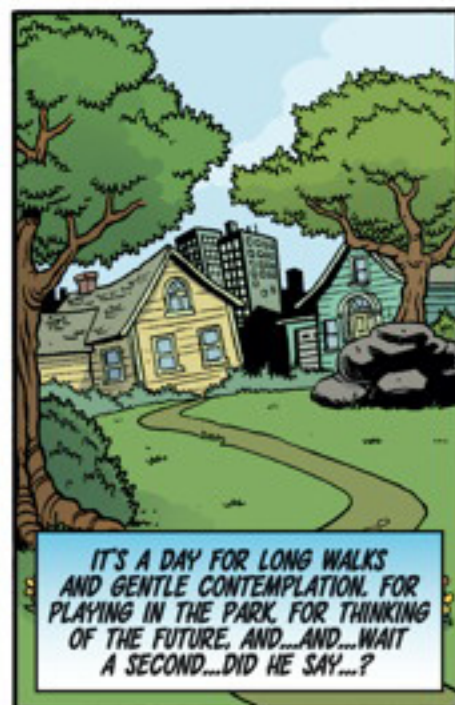






MEANWHILE, IN THE FUTURE. A SCENE OF DARKNESS AND WOE...



A CHOKING
FOG OF STINKY
NO-GOOD-NESS!



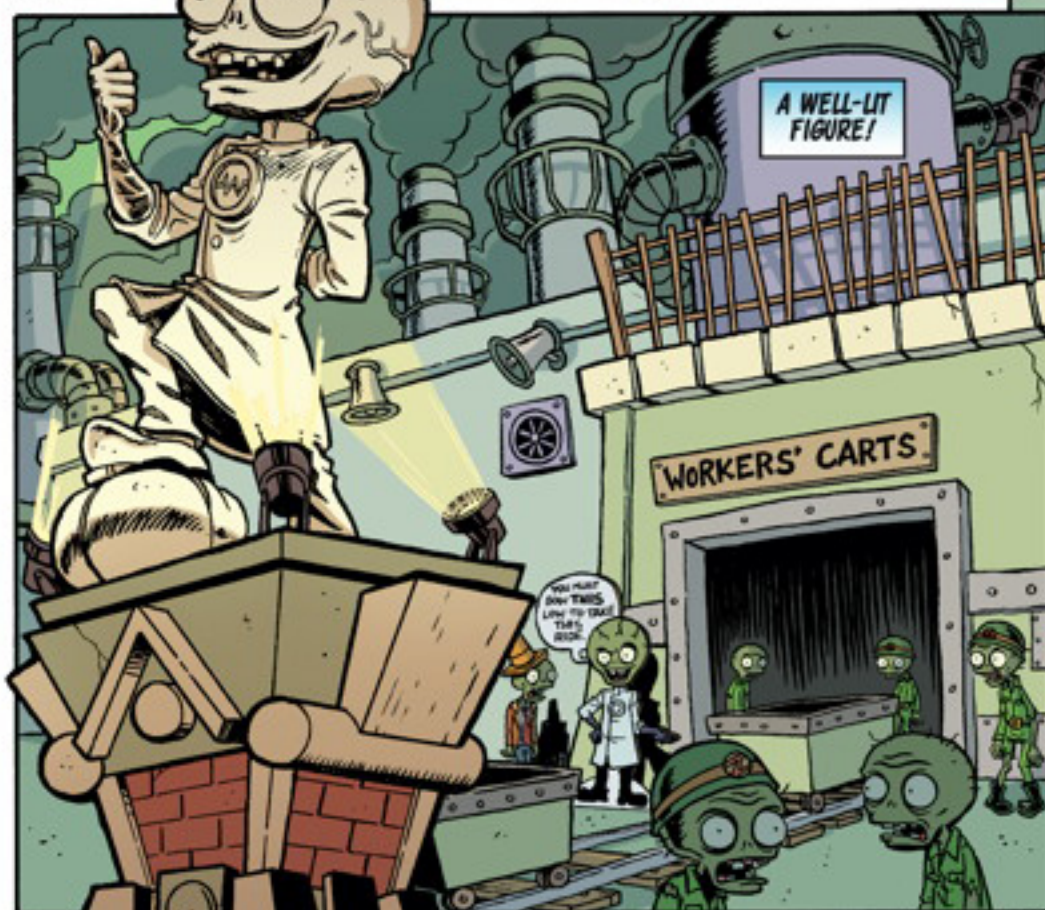
SHADOWY FIGURES!

SCURRY

SCURRY



A WELL-LIT
FIGURE!



THE FUTURE

THE FUTURE

THE FUTURE

THE FUTURE

THIS IS THE
WORLD OF...THE
FUTURE! (AGAIN--
SPOILERS, SORRY.)









AND SOMEPLACE NOT SO FAR AWAY...AND WHICH DOESN'T SMELL VERY GOOD...

GLEAM
GLEAM

WITH THE TECHNOLOGY GLEANED FROM THIS METALLIC BUTT, I AM ON THE CUSP OF GREATNESS!



BUT I NEED A TRUSTED FRIEND TO SHARE IN MY GREATNESS.

I WANT THE THREE OF YOU... GENE ERROR, LONGBEARD, AND DR. PATIENT...

...TO KNOW THAT I'M ABOUT TO EXPLAIN MY NEW PLAN TO THE SINGLE GREATEST FRIEND I HAVE.



AND NOT ONLY THE GREATEST FRIEND, BUT THE WISEST FRIEND.



A FRIEND WHOM I CONSIDER TO BE MY EQUAL, ALTHOUGH OF COURSE STRICTLY FROM A BASIS WHERE THEY STILL HAVE TO DO EVERYTHING I SAY WITHOUT QUESTION.



SO PREPARE TO SHARE SOME POP SMARTS WITH ME AS WE DISCUSS THIS MASTERWORK OF A SCHEME I'VE DEVISED.



PREPARE TO BE CONSIDERED AN EQUAL, ALTHOUGH VERY MUCH IN MY SHADOW, BECAUSE YOU...



...YES, YOU... ARE MY TRUEST FRIEND...



