



# ALMOST STEPPIN'

Dr: How i LEARNED  
TO STOP WORRYING  
AND HATE  
ACHIEVEMENTS







STEPPIN' RAZOR- "SCORE A TRIPLE KILL WITH THE SWORD IN A RANKED FREE FOR ALL PLAYLIST (ONLINE)."

IT'S NOT JUST ANOTHER DAY OF TRAINING.

TODAY I'LL FINALLY GET THAT ACHIEVEMENT!

YOU DON'T SAY YOU'RE DANGEROUS.

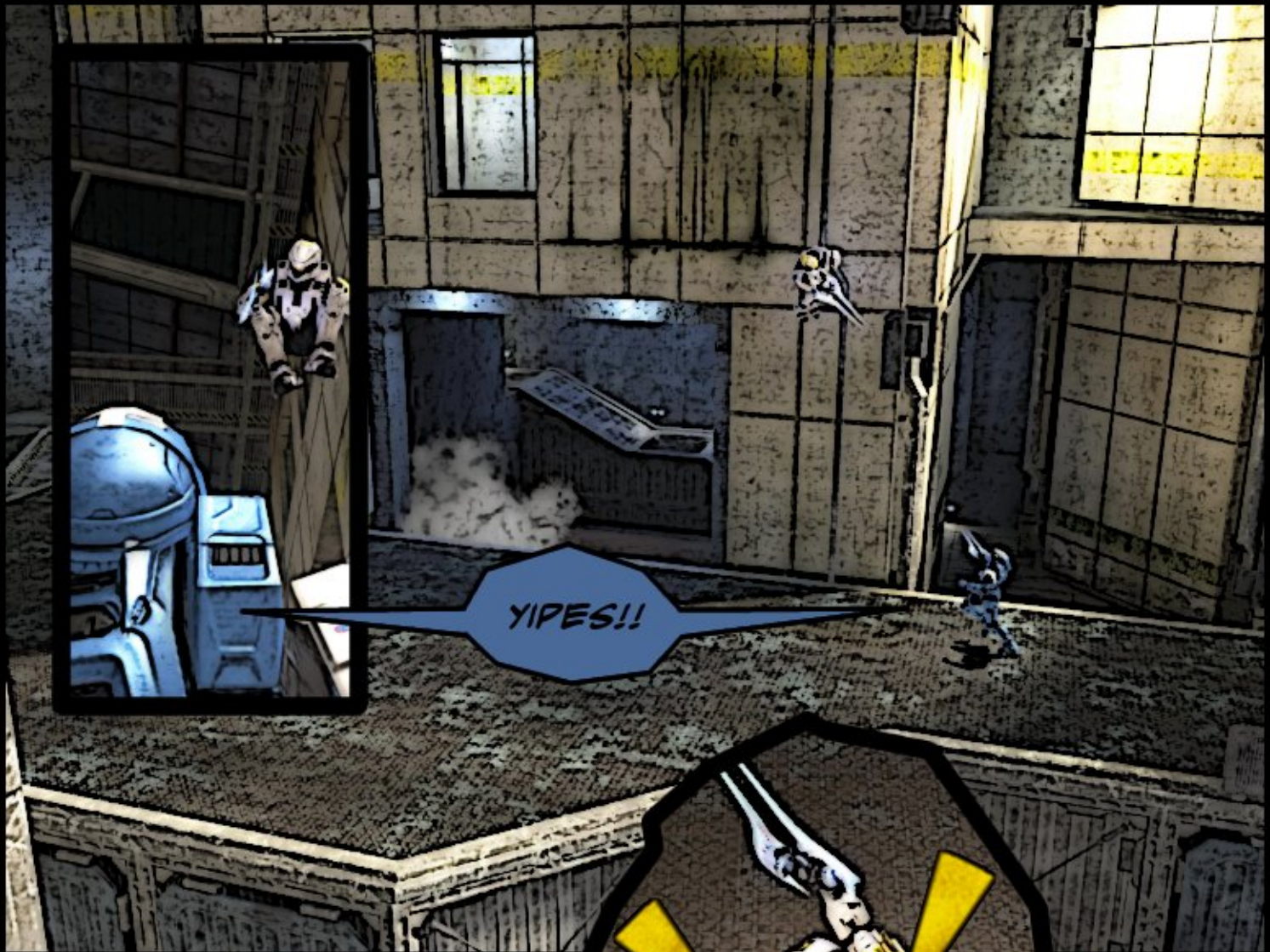
IF SOMEONE SAYS, "I'M A STEPPIN' RAZOR." OUT LOUD RESPOND WITH A GUN BUTT TO THE FACE SO AS TO BE SURE AND POINT OUT HIS MISTAKE.



I'M A STEPPIN' RAZOR...







YIPES!!



DOOMPH

IF YOU WANT FOLKS TO THINK TWICE ABOUT MESSING WITH YOU THEN YOU HAVE TO EARN IT.

AROUND HERE THAT MEANS MAKING THREE LETHAL CUTS.

1-2-3



C'MON C'MON C'MON  
LET ME SHOW YOU  
WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT

HOW HARD  
IS 1-2-3?

♪ EASY  
AS A-B-C

♪ SIMPLE AS  
DO-RE-MI

THAT'S HOW  
EASY LOVE  
CAN BE ♪

BACKFIRE



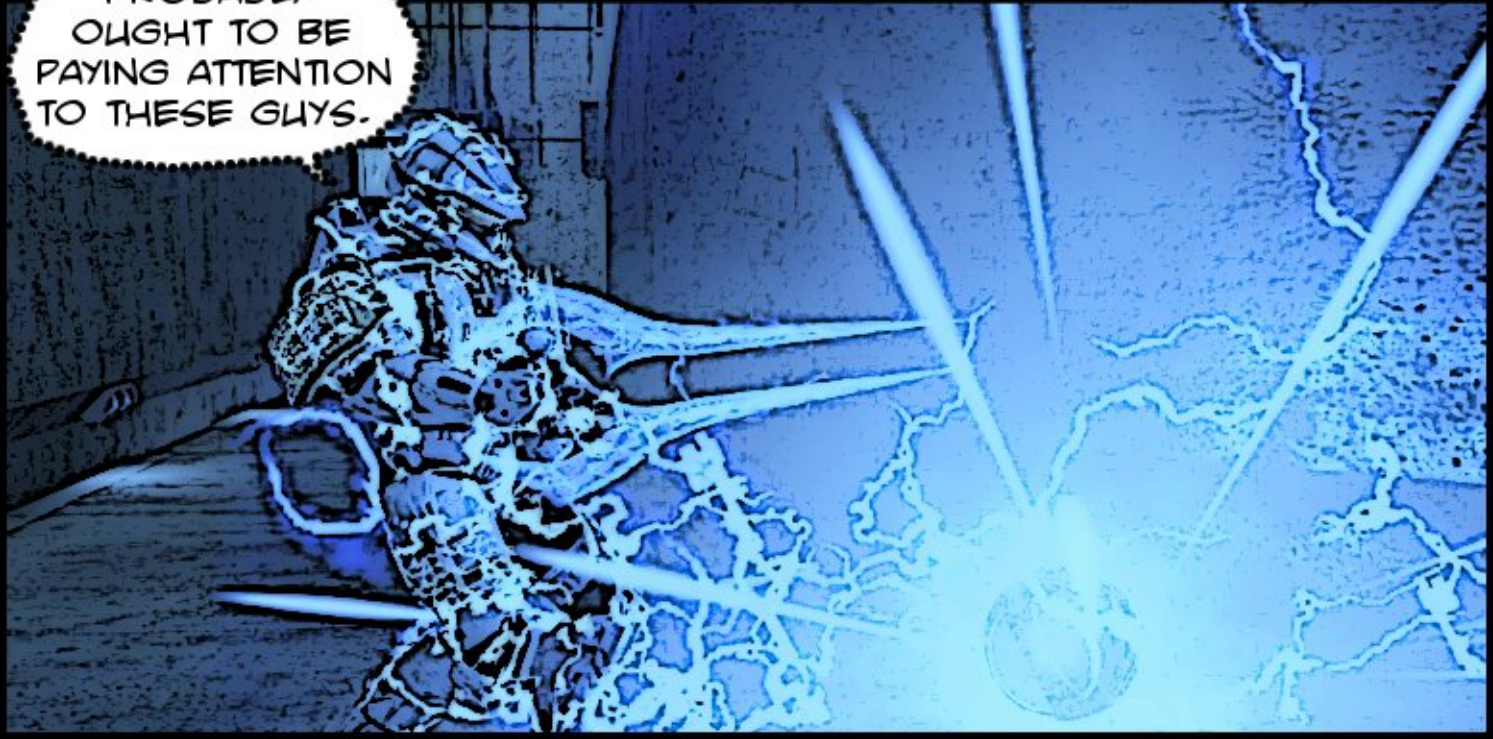


AND LET ME TELL YOU  
SOMETHING I KNOW  
ABOUT LOVE,

I KNOW I **LOVE**  
ACHIEVEMENTS!



PROBABLY  
OUGHT TO BE  
PAYING ATTENTION  
TO THESE GUYS.







I'M A MOTIVATED SPARTAN.

AND ACHIEVING  
THE TRIPLE KILL WITH  
THIS HERE ENERGY  
WEAPON...

BOOM



...HAS BECOME  
THE FOCUS OF  
MY EXISTENCE.





THE TRICK  
IS BEING  
PERSISTENT.

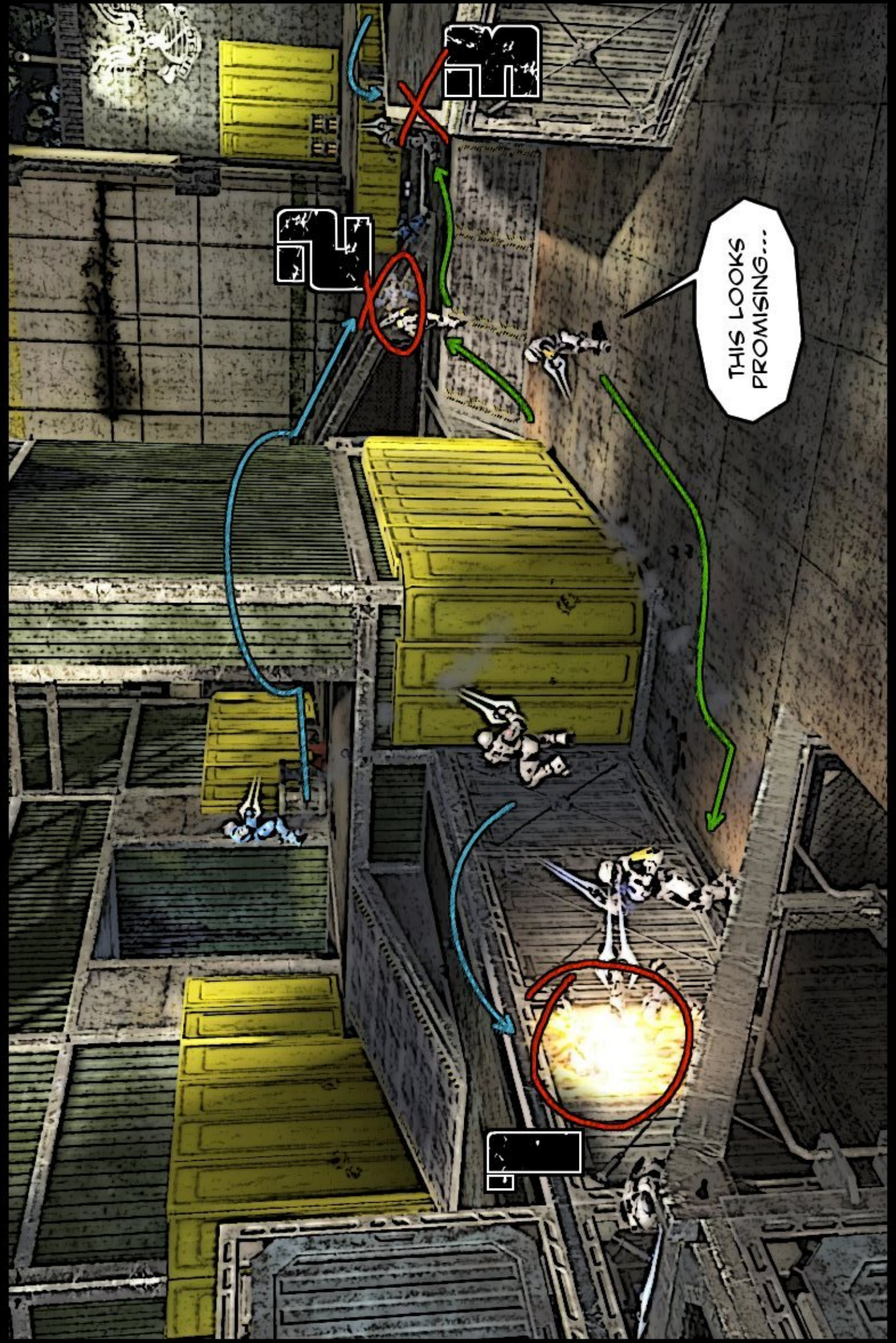
YOU'VE GOT TO WAIT  
FOR THE RIGHT TRAINING  
EXERCISE, AND THEY DON'T  
COME ALONG TOO  
OFTEN.

BUT, WHEN  
YOU FINALLY GET IN ONE  
DON'T FLIP OUT AND CHARGE  
WITH SWORD DRAWN LIKE  
NAPOLEONIC CAVALRY--

JUST PLAY  
IT COOL.

TRUST THAT IN THE  
NATURAL COURSE OF DOMINATING  
YOUR FELLOW SPARTANS THE  
OPPORTUNITY WILL COME.





THIS LOOKS PROMISING...



THIS TRAINING FACILITY HAS RECORDED BOTH YOUR KILLING SPREE AND SWORD SPREE WHICH ARE, AS YOU KNOW, FINE AWARDS IN SO HECTIC AN EXERCISE.

UNFORTUNATELY, CATS n DOGS, THE TIMER ELAPSED BETWEEN TWO OF THESE KILLS SO THERE WAS NO TRIPLE KILL AND SUBSEQUENTLY YOU HAVE NOT EARNED THE STEPPIN' RAZOR ACHIEVEMENT.

BETTER LUCK NEXT TIME!

1



You beat down msgtrudeau



TOO LONG!



2



You beat down granny0001


3



Double Kill!  
Killing Spree!  
Sword Spree!







ONE NIGHT THE  
BRASS TRIED TO JUST GIVE  
STEPPIN' RAZOR AWAY, AND  
I STILL CHOKED!

AND THAT'S LONG  
ENOUGH TO HAVE  
HAD MY FAIR SHOT.

AFTER THAT I  
NEARLY PUT THE  
KIBOSH ON IT.

I'VE BEEN AT THIS  
LONGER THAN IT TAKES AN  
INVERTED-CONTROLS RECRUIT  
TO MAKE LIEUTENANT.

SHOOT.





WHY ALL THE  
BOTHER?



I DID SOMETHING  
LIKE THIS BEFORE FOR  
A HELMET THAT I DON'T  
EVEN WEAR!

SOMEONE SHOULD  
COMPLETELY DUST  
THESE RAFTERS.

I GUESS I  
WANT TO LOOK BACK  
AND SEE A CROWDED  
TROPHY CASE.

HONESTLY, THOUGH,  
IT'S MORE ABOUT NOT  
WANTING TO SEE ONE  
EMPTY SPOT OUT OF  
FORTY-NINE.

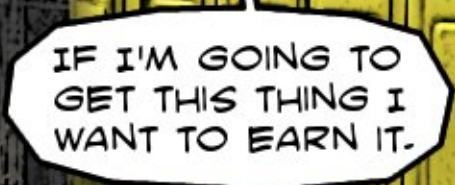
"COMPLETIST"  
IS WHAT THEY  
CALL THAT.



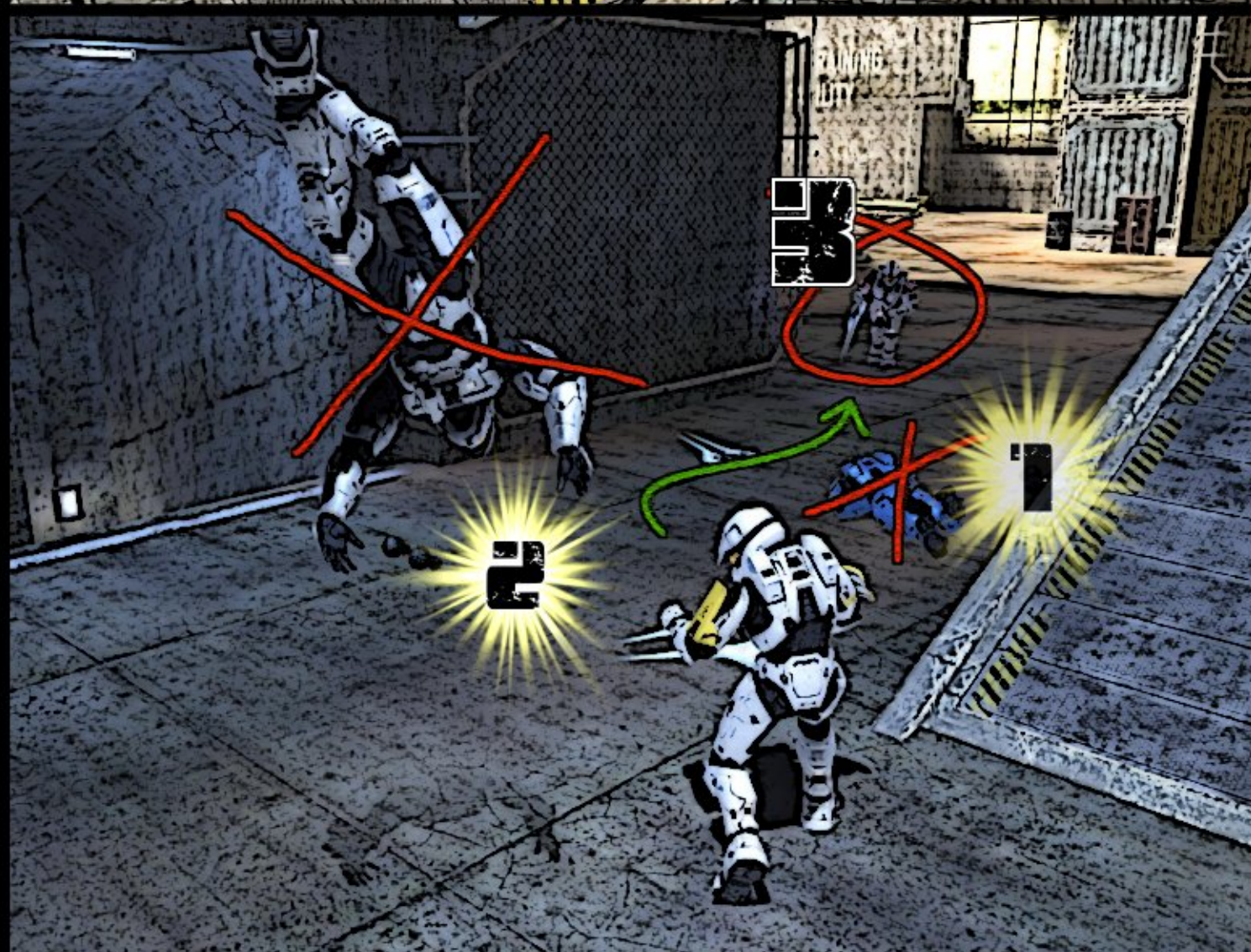
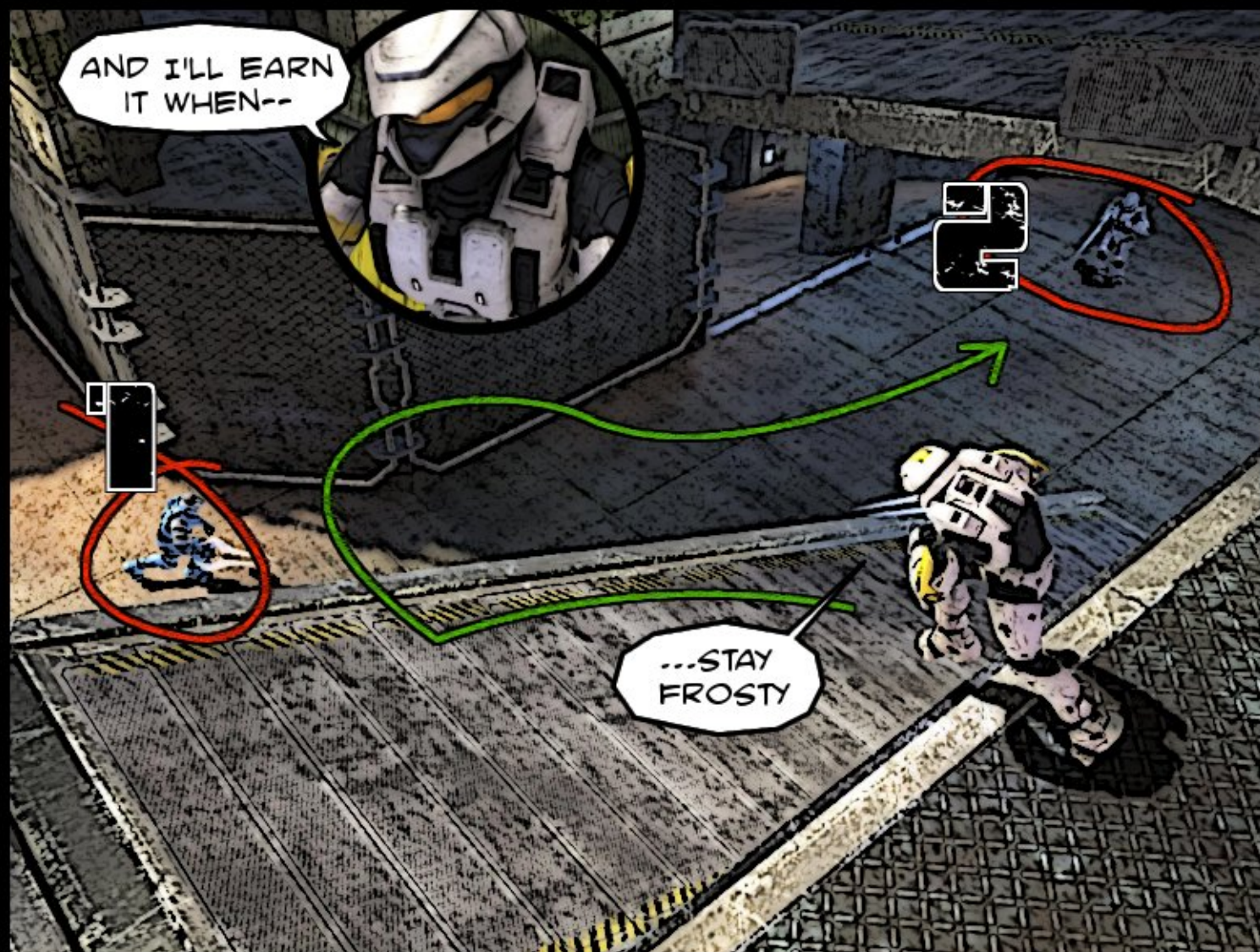
BLAP

SHOR-  
YUUUU-  
KEN!













CAN'T YOU SEE  
THAT I'M STEPPIN'  
HERE?!

---OH,  
HEY!





THIS FACILITY IS SORRY,  
CATS M DOGS, BUT YOUR  
COMPETITOR STOLE THE KILL  
THAT COULD HAVE BEEN  
YOUR TRIPLE. INCIDENTALLY,  
TAKING THE KILL STEALER  
OUT WAS A MERE 0.3  
SECONDS SHY OF BEING THE  
TRIPLE KILL. SO CLOSE!

WHILE YOUR PERFORMANCE  
UP UNTIL NOW HAS BEEN  
BOTH DOMINATING AND LACED  
WITH RIGHTEOUS VENGEANCE  
YOU STILL HAVE NOT EARNED  
THE STEPPIN' RAZOR  
ACHIEVEMENT.

HOWEVER, THE UNSC MARINE  
CORPS LOOKS FORWARD TO  
DEPLOYING YOUR OTHERWISE  
REMARKABLE COMBAT  
TALENT AGAINST THE ENEMIES  
OF EARTH.

ENJOY THE REMAINDER OF  
YOUR TRAINING EXERCISE!

1



You beat down granny0001

2



Double Kill!

You beat down msgtrudeau

You took the lead!



You beat down msgtrudeau

Double Kill!

You took the lead!

TOO LONG!

3



You beat down gags7086

SERIOUSLY!!







IS HE  
TWITCHING OR  
LAGGING?

EITHER WAY,  
EASY KILL.

I'M IN THE HUNDREDS OF ATTEMPTS IT'S  
CRAZY THERE IS NO END TO THE AGONY OF  
NEAR-MISSES SOMEONE MIGHT GO CLINICALLY  
INSANE TRYING TO ACHIEVE THIS I CAN'T

REMEMBER WHY I WANTED IT IN THE  
FIRST PLACE

AND NO MATTER  
IT'LL NEVER  
HAPPEN



TUNG!





AFTER I TAKE  
DOWN THIS BOZO  
I THINK I CAN GET  
STEPPIN' RAZOR!

I WILL NEVER  
GET THIS ACHIEVEMENT  
BECAUSE EVERY TIME WE  
BREAK OUT THE SWORDS  
EVERYONE  
AND HIS GRANDMOTHER  
WANTS TO GET STEPPIN'  
SO WE'RE ALL DOOMED  
TO RUIN EACH OTHERS!  
DAY FOR ETERNITY



JUST LET THE  
WHOLE DAMN THING  
GO IN...

3



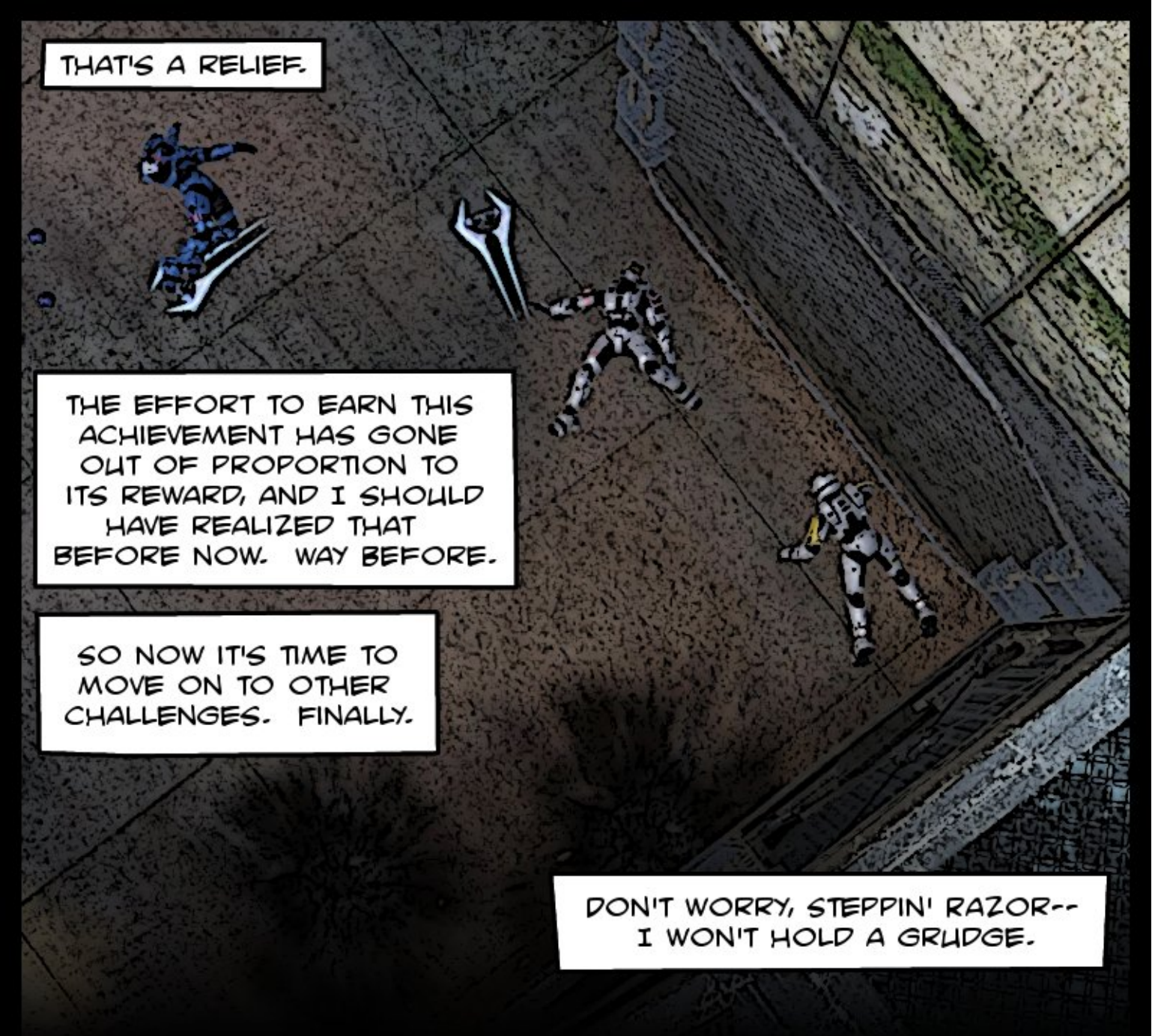
2



1







THAT'S A RELIEF.

THE EFFORT TO EARN THIS ACHIEVEMENT HAS GONE OUT OF PROPORTION TO ITS REWARD, AND I SHOULD HAVE REALIZED THAT BEFORE NOW. WAY BEFORE.

SO NOW IT'S TIME TO MOVE ON TO OTHER CHALLENGES. FINALLY.

DON'T WORRY, STEPPIN' RAZOR--  
I WON'T HOLD A GRUDGE.

Thanks to Nate Piekos for offering comic fonts to the little guys and giving folks a chance to step up.  
blambot.com

Bungie, thanks for being in touch with your fan base in general, but thanks especially for giving us powerful tools to express our creativity.

Thanks to Taco Face, gaming cohort and comic consigliere.

And thank you, Microsoft, for inventing the achievement system. We still don't know what to do with this new, ludicrously divisive facet to gaming. So far I enjoy arguing about achievements as much as shamelessly collecting them.

cats m dogs - james.jenista@gmail.com - jamesjenista.com

Note: The events depicted here come from a single, unstaged training record that can be downloaded via Bungie file share:  
<http://www.bungie.net/stats/Halo3/FileShare.aspx?gamertag=cats%20m%20dogs>