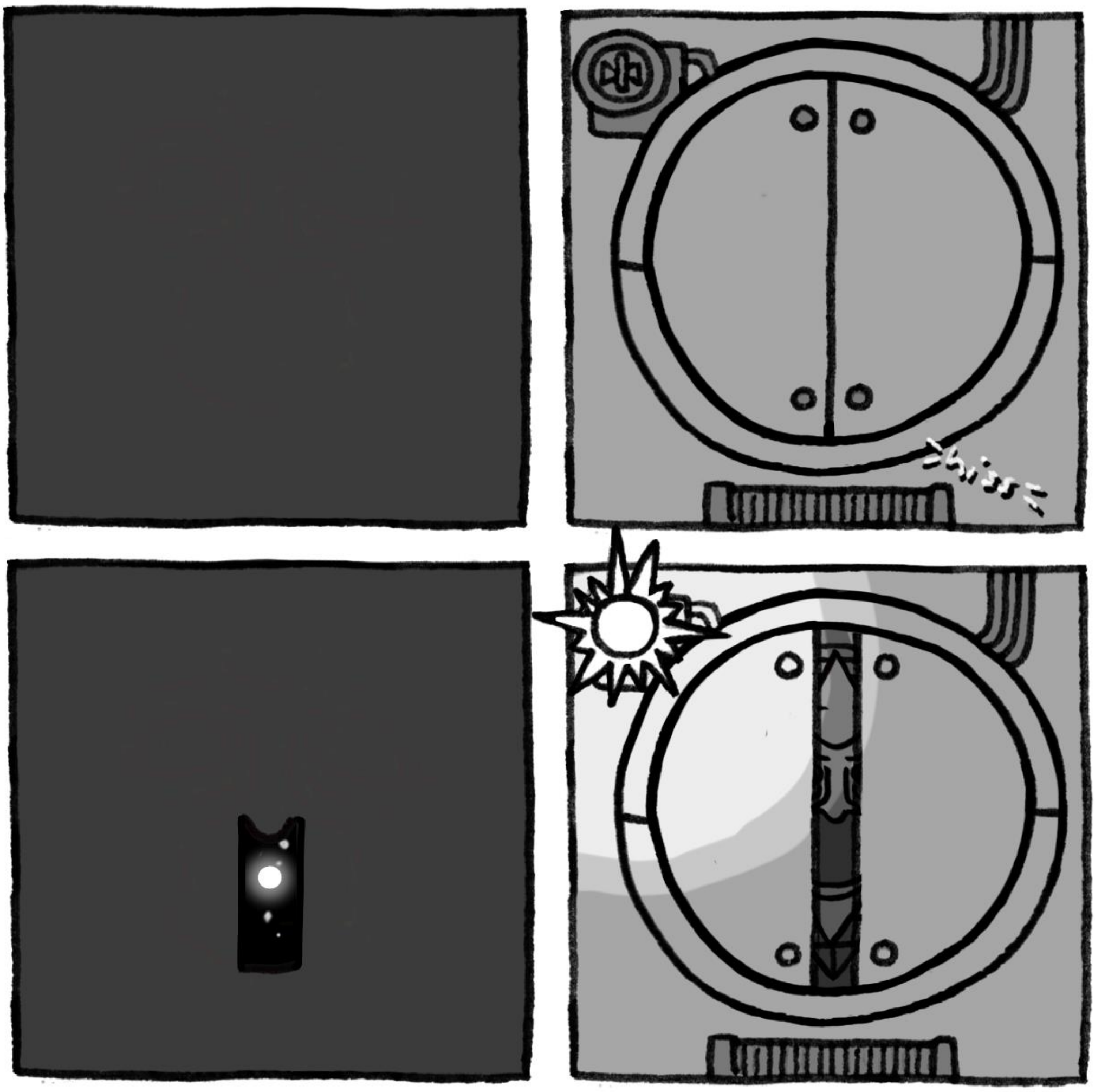
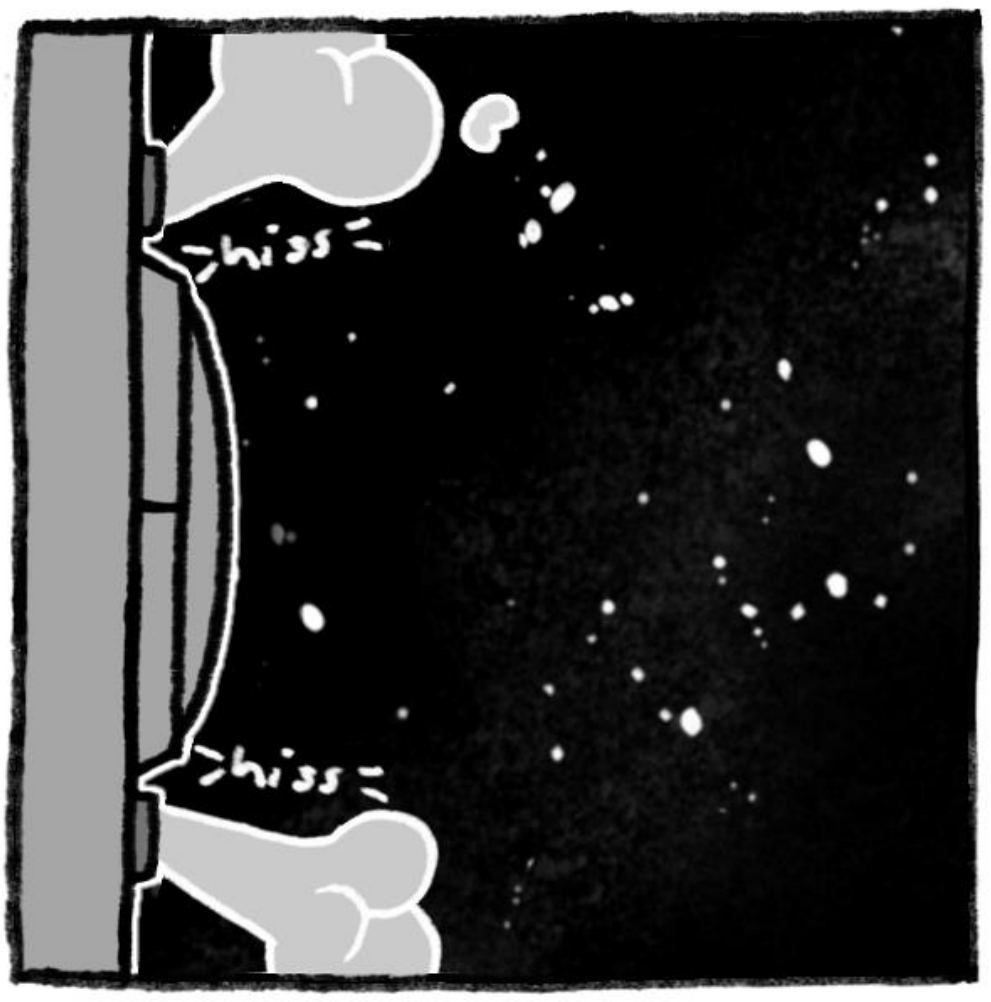
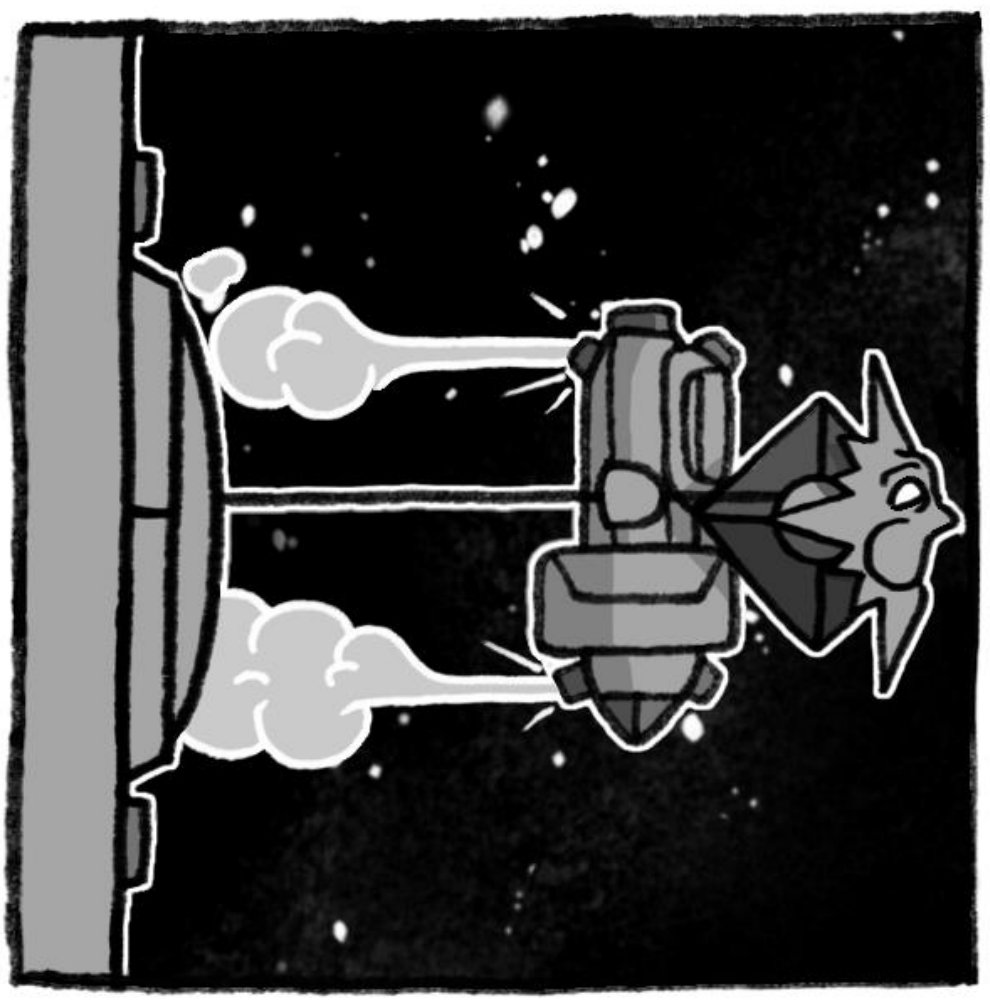
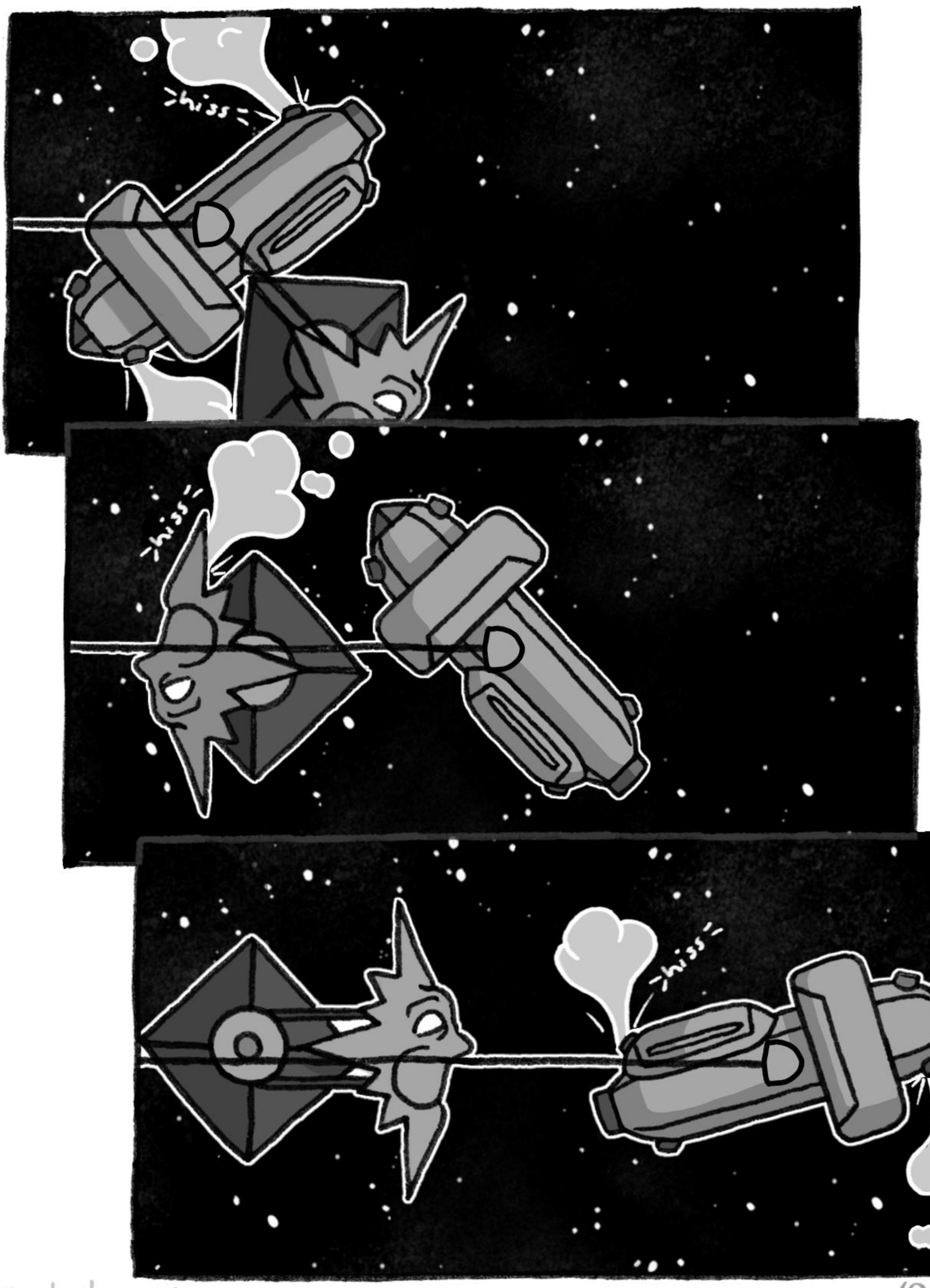
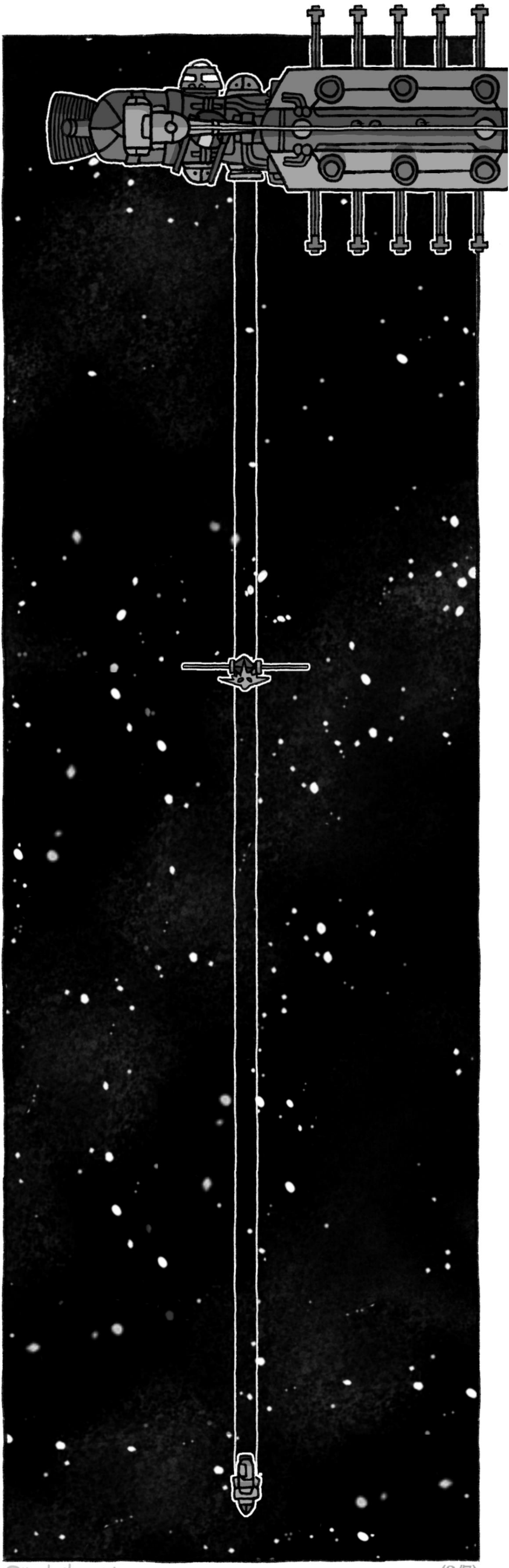



hiss
hiss




hiss
hiss
hiss
hiss



hiss

hiss

hiss

1470 KH

779

1432

HLS

10:0

0AB

F4kN

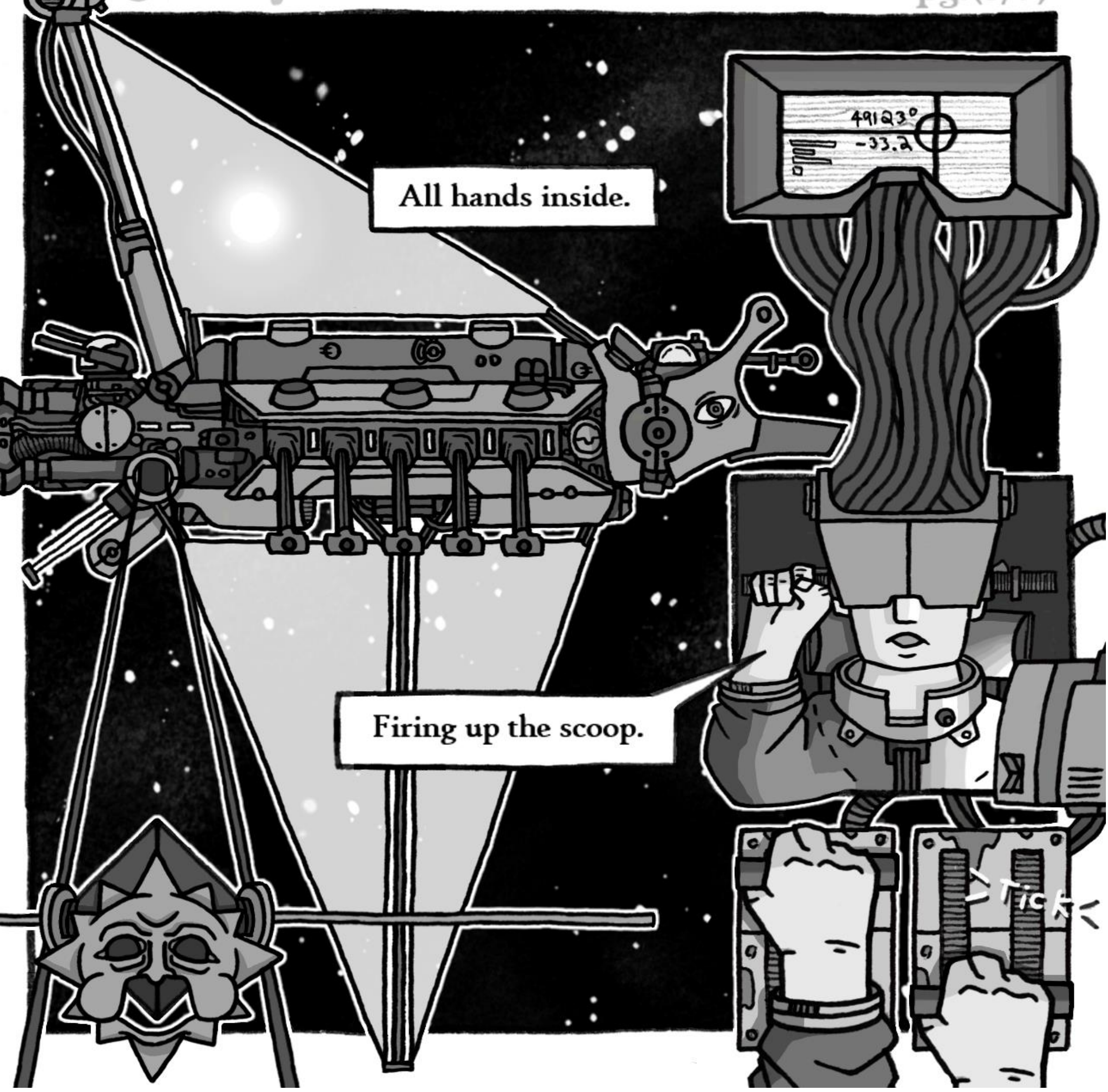
Bubble lens is out.

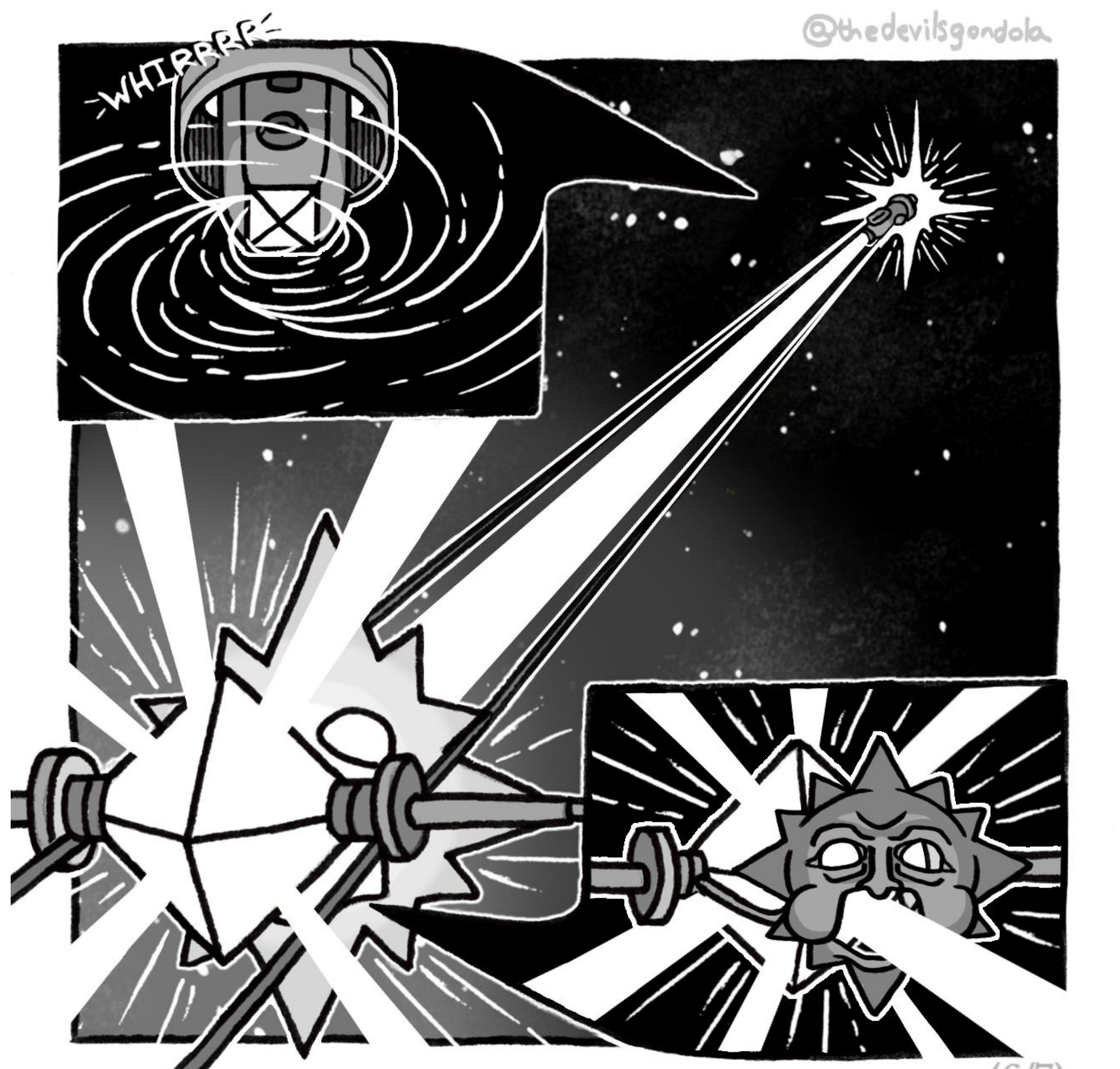
Focal length is good.

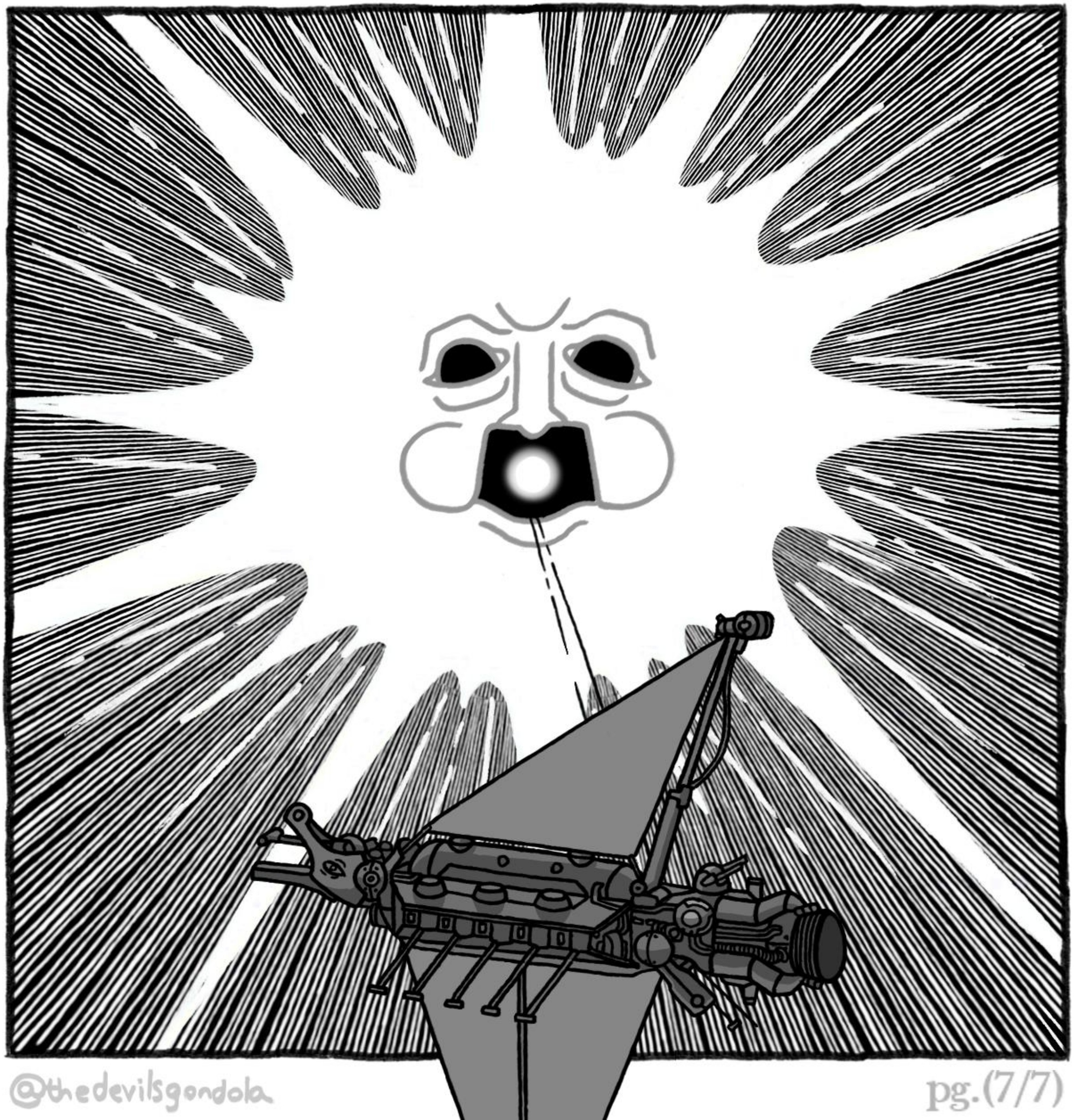
Angle is 35 degrees sunward.

How's it looking out there? Over.

Roger. The sail is set, heading back now.


49123°
-33.2
All hands inside.
Firing up the scoop.
TICK

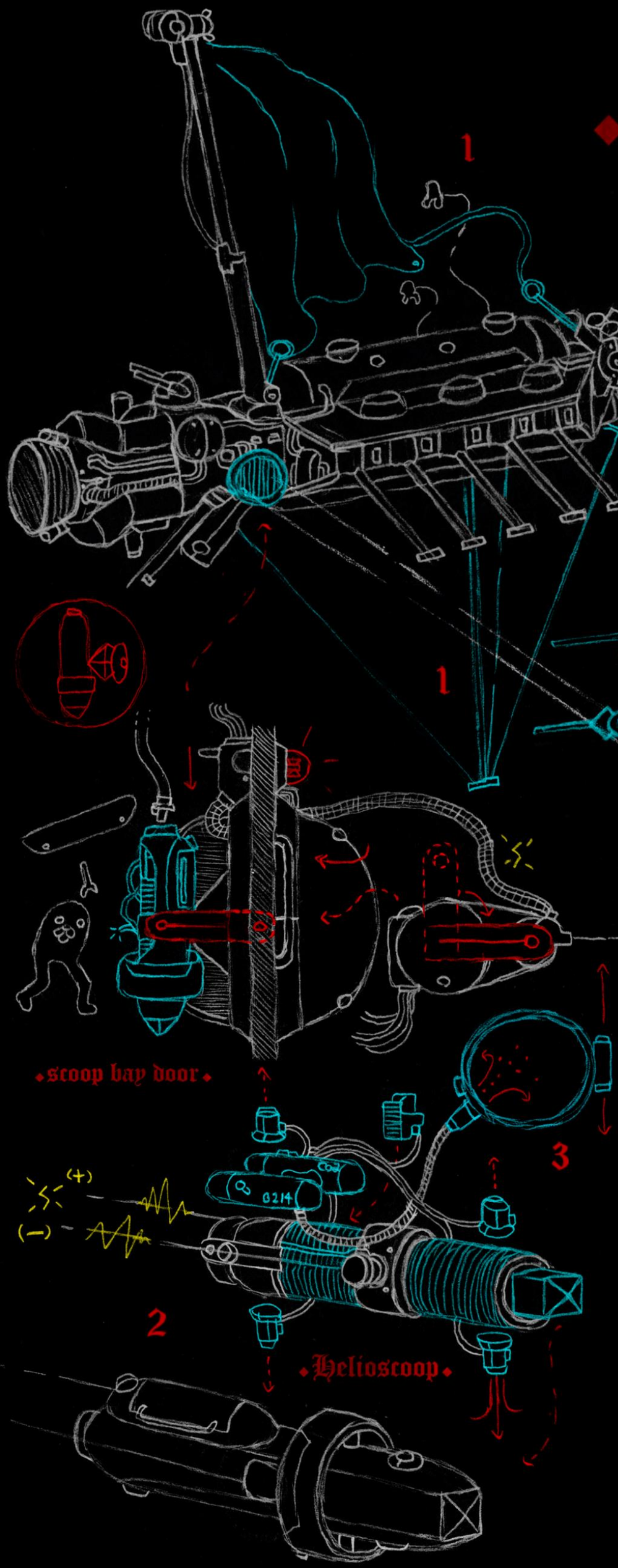

@thedevilsgondola
WHIRRRR

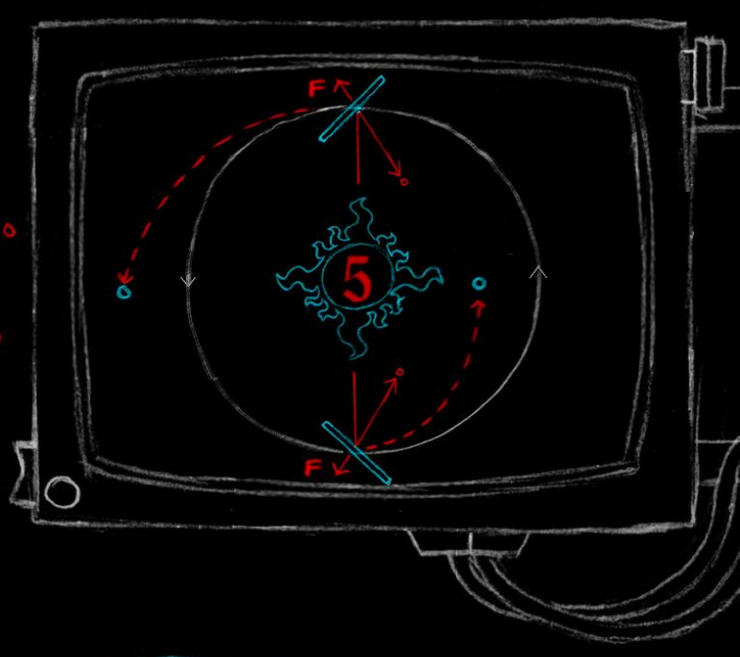


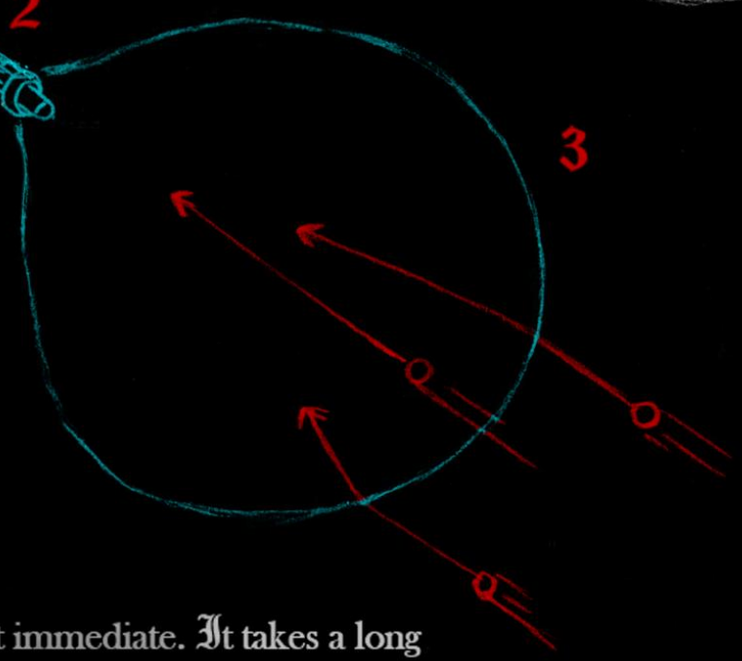
◆Solar Sails◆

@thedevilsgondola

Solar sailing is the primary method for interplanetary travel. The sails on this ship (fig 1) are set manually by astronauts, suspended from the existing main mast or from weaker extending arms like the hull mast below. However, the sails alone are not enough to move a multi-ton ship, requiring the assistance of the **Helioscoop** (fig 2), a large electrodiamagnet capable of pulling in photons. Due to the strength of the magnet, it's extended out away from the ship and deploys the **Bubble Lens** (fig 3), which consists of an outer layer of liquid plexiglass filled with a gaseous medium. Any light that passes through can be redirected using the faraday effect into the **Sunstone** (fig 4), a complex series of lenses and mirrors that concentrates light onto the sails.







Prior to the invention of the Helioscoop, sails were used in conjunction with high powered terrestrial lasers to give ships an initial push out of orbit, but the scoop can be used anywhere by magnifying sunlight instead. By angling the sails, a ship can create a tangential force to alter its orbit. (fig 5). However, the acceleration gained by the sail, even with the scoop, is not immediate. It takes a long time to build up speed, and the force drops the further out you go, so it's only applicable to long distance travel. A trip to the Moon may only be decreased by a day, while a trip to Pluto can be reduced to a single year.