

[Static]

HARLEY

Good evening, Overwatch Command.

This is your Site-107 radio communications operator, Dr. Harley, coming to Foundation airwaves live and unrecorded. After a second round of losing my progress, I have since given up on saving copies of my broadcasts. I now deliver them directly to you, whomever is listening.

We have reached the middle of our third cycle, or what we assume to be the cycle. Testing continues. Work continues. Life continues, even if it's different now than it was before.

And boy, is it different now.

With the help of our incredible Engineering team, the site intranet is back online, meaning we can send local messages again. It also means we have access to our most recent backup of the Foundation Database. The Records department is now using this to cross-reference documents about other extradimensional SCP objects with our own findings, in hopes of finding some common threads.

The rest of us are also reading any anomaly research our clearance will allow, because we are so very bored all the time, and cafeteria karaoke and old bootlegs of anime seasons can only last us so long.

Investigation conducted by me into the location of the rumored secret fight club is ongoing as well.

The food supply is repetitive, but improving. Most of us are finding

ourselves being unintentionally weaned off sugar, since we've begun reaching the point that many of our vegetables are actually growing quicker. I don't know what the Botany department is putting in that soil. I asked them once, and a passing nurse from Medical told me not to worry about it.

Speaking of Medical, our nurses and medics are putting together a very thorough method for treating those of us with injuries that repeat every reset. There are a lot of people who still have to be pulled out of the rubble every time. Lots of injuries that have 32 days to heal before they get... re-injured. It's proven a challenge for the Medical staff. I have heard some of them are using what they can find in the newly available database to learn entirely new medical disciplines.

(Fear.mp3)

I saw Dr. Gravett reading a PDF of a textbook on brain surgery. So. That's neat!

The Records department has begun digging into the database for any information they can find on dimensional anomalies. This isn't the only one, after all. The Foundation works with dozens of dimensional scips, and any info we can gather from their research documentation will be useful indeed. Records has also banned the storage of file boxes on the floor of any storage closet. A tremor from a Dash One made a big stack of them fall over, big mess to clean up.

Oh! Also! Overwatch Command, last cycle we made quite the monumental discovery. Completed Dash One instances can be destroyed by fire. Some of the larger instances

took a bit of a detonation as well, but the Security and Containment departments have spent the last couple weeks torching any that they find. And you can usually tell when they find one. Not because of the Wild Card Effect that happens when they go off, but because all our Security officers have the lung capacity of a blue whale that plays the saxophone.

Maybe we should have *them* doing these broadcasts. You could hear them from space.

[Voice slowly fading out]

Overwatch Command, we have only found five more Dash Twos around site since the last reset. Both of them were small and had... a LOT of legs. Research is operating on the assumption that they were made out of bugs, possibly ants. Nothing was missing from the greenhouse and all personal plants had been accounted for. If there's an ant colony somewhere in this site, we'll have to find it. Dash Two tests have not been conducted yet...

[Typing on keyboard]

LOVE

Why not?

KLEIN

We're still working on Dash One destruction stuff right now. Also creation timing, D-1 won't tell us what he did to time the completion of the ones he made.

LOVE

Have you tried hitting it with something?

KLEIN

...no.

LOVE

Why not?

KLEIN

It's not likely anything will happen if we just... hit it.

LOVE

How do you know? Aren't you supposed to be a scientist?

KLEIN

Love, why are you bothering me?

LOVE

I want to watch you make a Dash Two. I know you're gonna do it eventually.

KLEIN

We don't test during your shift in the office.

LOVE

I know.

KLEIN

...You want to watch from our booth, don't you?

LOVE

Does that mean you're gonna let me?

KLEIN

It does not.

LOVE

(Indignant)

I hate you.

KLEIN

You don't have the clearance to be in there.

LOVE

Clearance doesn't mean anything in a pocket dimension! Who gives a shit about-

KLEIN

Why do you want to watch that so bad? You've NEVER been interested in research before.

And you know we're gonna terminate them all as soon as we're done, right?

LOVE

(Defensive)

I don't care about that, why would I care about that?

KLEIN

Alright! Alright, I'm not accusing you of anything, calm down.

LOVE

It just seems cool.

KLEIN

I mean... I'll check with Shao, but I don't know if we can let you in there.

LOVE

Nevermind. Whatever.

KLEIN

I can tell you about whatever happens, though!

LOVE

(Snapping)

It's fine! Whatever.

[Pause]

(Under her breath)

Actually, I would like it if you told me, thank you...

[Click]

HARLEY

Morale has been on the rise with both the revelation that completed Dash Ones can be destroyed and the... experimental distilleries that have popped up in several departments. Psychology reports worry about alcohol consumption,

but also concedes that the amount we are drinking is likely not any more than we would be drinking by ourselves after work on the outside.

Speaking of trends in Foundation employee behavior, members of Upper Management have been butting heads quite a bit over how far we can stray from Foundation protocol.

Dr. Alves, Head of Containment, comments as follows: "Our systems were set in place for a reason. The Foundation has adhered to its codes of conduct for decades, but it is not for the sake of tradition. It's because these systems have been proven to work time and time again. By straying too far from them we risk making our situation worse. The wisest course of action is to stay within protocol as much as possible."

Upon hearing Dr. Alves' statement, acting Site Director Dr. Klein offered one of her own: "We work with shit that breaks science entirely. Fuck that noise, I will do whatever it takes to get us out of here alive, protocol be damned. Hand me that blowtorch."

Needless to say, this has led to no small amount of tension during Department Head meetings.

(Pointedly)
Or so I've *heard*.

One day, I will find reason enough to be included.

[Click]

[Pencil scratching, door opens]

LOVE

Klein said you have a key to the
AV closet in AD-1, can I have it?
Raddagher needs a new HDMI cable.

HARLEY

Sure.

[Keys jingle]

LOVE

...What's all that?

HARLEY

I'm transcribing some of the test
footage-

LOVE

No, like all those diamonds and
lines and stuff.

HARLEY

Oh, this? Uh, it's not important.
Just a thing I've been... messing
around with.

LOVE

Yeah, but what IS it?

HARLEY

(Reluctant, embarrassed)

Um, it's draft work for a system I
might try utilizing to better
track important documentation that
we will need between cycles, it's
sort of an idea to help retain-

LOVE

Tell me what it is or I'll beat
you up, nerd.

HARLEY

(Hastily)

It'sasecretcode.

LOVE

...a secret code?

HARLEY

(Embarrassed)

Yep...

LOVE

Cool.

HARLEY

Really?

LOVE

Yeah. You're still a massive dork though. But it looks pretty cool.

HARLEY

Oh! Well, I'm glad you... think it looks pretty cool.

LOVE

You're welcome. Now I'm gonna steal your keys, bye.

HARLEY

Please don't.

LOVE

Gonna.

HARLEY

Oh! Oh, Love, wait.

LOVE

Whaaaaaaaat.

HARLEY

Do you... do you know how to do stick and poke tattoos?

[Beat]

LOVE

Of COURSE you would think I'd know how to do stick and poke tattoos. You all make such quick assumptions about people like me.

HARLEY

...so do you?

LOVE

.....yeah, I know how to do 'em.

[Click]

HARLEY

It seems that my coworkers and I have lost some sort of burden.

This new sort of freedom has loosened everybody up, I've seen fresh ideas coming from people I never would have guessed.

The library of books, movies and the like that we have steadily been compiling over the last few months is starting to make a real shape of itself inside the AB Floor breakroom. I still have yet to read all the books, but I'm working through bits and pieces of the database as well.

We have our hands on a lot of crazy stuff. Is that good or bad? It depends on who you ask, I suppose. Personally, I am a little surprised at what kind of information a Level 2 like myself has access to.

And especially considering some of the other Level 2s I know.

[Click]

HARLEY

You write SO much.

LANCASTER

I-I know. Helps me keep everything in, in order.

[Paper shuffles]

HARLEY

THIS is what "in order" looks like to you?

LANCASTER

Stop breathing all over everything, you're gonna mess up my system.

HARLEY

Okay, what's this theory you were telling me about?

LANCASTER

I've been talking with the rest of Psych about if it could be possible, hypothetically, to... CHANGE somebody's Psychic Resistance Index.

HARLEY

Well, it IS. ...Isn't it?

LANCASTER

Er, no. Or at least it's never been done deliberately, as far as I know. External factors can change a PRI, stuff like exposure to cognito-hazards or amnestics, but in those cases it usually lowers your tolerance, it doesn't change the index itself.

HARLEY

That's what the numbers mean though, isn't it?

LANCASTER

Uh, yes and no? Your PRI is like... is like allergies. You might be allergic to one thing, but not another, but that doesn't make you more or less allergic in general. Have- Having a different PRI doesn't necessarily mean you have a higher or lower tolerance, it means you have a different tolerance for different kinds of psychic effects.

HARLEY

So you guys are looking into altering people's PRIs to... 14B I assume?

LANCASTER

Yeah. Or, they don't- they don't know that's exactly what I'm going for. Because of uh... "memetic gag order" reasons. But yeah.

HARLEY

How do you plan on doing that?

LANCASTER

No idea.

HARLEY

Alright.

LANCASTER

Oh, I also have one more thing to go over while you're here-

HARLEY

You're making the face.

LANCASTER

(Audibly smiling)

I don't know what you're talking about.

HARLEY

You have a scheme.

[Paper rustles]

LANCASTER

I need you to sign this.

HARLEY

...For?

LANCASTER

Read it.

[Pause, paper shifting]

HARLEY

(chuckling)

How long exactly have you been planning this-

LANCASTER

(Interrupting)

Years.

HARLEY

...Lanc, the MAJORITY of people here are over 50.

LANCASTER

That's not true! Engineering and Security-

HARLEY

Okay, okay, yeah, but... are you sure you want to try and-

LANCASTER

Do YOU want to do it?

HARLEY

Of course I want to do it.

LANCASTER

Then sign it.

HARLEY

Okay! Alright.

[Pen scribbling on paper]

HARLEY

Is this all you want?

LANCASTER

Yes it is, thank you.

HARLEY

Who else is signing off on it?

LANCASTER

Shao said I could do it if I got a sweeping majority.

HARLEY

Shao said that? Really?

LANCASTER

Yuuuuup.

[Click]

HARLEY

As far as survival goes, things are going as well as they can, given the situation. Botany's food garden is growing nicely, Maintenance has found some very clever ways of cooking what we have in storage. The 2 liter bottle of Dr. Pepper is now something a department has to win in a lottery, much to the chagrin of the Security Department.

I would say it's good that we have removed it from that particular group, but they're going to keep

sharing all their drinks and
getting each other sick
regardless.

Speaking of Security, Officer
Raddagher has found two additional
Security Personnel to assist in
Surveillance duties. There are
four of them now, in total. Things
seem to be going well on that
front, considering how few Dash
Ones have made it to completion.

[Static]

RADDAGHER

And then you toss the end toward
yourself through the hole. Watch.

[Rope shifts]

LOVE

Whoa- wait, do it again! How did
you do that so fast?!

RADDAGHER

Practice.

LOVE

What's this one called again?

RADDAGHER

A bowline. Often used to tether
yourself to your boat.

LOVE

Why do you know that?

RADDAGHER

...I like sailboats.

LOVE

(Baffled)

You like sailboats? Like big
pirate ships and shit?

RADDAGHER

Well, most pirate ships in the
18th century weren't actually that
big because they needed to be able
to outrun other ships. The kind of
ship I'd want to sail would be

something smaller like a bluewater sailboat. Before we got trapped I was saving up for an Albin Vega, but I don't think I would need a cabin so big. It could make it across the ocean, though. But I'd need to fit one with solar stuff if I was going across the ocean. I don't mean tallships, though. People sometimes think that there aren't any sailboats anymore, but plenty of people still sail. I don't know if I'd be quite right for a crew, but going by myself has always been...

[Beat]

Sorry.

LOVE

Sorry for what?

I think that's the longest I've ever heard you talk. Like, ever.

RADDAGHER

Sorry.

LOVE

Shut up, it's cool! You're so weird!

Can I borrow that rope? I want to practice that thing you just did.

RADDAGHER

...Sure.

[Fabric rustles]

RADDAGHER

Why does your bag have a potato in it?

LOVE

That- it doesn't matter. It didn't work anyway.

[Potato into trash can sound effect]

[Static]

HARLEY

And now here I am. Just you and me, Overwatch Command. The past couple weeks have been the closest to normal we've had since we got here. And we're glad for it.

I have worked for the Foundation for a while now. I don't regret my decision to come here. Somebody has to keep people away from extra dimensional rifts, it may as well be me, right? There are... there are worse places I could be stationed. There are smarter monsters, larger catastrophes, faster-spreading plagues.

I'm grateful for what I have. I'm grateful to those who can work worse assignments than I could ever stomach. Some of these files... oof. I'm just glad I'm still alive.

I think.

But if I may be candid, Overwatch Command, our trend away from protocol has been... great, actually! I feel a freedom I haven't in years, like a kid with a substitute teacher. It feels like we have full control over what happens to our site. Because we do! It's not like we have received any outside directives.

Alves is right, to a degree. The systems do work. But... there's room to improve, isn't there? We're growing our own food, we had a movie marathon in the canteen last week. People I've known for years- I'm watching them loosen up in a way I've never seen before.

So obviously, we are continuing our work with renewed fervor. And it feels really good! I feel

really good. Everything is... okay,
right now.

And on that note, I'm going to
leave you to continue your search
for us. I am supposed to be
meeting with-

[Loud knocking on door]

LOVE

Hey! Open up, I've got the needle.

HARLEY

It's unlocked, just open it!

Goodbye for now, Overwatch
Command, and the silent void. As
soon as you can, find us alive.

[END EPISODE]