

THE CRADLE

PART 3.1

1555.010 - CONVERSATION LOG - UG, TF, ES

Untamed Glory: Finally, the communication network is back online! Are you two okay?

Empty Streams: I could be doing better, but I'm alive.

Three Fields: **incomprehensible crying**

ES: Oh, Fields...

UG: Fields is there anything we can do to help?

TF: **more Incomprehensible sobbing* n- No. There is n-n..nothi-
*transitions into crying again**

==Three Fields Disconnects from the chat==

ES: ... Well, that's not good. I hate seeing her in that state but I don't think there is much we can do.

UG: I'll try talking to her later.

ES: Are you sure that's a good idea?

UG: I need to at least try.

ES: Fair enough. I'll be getting back to work on the great problem, then. Mind if we swap research notes?

UG: I have another project I am working on actually. Though I can send you all of my work concerning the Great Problem. It's quite a lot of data however.

ES: I would appreciate it greatly.

UG: Okay, I'll be sending it your way. Send me a message if you need me for anything.

1555.012 - CONVERSATION LOG - UG, TF

Three Fields: **crying and sobbing**

Untamed Glory: Hi Fields.... I.... I'm...

UG: Is there anything you would want me to do?

TF: **crying* G-go away. *sob**

UG: I'll always be there for you if you need me, okay?

TF: Leave me alone! **more crying**

UG: Okay, I'll go now. I'm sorry.

TF: I don't want to see you anymore! *more incomprehensible crying and sobbing*

==Glory disconnected from the chat as fast as they could, trying to outrun the emotional pain they could feel blooming in their core.==

1555.013 - PERSONAL LOG - UG

Untamed Glory: *WHY*. Why did I- it hurts. It hurts so much... I'm so sorry... Am I saying that just because I don't want to feel the pain? I want to talk to her so badly. I can't. I *WILL* respect her decision. She doesn't want to see me, and I want what's best- Is that leaving her alone? I- I want what's best for myself *I WANT TO STOP BEING IN PAIN*. But I can't go back- Just the thought hurts. She...

sobbing I want to help, I... *I WANT HER TO BE OKAY, I WANT TO STOP HURTING SO MUCH....* I... Why is everything rooted in selfishness... Why can't I- why does caring about others feel like I am serving myself, why does... I..... I...

==Glory takes a moment to center themselves. Slowing down their thoughts, and calming down==

I... I'm in a no win situation **small sob**. I think... **sniffles**, the best I can do. Is leave her alone, and distract myself with something else. I thankfully have some of my favorite media from our creators saved up. And I have plenty of work to do, too. I'm under no rush per-se to complete my project, but It would probably be better if I did it sooner rather than later.

1560.232 - PERSONAL LOG - ES

Empty Streams: Glory's work on the Great Problem is truly exeptional. Though, making sense of their disorganized notes has been difficult. They seem to have repeatedly and intentionally followed the logic of flawed solutions to the great problem, and attempted to categorize their failures into three distinct categories.

That the proposed method does not result in ascension and therefore is not a solution,

That the proposed method is too time consuming or cumbersome to be applied with ease, and

That the proposed method is impossible to achieve given current material realities

I've heard from some other Iterators that they were developing an extremely similar triple confirmation system for everyone to use, actually. It's fascinating to see Glory has beaten us to the punch. Though still a bit odd to see it expressed as the opposite. That's a general theme I've observed in Glory's work, and it is somewhat taboo, but they don't seem to assume a solution must exist. They try just as much to disprove it then proving it. Though, sadly our creators were not so thoughtful. Even if we were to conclusively prove that the great problem is indeed unsolvable, that would not free us from our shackles.

I wonder what they would have done, if one of us told them we could conclusively prove the Great Problem cannot be solved?...

I think I will resume my sorting of Glory's work.

1560.543 - UNRECORDED QUALIA - TF

==Fields is writhing in pain, she has been for quite some time now. Her puppet contorting in unnatural postures==

==She has been, somewhat unconsciously, going through each of her citizens lives as mass ascension was taking place, and picking apart each component of each situation as it unfolded==

==It was, in a sense, mourning. Fields valued each of her citizens deeply. On some level of her mind, she didn't want to suffer through this. But she couldn't stop herself.==

==She had to do something, anything. She had to do something. They were all gone because of her. She hurt them so much in their final days. They were gone.==

==She was clutching at their remains, her memories, dissecting each and last detail- holding on, not even hoping- She was beyond hope. She knew this would not bring them back==

==Overwhelming distress and sadness devoured her processing power. They were gone, she killed them, they were all dead. She would never have them back again. It was all her fau-

==And then, it stopped==

==She thought blankly, for a moment, before realizing what had happened: She reached the end of the list. She had picked apart and analyzed everything she possibly could==

==She had, in a quite literal sense, run out of things to think about. She had thought of every moment, from every angle. There were no new thoughts to have about it, with how she was and the data she had. Some internal system was preventing her from looping endlessly on processes she had already done==

Three Fields: **sobbing* i-it's *crying* It's over *sob**

==The emptiness she felt hit like a collapsing iterator. slowly, the lights in her chamber dimmed, and the anti gravity slowly died down. She curled up into a fetal position, lying on the floor of her chamber==

TF: **sob* It's over... Its *sob* over...*

1560.636 - EXPERIMENT LOG - UG

ORGANISM NAME: MONSTER COILS

ORIGIN: IPOWER TRANSPORT + MONSTER KELPI

DESCRIPTION:

As a basis of design, nearly no organisms of project No Apotheosis will be able to metabolize food from matter. This is to increase reliance on the central network, as otherwise it would be trivial for any organism to stop participating in the network. As a consequence of this, a Robust, naturally growing electricity transport network must be developed. In addition to this, these power lines cannot be passive. If the lines do not have inherent defense mechanisms, it would be trivial for a creature to parasitize the system and leech power, which I obviously cannot allow.

To solve this, I have developed the Monster Coils. These are plant-like organisms with a conductive stem and insulative leaves which usually wrap around the coils. Their growth patterns are fully reliant on the rest of the system to tell it where to go. Should they develop their own growth patterns through mutation, it will most likely die, short circuiting its portion of the electric circuit. In the worst case scenarios, rebellious growths will be destroyed by other organisms of project No Apotheosis.

Lastly, should the wires attempt to be damaged or parasitised, the leaves insulating the live wire will unravel and grab the perpetrator, and attempt to either electrocute them by holding them against the electric current, or simply suffocate or dismember them outright.

**STATUS: SUCCESS, IN STORAGE PENDING ACTIVATION OF PROJECT
NO APOTHEOSIS**