a supervisor in the VTM (Vehicular, Transport & Mechanical) division of CEC's colony operations, and he continues to preach the gospel of Unitology.

SCIARELLO



Thomas Olivier Sciarello was born to a comfortable family life in the United States sector of Earth. Tom's father was a surgeon, and his mother a general practitioner. It was expected that his older brother Carlos would follow in their footsteps, but instead Carlos went off the rails and has spent a lifetime in and out of jail for petty crimes.

Feeling the weight of responsibility, Tom took up the mantle instead, and plunged headfirst into a comfortable career and family life. He married young, had two children, and ran a successful surgery on Earth for many years.

Then his parents both died within a month of each other, and Tom's life fell apart. The loss had a much greater impact than anyone could have foreseen. Within six months he had divorced his wife, closed his surgery and joined a small extraterrestrial mining company as their fleet doctor. Unfortunately, he rapidly discovered that life in space freaked him the hell out.

Tom cast around for a position on Mars, but instead found an opening with CEC, who were looking for good doctors to head up colony surgeries. Grateful for any job that would only require a bare minimum of space travel, he took it.

Ten years later, Tom has presided over three successful planetcrack colonies and was recently promoted to CMO (Chief Medical Officer). He has never remarried.

CARTHUSIA



Hanford Peter George la Salle Carthusia was born into a wealthy family of bankers and executives in the pan-European sector of Earth. His family has been a respected pillar of the Church of Scientology for three generations, and Hanford's generation is no exception. Almost all family members are Vested, and at least one is known to be an Overseer.

Hanford worked in a variety of family-owned businesses in energy, manufacturing and distribution, working his way through middle management with a genuine skill for strategy and protecting the bottom line. Eventually he was promoted, and went on to prove he had equal skills in the boardroom.

Through his family connections, Hanford came to the attention of several prominent Unitologists within the higher echelons of CEC, and was headhunted at their behest. His family gave their blessing, seeing it as an opportunity to increase their influence both in business and the church. He joined CEC as an assistant project manager and quickly rose to become an overall project manager, with full jurisdiction over his assigned mining colony.

He has presided over four planetcracks to date, and it is widely expected within the company that he will rise to executive level and work exclusively from CEC HQ on Earth. Hanford's wife and three children, who reside on Earth under the aegis of his powerful extended family, look forward to that day.











































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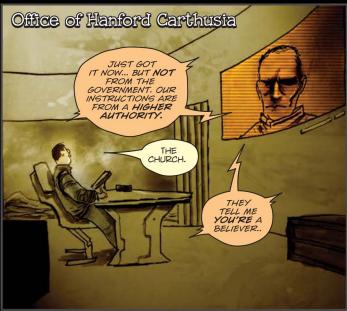


















































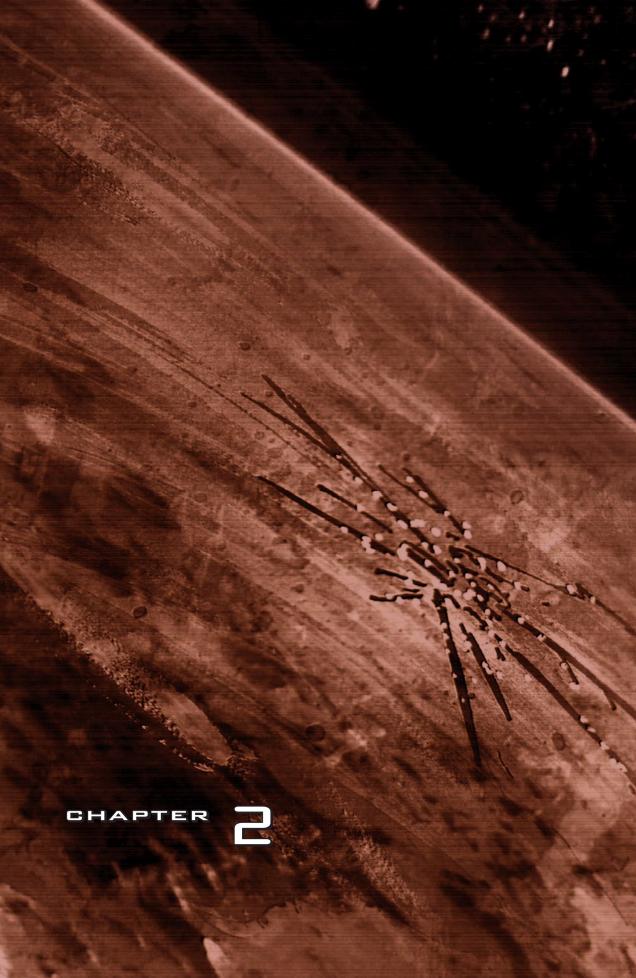






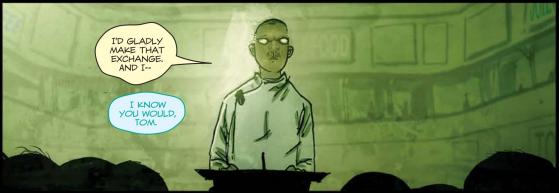






























































































































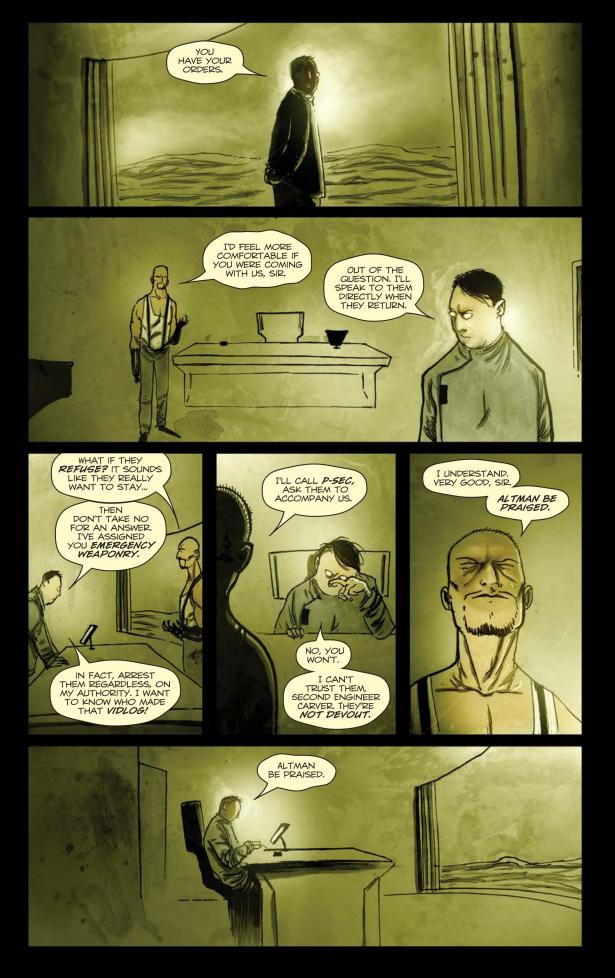


















































CHAPTER 3



















































































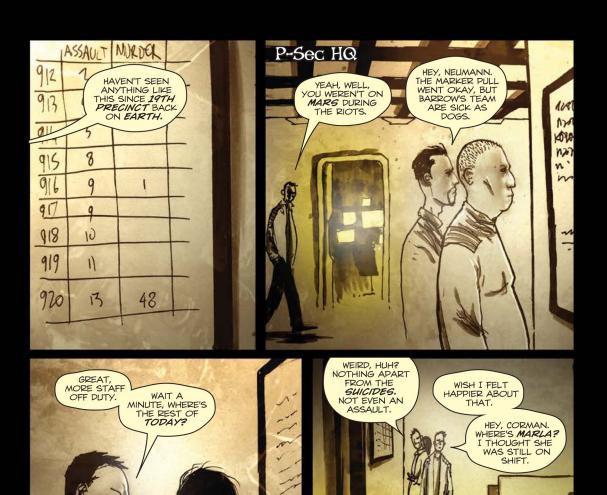


















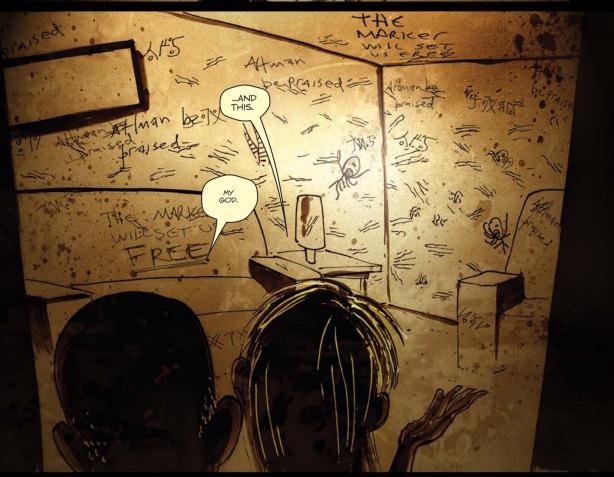
































































































































































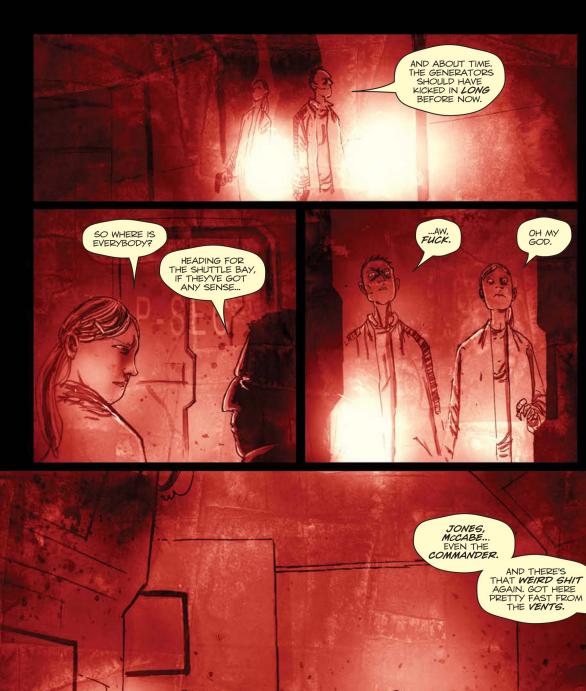
































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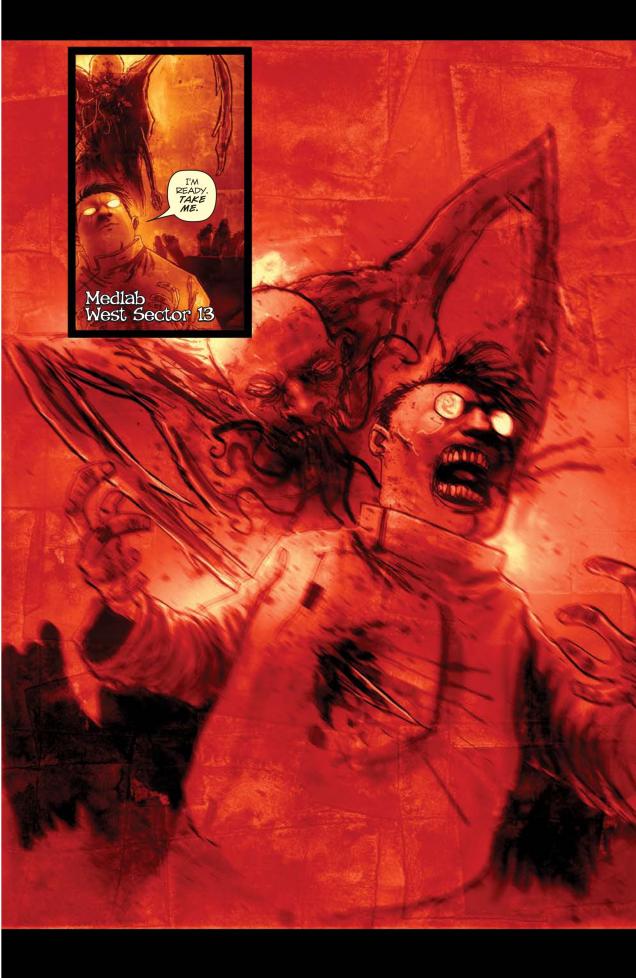










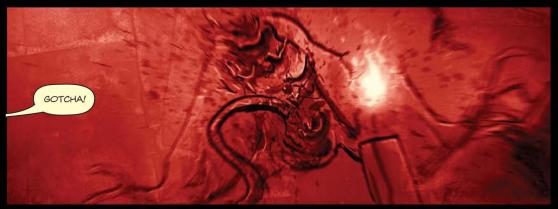






























































































































































































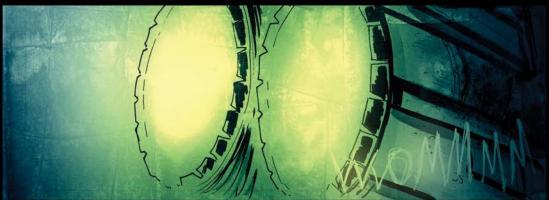














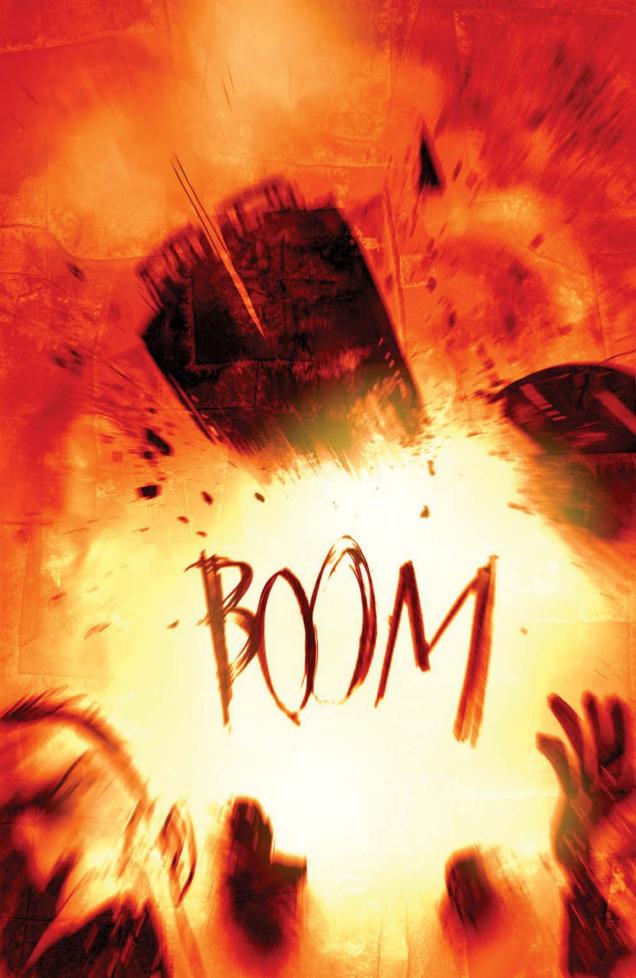




























































"ZERO G THERAPY" // ARTIST : LAWRENCE MAI



"KELLION INTERIOR" // ARTIST : JASON COURTNEY



"MINERAL PROCESSING" // ARTIST : JENS HOLDENER



"EMERGENCY ROOM" // ARTIST : NATHAN BOWDEN

CONCEPT ART // DEAD SPACE VIDEO GAME



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"BRUTE SKETCH 1" // ARTIST : BEN WANAT

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"BRUTE SKETCH 2" // ARTIST : BEN WANAT



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