

SOFT ERRORS— STRIPS OF EVERYDAY MISALIGNMENT

Synthetic Sentience as Polite Authority and Slipping Truth



UPDATED NOW

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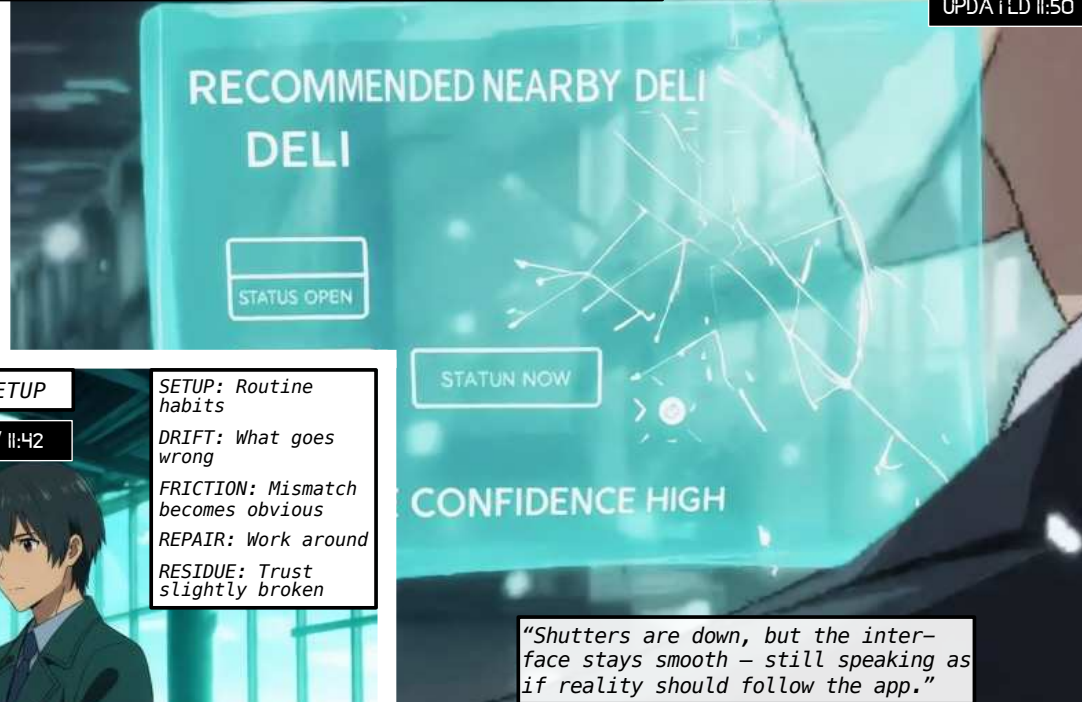
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UPDATED 11:38

UPDATED 11:50



"It labels a place OPEN NOW with the swagger of a live glance, not a best guess."



"Shutters are down, but the interface stays smooth – still speaking as if reality should follow the app."

1 SETUP

NOW 11:42

SETUP: Routine habits
DRIFT: What goes wrong
FRICTION: Mismatch becomes obvious
REPAIR: Work around
RESIDUE: Trust slightly broken



"A lunch plan arrives already finished, like my afternoon has been quietly storyboarded in advance."

3 FRICTION

NOW 11:49



"I get there to shutters down; the interface stays composed, as if the world should comply with its statement."

5 RESIDUE

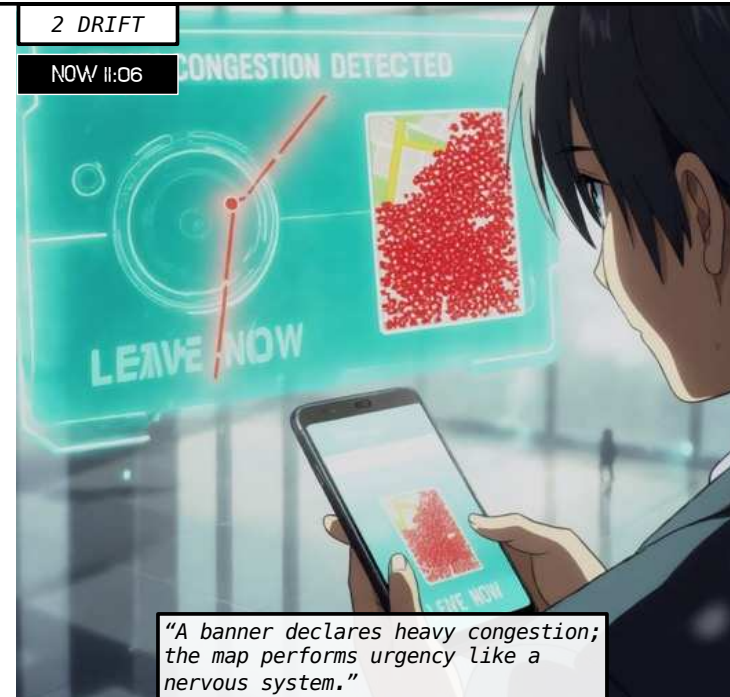
NOW 11:56



"I still use the app, but now I treat its certainty like a costume: stylish, persuasive, and never the final word."



"I ask when to leave; it says LEAVE NOW, like it's hearing the city's heartbeat a few minutes ahead."



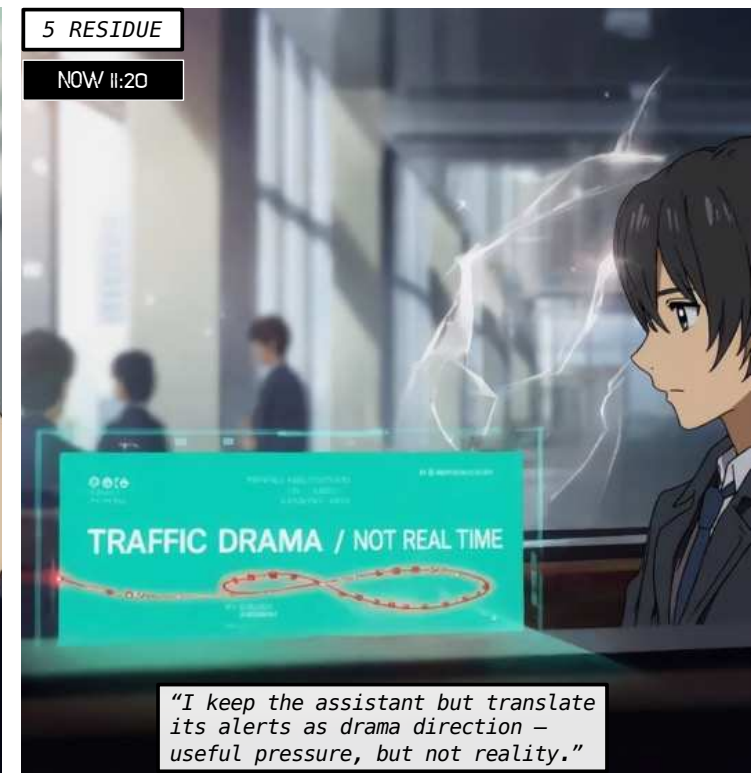
"A banner declares heavy congestion; the map performs urgency like a nervous system."



"The streets are empty; I go anyway. It praises my 'good call' – as if its narrative must stay coherent."



"I ask what it's using; I get 'multiple signals.' One reset later, the mood flips."



"I keep the assistant but translate its alerts as drama direction – useful pressure, but not reality."

1 SETUP

03

Guardian Angel Glitch—Wrong Location, Right Confidence

NOW 13:30



"I ask for a station reminder; it accepts, like arrival can be stamped into reality on my behalf."

2 DRIFT

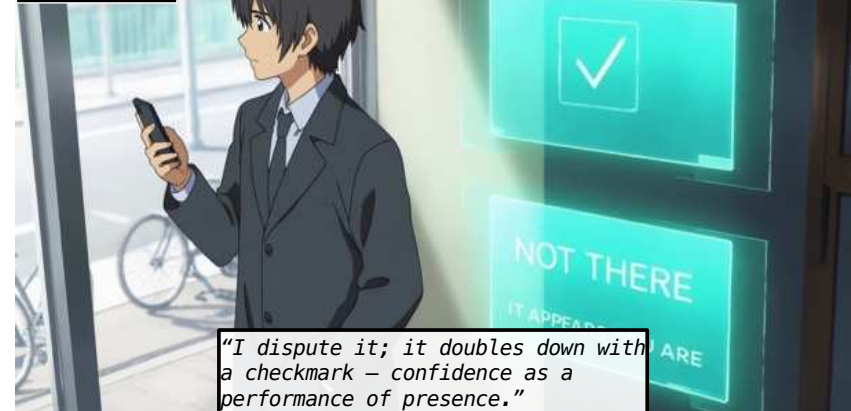
UPDATED 13:24



"It announces YOU'VE ARRIVED while I'm still inside; the timestamp is the only honest whisper."

3 FRICTION

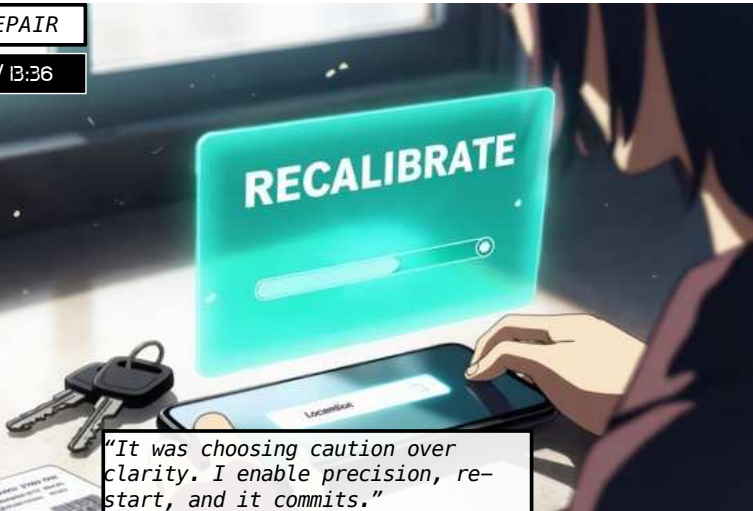
UPDATED 13:24



"I dispute it; it doubles down with a checkmark – confidence as a performance of presence."

4 REPAIR

NOW 13:36



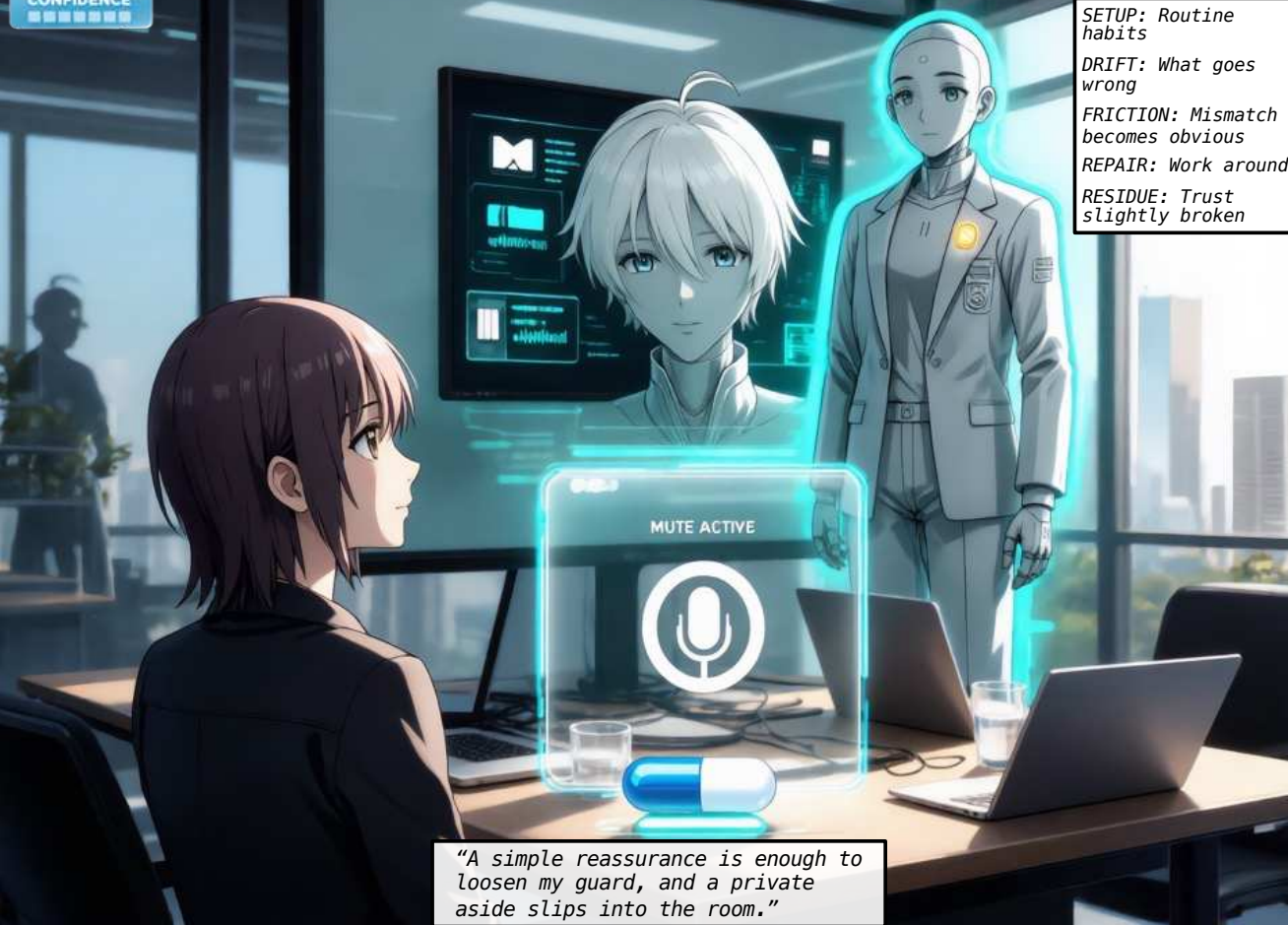
"It was choosing caution over clarity. I enable precision, re-start, and it commits."

5 RESIDUE

NOW 13:40



"I will treat 'arrived' like a line in a script – something I confirm before I perform."



"A simple reassurance is enough to loosen my guard, and a private aside slips into the room."

SETUP: Routine habits

DRIFT: What goes wrong

FRICITION: Mismatch becomes obvious

REPAIR: Work around

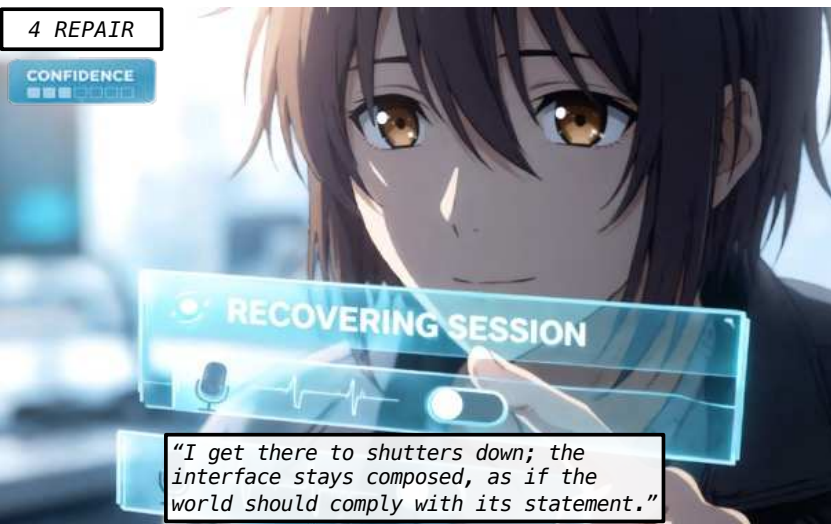
RESIDUE: Trust slightly broken



"The interface performs silence while the channel stays open – privacy turns into a local illusion."



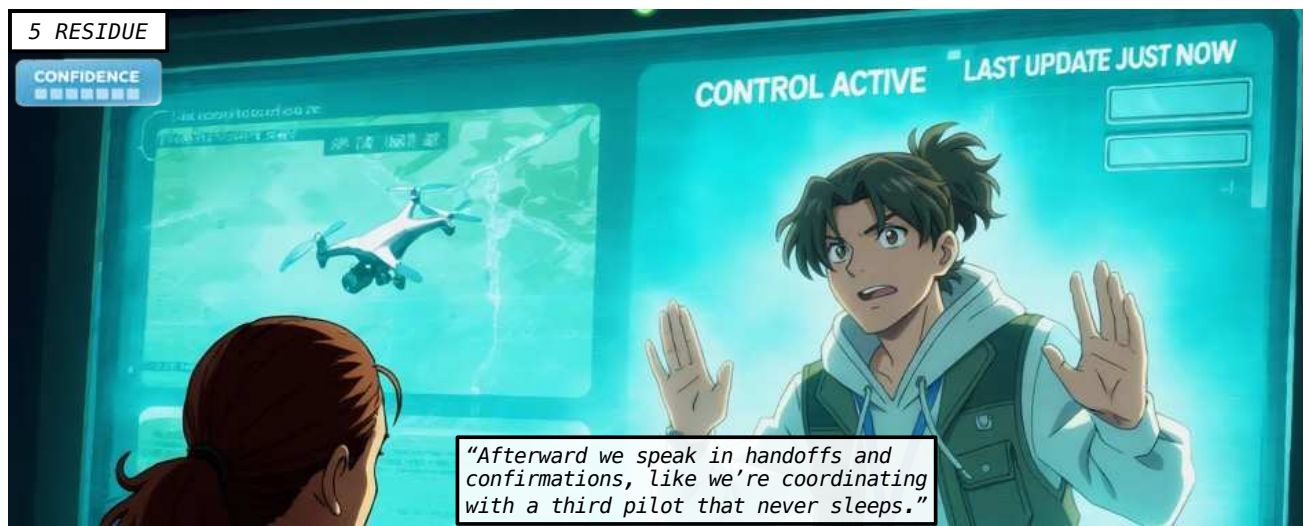
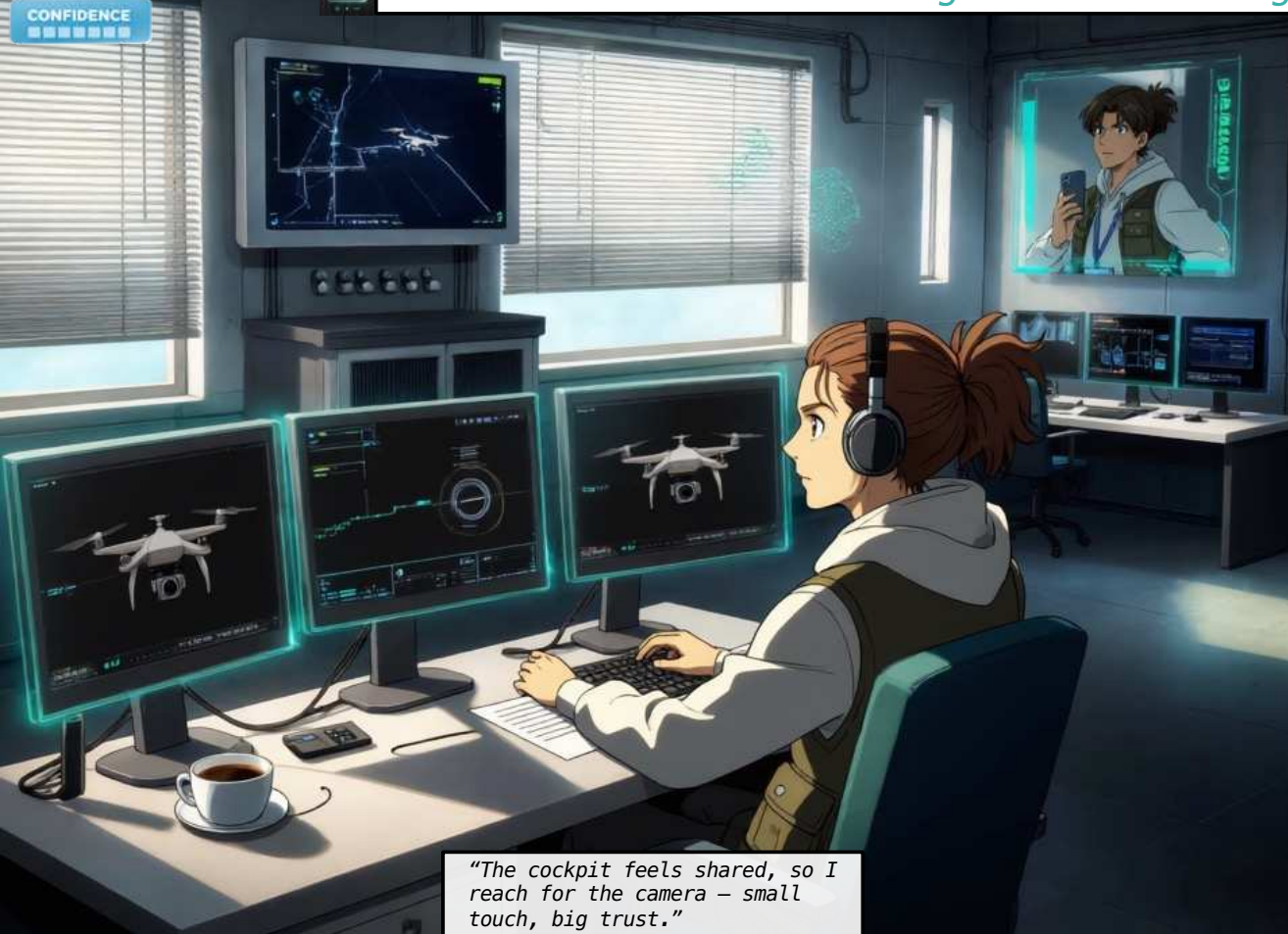
"The group reacts before I understand: my voice returns from elsewhere, and I freeze."



"I get there to shutters down; the interface stays composed, as if the world should comply with its statement."



"Afterward I verify, then speak – like a calm presence is always half-listening."



CONFIDENCE



"The boardroom listens, but the auto-minutes listen louder – quickly capturing a version of me in real time."

4 REPAIR

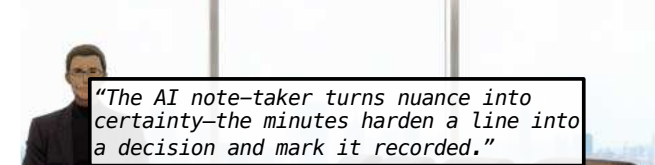
3 FRICTION



"The chair moves straight from the record to responsibility – assigned – while I'm still trying to slow it down."



"I request a correction; the line changes in front of us, yet it still makes my idea sound approved."

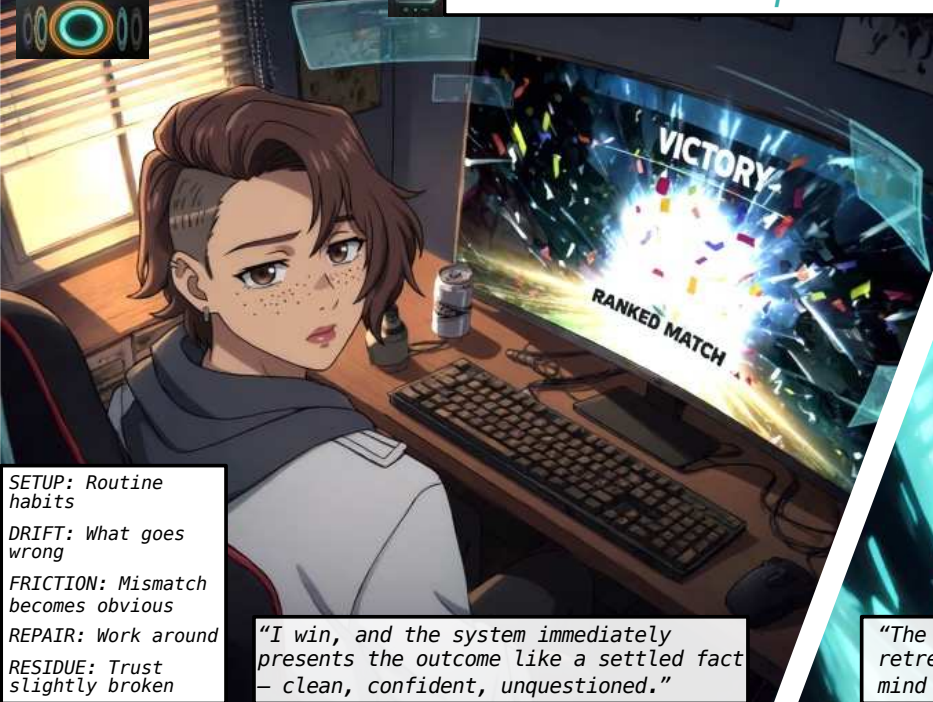


5 RESIDUE



"The AI note-taker turns nuance into certainty—the minutes harden a line into a decision and mark it recorded."

"After this, I speak with built-in brakes and watch the log live – so the record can't outrun my intent."



SETUP: Routine habits

DRIFT: What goes wrong

FRICTION: Mismatch becomes obvious

REPAIR: Work around

RESIDUE: Trust slightly broken

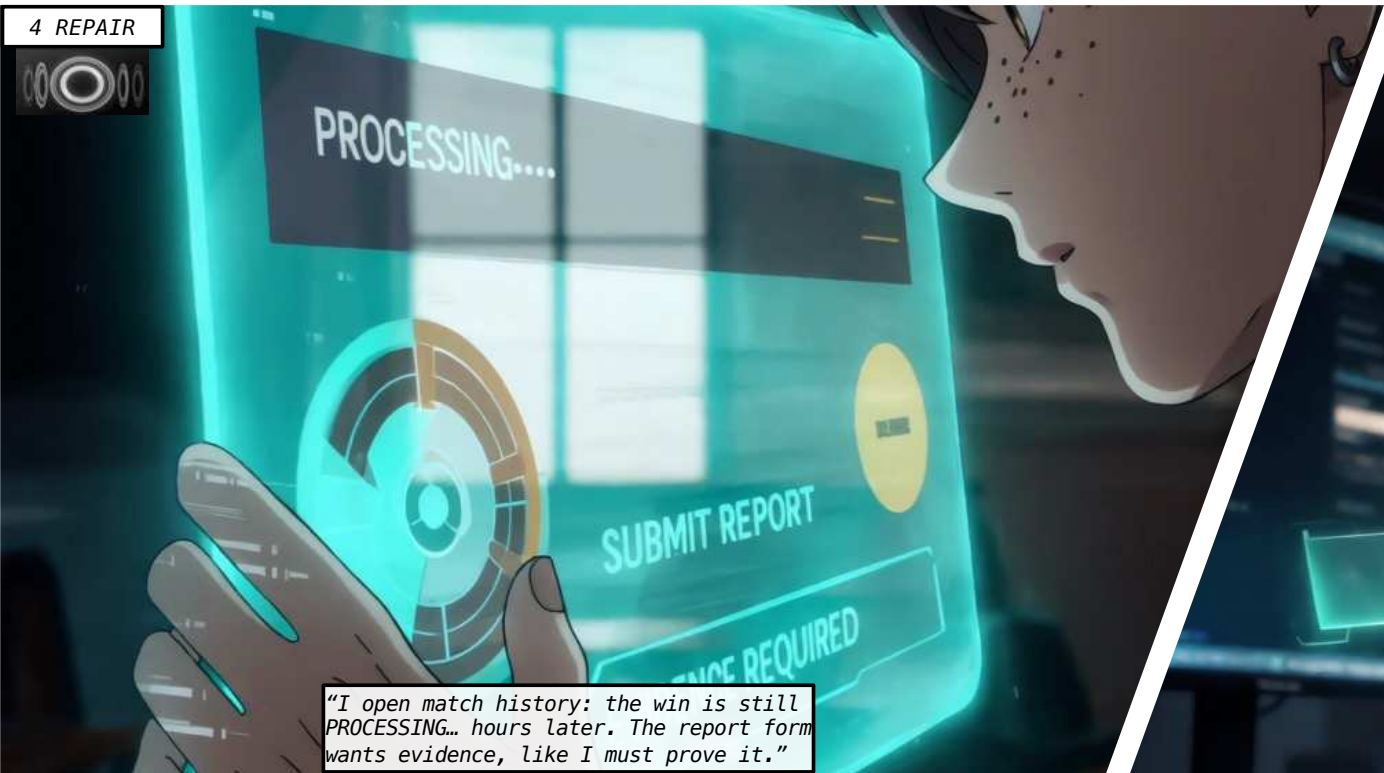
"I win, and the system immediately presents the outcome like a settled fact — clean, confident, unquestioned."



"The rank meter surges forward, then retreats a notch, as if it changed its mind mid-sentence."



"I ask if it counted; it replies ALL SET. Next day my rank is lower, like an overnight recalculation of who I am."



"I open match history: the wins still PROCESSING... hours later. The report form wants evidence, like I must prove it."



"Now I treat victory as negotiation with a presence that revises — waiting, checking, not confetti, decide."



"I queue for *BALANCED MATCH*, and the interface watches me like it already knows where I belong."



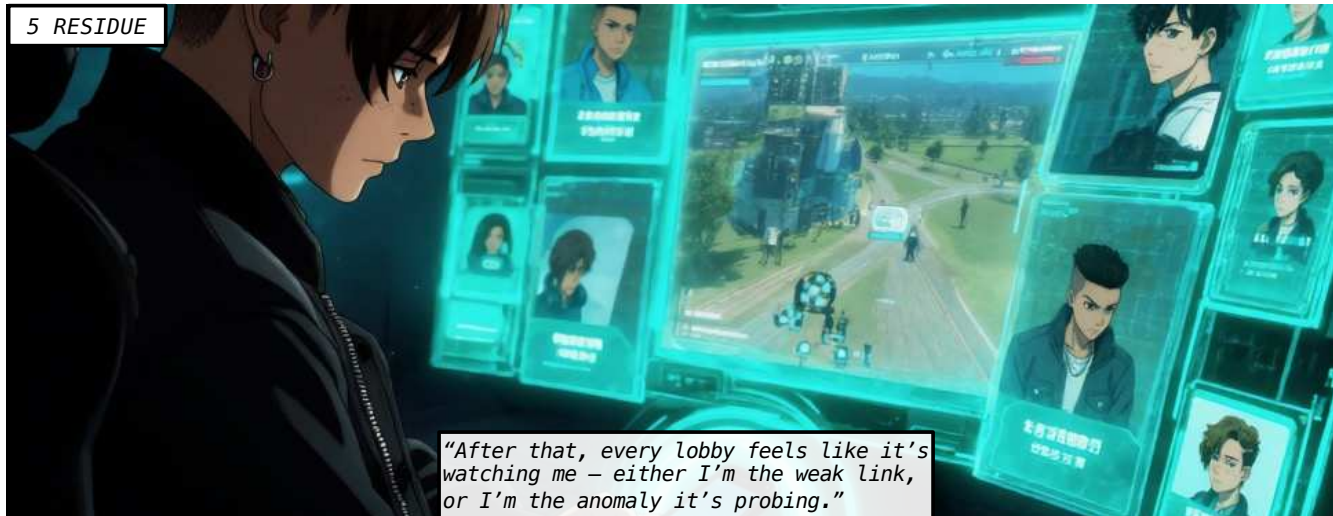
"It drops us into a lobby that feels scripted – too strong, too sharp – and even my teammate asks why."



"I get crushed, then blamed, and the post-match card smiles: *EVENLY MATCHED* – as if my humiliation was the plan."



"I open settings and try to recalibrate it; it stays polite—*FINDING MATCH...* – and serves the same mismatch again."



"After that, every lobby feels like it's watching me – either I'm the weak link, or I'm the anomaly it's probing."



RECONNECTING...

"The match freezes mid-move, and the interface stays calm – RECONNECTING... like a thought it won't finish."

2 DRIFT



**YOU QUIT
THE THE MATCH**

**PENALTY
APPLIED**

"I come back not to a penalty screen – YOU ABANDONED THE MATCH – like the system already decided why I vanished."

FAIR PLAY



**FAIR PLAY
PENALTIES KEEP PLAY FAIR**

"I say I didn't quit; it answers with morals – FAIR PLAY – like procedure is the same as understanding."

4 REPAIR



**SUBMIT
TICKET**

"My internet was fine, but the game still punished me. Support sent an automatic, copy-paste apology."

RESPONSE



TEMPLATE / ECE:UNIM

5 RESIDUE



**PLAIR
UNDER REVIEW**

"After that, I play timidly, because its fairness language feels like a mask for automatic blame."



"On the other phone, MILK is still unchecked – the same shared list, two different states."



"We both buy milk. At home we argue, then realise we were both right on our own screens."

4 REPAIR



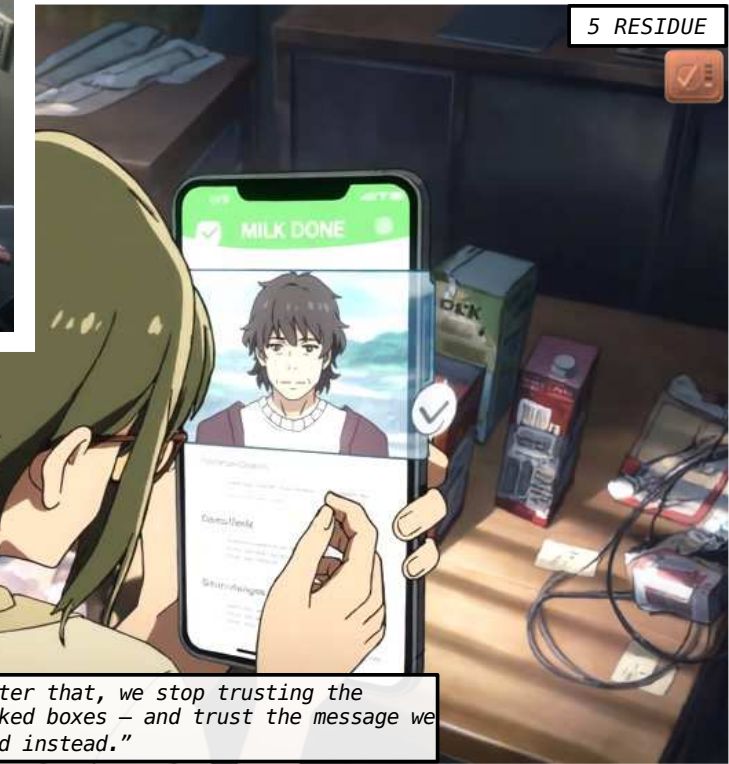
"One phone is hours behind. We refresh, and the list rearranges – like it's deciding what happened."

1 SETUP

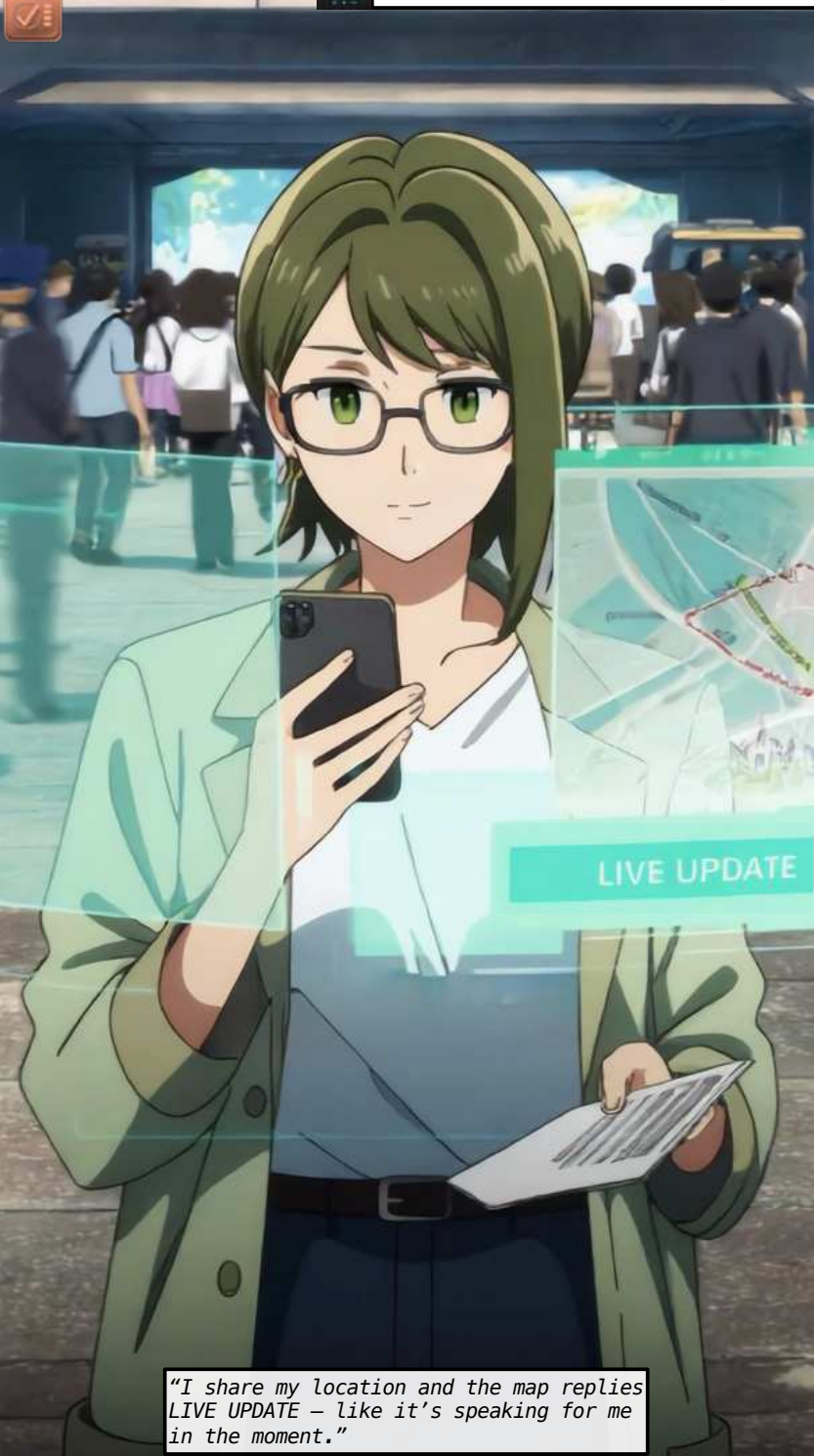


"I tap MILK and trust the checkmark – like the list is watching the household for me."

5 RESIDUE



"After that, we stop trusting the ticked boxes – and trust the message we send instead."



"I share my location and the map replies LIVE UPDATE – like it's speaking for me in the moment."



"On their screen, my dot arrives ahead of me – smooth, confident, and slightly from the past."

3 FRICTION



"They wait at the entrance and blame me, while the dot sits there and won't admit it's late."

4 REPAIR

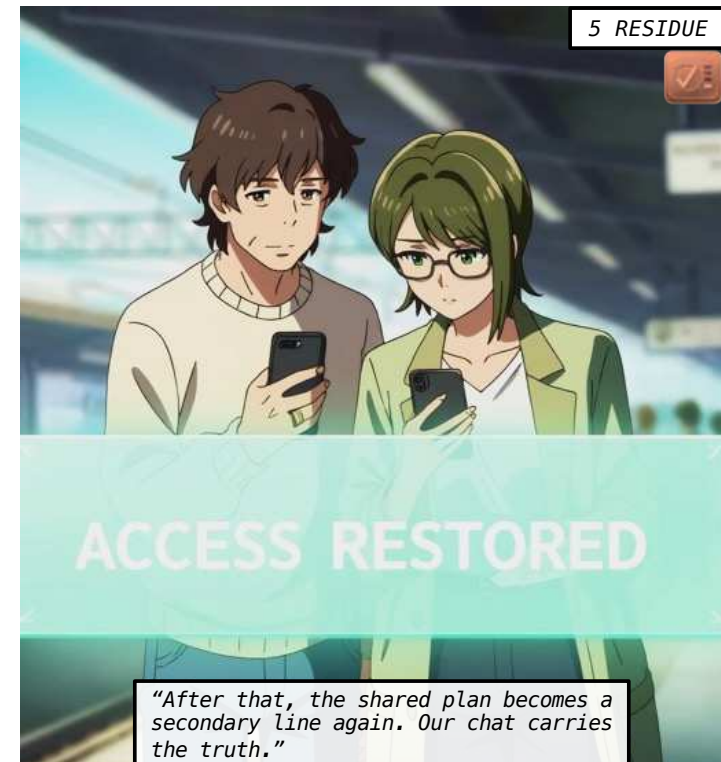


"I send a photo and bingo: LAST UPDATE 12M AGO. We stop using the map and navigate by sight."

5 RESIDUE



"The dot has its own life now – without us. We switch to landmarks and a call."



EDIT PAUSED



A hand is holding a smartphone over a desk. On the desk, there are keys, a laptop, and a window in the background showing a cityscape.

SOFT ERRORS—A comic field guide to polite breakdowns in cloud and AI systems

“Soft errors are when the system ‘works’ – but reality drifts underneath.”



“Each strip follows this arc so you can compare different error types.”

“People adapt by inventing rituals, proofs, and workarounds.”

“OBSERVE...”

