

PARALLEL P.D.

Issue 1: "Other Worlds"

by

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PAGE ONE (4 PANELS)

1 - Int. Laboratory - Day. Physicist Dr. Alister Kelling has just created the first working interdimensional portal. The portal itself looks a lot like the circular portals from STARGATE, except these portals lead to parallel universes.

Alister is standing in front of his invention, shocked that it's actually working. Near him are two assistants, a man and a woman.

CAPTION (ETHAN NARRATING)

It was the day that changed the world.

CAPTION (ETHAN NARRATING)

All of them, actually.

CAPTION (ETHAN NARRATING)

The day Dr. Kelling created the first working interdimensional portal.

ALISTER

Holy crap, it works!

2 - The same laboratory on a parallel universe. The setting resembles Panel 1, except for a few differences here and there. The female assistant has shorter hair. The male assistant now wears glasses. It's like those games in children's books where kids have to find the tiny changes in the pictures.

CAPTION (ETHAN NARRATING)

An event that occurred on countless other parallel earths.

CAPTION (ETHAN NARRATING)

Some with just minor differences.

ALISTER 2

By George, I believe it's working!

3 - The laboratory on yet another parallel universe. This one is extremely different. The two assistants look exactly like Alister (since this is a world where cloning is rampant). Their clothing, the equipment in the room, everything looks completely alien and strange, much like their language.

CAPTION (ETHAN NARRATING)
Others with major ones.

ALISTER 3
(In their unique language)
N@I' LW YS*1 JJ' IL*% KS-L.

4 - Ext. House - Day. A school bus lets ten-year-old Ethan Park out in front of his house. Ethan is running toward the house.

CAPTION (ETHAN NARRATING)
But that isn't why I remember that day.

ETHAN
Mom, Dad! Did you hear? Some scientist made a door to other...

PAGE TWO (2 PANELS)

1 - Wide Shot. Ethan stands in front of his parents, dead. They are lying on the floor after being stabbed repeatedly. Blood is on the floors, walls, everywhere.

NOTE: ADD TITLE AND CREDITS AT THE TOP OF THIS PAGE.

ETHAN
...worlds.

2 - Ext. House - Later. Wide Shot. Ethan is sitting on the sidewalk in front of the house, with police and paramedics all around. One female paramedic is putting a blanket over Ethan's shoulders.

CAPTION (ETHAN NARRATING)
I remember thinking how the same thing must have happened on other worlds.

PAGE THREE (4 PANELS)

1 - This panel is similar to the previous panel.

CAPTION (ETHAN NARRATING)
Some with small differences.

2 - Medium Close-Up of crying Ethan.

CAPTION (ETHAN NARRATING)
Others with large.

3 - Camera zooms to a Close-up Shot of Ethan. His expression is one of pain and anger.

CAPTION (ETHAN NARRATING)
It was only later I learned that no matter how different they were, they all had one thing in common.

4 - Matchcut to a Close-up Shot of present day Ethan (28) with a similar facial expression to young Ethan on the previous panel. The words "Eighteen Years Later" should be superimposed on the corner of the panel.

CAPTION (ETHAN NARRATING)
The killer was never caught.

JIMMY (O.P.)
Ethan, look out!

PAGE FOUR (2 PANELS)

1 - Ext. Street Intersection. Wide Panel (Perhaps broken into two or more panels, whatever works best). Ethan's cop car blasts through an intersection, other cars swerve to avoid it (barely).

2 - Int. Cop Car. Two shot of Ethan and Officer Jimmy Franks (his partner). Ethan has a determined look on his face, while Jimmy looks like the last 30 years of his life just flashed before his eyes. Ethan talks into the police radio.

JIMMY
You know you're supposed to give'em a chance to slow down, right?

ETHAN
No time. This is car 16. We're a minute away from location. Over.

JIMMY
 You know you don't have to be the
 first cop on the scene every
 time. You do know that, right?

PAGE FIVE (4 PANELS)

1 - They continue driving.

DISPATCHER
 (Coming out of the radio)
 Understood. Be advised: Suspects
 are armed and dangerous Vikings.
 Proceed with caution.

2 - Two Shot. Jimmy is confused. Ethan doesn't miss a beat.

JIMMY
 Did I hear that right?

ETHAN
 Yep.

JIMMY
 Vikings?

ETHAN
 Yep.

JIMMY
 In L.A.?

ETHAN
 Yep.

3 - Two Shot. A quiet panel. Jimmy is letting it all sink in.

4 - Ext. Streets. The cop car drives toward the scene. Jimmy's dialogue is coming out of the car.

JIMMY
 At least it's not ninjas, right?

ETHAN
 Ugh, yes. I hate ninjas.

PAGE SIX (3 PANELS)

1 - Four Viking raiders rummage through the streets armed with state-of-the-art technology that still looks Viking-like (having come from a universe where Vikings dominated the world).

Their leader, Alfgeir, is boasting to the crowd. The dialogue should have the customary translation symbols around it.

ALFGEIR
<Let this world tremble at the
hands of Alfgeir the...>

2 - Alfgeir turns and stops mid-sentence, shocked by what he sees off-panel.

ALFGEIR
<Mighty?>

3 - Ethan's cop car drives into the group of vikings, hitting a few, and sending them and their loot flying off in all directions.

PAGE SEVEN (4 PANELS)

1 - Ethan is out of his car and standing over Alfgeir, who's on the floor, hurt, reaching for his helmet on the ground. Ethan is pointing his gun down at him.

ETHAN
Hands where I can see them, Bjorn.

JIMMY (O.P.)
Hey partner...

2 - Ethan looks over and sees Jimmy struggling with a Viking on the other side of the squad car.

JIMMY
Little help?

3 - Alfgeir's helmet goes flying across and hits the Viking in the face.

JIMMY
Thank you kindly.

4 - The Vikings come running toward them.

JIMMY

I might need another save though.

PAGE EIGHT (4 PANELS)

1 - Ethan kicks one of two remaining Vikings that are rushing at him, sword drawn.

ETHAN

Don't thank me.

2 - Ethan delivers an uppercut to knock out the other Viking.

ETHAN

Thank Master Doo Sun.

3 - Ethan tosses the Viking off-panel.

ETHAN

My Tae Kwon Do teacher.

4 - Wide Shot. The fight's over. The Vikings have been neutralized.

ETHAN

And that's why I like to arrive first.

DAGGERT (O.P.)

Now that was some mighty fine brawling.

PAGE NINE (5 PANELS)

1 - Ethan turns and sees a PDP (Parallel Dimensional Portal) opening with Lt. Daggert and his assistant stepping out of it. Daggert is an old war horse, prone to verbosity. His assistant is young and to the point.

DAGGERT

Reminds me of the time I took down the Canadian War Pirates on TL-338B.

ASSISTANT

Better not get on one your stories, Lieutenant. We got a job to do.

2 - Daggert stands face-to-face with Ethan.

DAGGERT
You Officer Ethan Park, LAPD?

ETHAN
Sounds right.

DAGGERT
Then you've got my congratulations,
son. Your application to the
Interdimensional P.D. Detective
Program has been accepted.

3 - Daggert hands Ethan a manila envelope.

DAGGERT (O.P.)
Show up at this dimension tomorrow
at 0800 hours, local time.

4 - Daggert puts his hand on Ethan's shoulder.

DAGGERT
And bring your game face, son. It
takes more than a few fancy kung fu
moves to earn the brass, if you
know what I mean.

ETHAN
Umm...I think so?

5 - Wide Shot. Daggert and his assistant are on their way
back through the portal.

DAGGERT
(To Assistant)
Good kid. Reminds me of that boy on
VE-347E, the jungle planet. You
remember him?

ASSISTANT
We have 20 more recruits to
contact, Lieutenant.

PAGE TEN (4 PANELS)

1 - Close-up Shot of Jimmy.

JIMMY
(To Ethan)
Parallel P.D.? Seriously?

2 - Close-up Shot of Ethan.

ETHAN

I'm sorry, Jimmy. I wanted to tell you. I just wasn't sure if I'd get in.

3 - Jimmy gives Ethan an encouraging pat on the back.

JIMMY

You little overachiever. Going off to see the world! Or worlds, I guess.

ETHAN

You're not mad?

4 - Jimmy puts arm over Jimmy and they start walking away.

JIMMY

Nah. I get it. Though you know as your future ex-partner, you know it's my job to get you shit-faced drunk for your first day tomorrow.

ETHAN

That so?

JIMMY

It's in the rule book and everything.

PAGE ELEVEN (4 PANELS)

1 - Int. Classroom - Day. Ethan sits in a large classroom full of other trainees while an instructor lectures at the front of the class. Ethan is sitting with his head on his palms (kind of like the Thinking Man statue), trying his best to pay attention to the lesson, but obviously bored.

On the board, the teacher has written the name of the class, Quantum Theory 101.

CAPTION (ETHAN NARRATING)

School was never my strong point, but thankfully the program only lasted a year.

QUANTUM THEORY TEACHER

As you can see, any action that can occur will occur in one of countless parallel dimensions.

2 - A different classroom, but Ethan is sitting in the same position. However, he's starting to get sleepy. On the board, the name of the class is Police Ethics and Procedure.

CAPTION (ETHAN NARRATING)
I tried my best to stay focused.

POLICE ETHICS TEACHER
The Crossdimensional Constitution
created the first transparallel
laws and the procedures that our
department adheres to.

3 - Another classroom. Once again, Ethan is in the same position as before, but this time he has fallen asleep. The class is Introduction to Interdimensional Cultural Sensitivity.

CAPTION (ETHAN NARRATING)
And only sometimes succeeded.

CULTURAL SENSITIVITY TEACHER
You should remember that every
world has its own culture with its
own standards of right and wrong.

4 - Physical Combat Training. The one class where Ethan isn't bored out of his brains. He's currently tossing another trainee on the ground as part of an exercise.

CAPTION (ETHAN NARRATING)
Though some class were outright
fun.

COMBAT TEACHER
Nice work, Park!

PAGE TWELVE (5 PANELS)

1 - The graduation party. A large banner hangs over the banquet hall which reads: "CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES." Ethan is walking in while the other graduates are already mingling.

CAPTION (ETHAN NARRATING)
And one year later, I'm officially
part of the force.

2 - In the crowd, Ethan sees his old partner, Jimmy.

ETHAN
Jimmy? Jimmy, is that you?

3 - Ethan approaches him, but Jimmy looks confused (He's actually a Jimmy Franks from a different dimension).

JIMMY 2
Sorry, buddy. I know you?

ETHAN
Oh. No, I um... I thought you were
someone else.

4 - Jimmy 2 walks away. Ethan watches him leave.

CAPTION (ETHAN NARRATING)
I keep forgetting about the
Variants. The same person can exist
on countless dimensions. Funny how
both Jimmys are in law enforcement.

5 - Ethan responds to an off-panel remark.

ETHAN 2 (O.P.)
I thought I'd find you here.

PAGE THIRTEEN (6 PANELS)

1 - Two shot of Ethan standing in front of his Variant from
another universe. They are alike in every way except that
Ethan 2 has a pony tail and an overall more casual,
easy-going demeanor.

ETHAN
You know, I always wanted to grow a
pony tail.

ETHAN 2
You should have. It's awesome.
(A pause)
Plus the ladies love it.

2 - Close-up on Ethan. This and the following panels are
designed as a series of similar sized, tight close-ups.

ETHAN
On your world? Your parents?

ETHAN 2 (O.P.)
Yes.

3 - Close-up on Ethan 2.

ETHAN (O.P.)
Any suspects?

ETHAN 2
Not on my world, nor any of the
other 38 worlds I visited.

4 - Ethan 2 puts his hand on Ethan's shoulder.

ETHAN 2

I know what's in your heart right now, Ethan, cause I had it in mine too. A burning, festering need to find the truth, but that obsession will eat you up inside if you let it.

5 - Close-up on Ethan, upset by what he's hearing.

ETHAN 2 (O.P.)

Sooner or later you're gonna have to accept that the answers aren't out there, that you'll never really know what happened.

6 - Ethan walks away from his variant.

ETHAN

You know, on second thought, I don't think a pony tail would've looked so good on me after all.

(A pause)

See you around, Ethan.

PAGE FOURTEEN (4 PANELS)

1 - Ethan drives up to the "Los Angeles Interdimensional Port"(Like an airport for parallel dimensional travel).

CAPTION (ETHAN NARRATING)

The next Monday I had to report to my precinct on Earth JL-834X.

2- Ethan is walking in line with other travelers. They are casually stepping into a PDP (Parallel Dimension Portal) in their dimension and walking out onto another earth.

NOTE: I see this as a long panel across the page with the portal in the middle of the panel. On the left side is Ethan's universe, and people are walking in line through the portal, coming out in another universe on the right side of the panel. The left side (Ethan's universe) is pretty much like an airport terminal. The right side (New universe) is a high technical airport terminal, levitating baggage carriers, touchscreen devices everywhere, etc.

ATTENDANT

Have a safe journey.

ETHAN

Thanks.

3 - Ethan walks over to a nearby window.

CAPTION (ETHAN NARRATING)

I'd heard rumors about that dimension before, but I figured it was all hype.

4 - Ethan looks out the window in the world he's in. His face is covered in awe.

CAPTION (ETHAN NARRATING)

Of course, it wasn't the first time I've been wrong.

PAGE FIFTEEN (1 PANEL)

SPLASH. From behind Ethan we can see out the window at the city, which is completely futuristic. We see flying cars, huge skyscrapers, all the trimmings (kind of like the world in the new Total Recall).

ETHAN

Whoa.

PAGE SIXTEEN (4 PANELS)

1 - Ethan is at his precinct, standing in front of his new Police Chief Alexandra Malham. She is sitting at her desk, and Ethan is standing in front of it, holding out his hand for a handshake, but the Chief is ignoring him and focusing on the paperwork on her desk.

CAPTION (ETHAN NARRATING)

Of course, meeting my new chief wasn't quite as inspiring.

CHIEF MALHAM

Just stay on my good side, Y Chrom, and I won't beat you.

CAPTION (ETHAN NARRATING)

Though in her defense, she comes from a world where men were treated as slaves.

2 - Ethan is on the main floor, taking in all the different types of people in the department.

CAPTION (ETHAN NARRATING)
 The other detectives were much
 friendlier, though most came from
 worlds that were nothing like mine.

3 - Ethan walks by his partner's desk but she's not here.
 Then name plate on the desk reads: DETECTIVE KATE PHOENIX.

CAPTION (ETHAN NARRATING)
 My partner hadn't arrived yet,
 though the others said I'd
 recognize her when I saw here.

CAPTION (ETHAN NARRATING)
 Whatever that means.

4 - Ethan is standing in front of a huge computer with
 fellow detectives Aaron Crusher (a half-cyborg native of the
 futuristic Earth JL-834X) and Marcus Shea (a little person
 from Earth TN-793H, a world dominated by little people).

CAPTION (ETHAN NARRATING)
 But by far the most impressive
 thing was the machine.

ETHAN
 Is this it?

AARON
 Sure is. The Cross-Dimensional
 Information Exchange Server. You
 want me to explain how it works?

MARCUS
 Oh, don't get this guy started on
 that machine. He'll go on for
 hours.

PAGE SEVENTEEN (5 PANELS)

1 - Two Shot of Aaron and Marcus.

AARON
 Don't worry, Marcus. I'll give him
 the short version. Pun intended.

MARCUS
 Bite me, Crusher. I'm average
 height on my world.

2 - Aaron turns his attention back to Ethan.

AARON

You see, when a crime happens on one world, statistically, it's likely to happen on thousands, if not millions, of nearly identical parallel earths.

MARCUS

You call this short?

3 - Aaron gestures at the computer.

AARON

The computer crosschecks the law enforcement databases on trillions of worlds for crimes that didn't happen repeatedly, suggesting that the crime isn't native to that dimension, i.e. interdimensional crime.

MARCUS

I almost fell asleep during that description.

4 - Two Shot of Aaron and Ethan.

AARON

(To Ethan)

We nicknamed ours ADOLF, after my the engineered that installed it.

ETHAN

Seriously? You named your supercomputer ADOLF?

AARON

Yeah. Why not? You don't like the name?

ETHAN

It's just....the whole war thing?

AARON

What war?

ETHAN

Never mind.

5 - Chief Malham calls to Ethan off-panel.

CHIEF MALHAM (O.P.)
 Detective Park. Meet your new
 partner.

PAGE EIGHTEEN (5 PANELS)

1 - Ethan turns and sees the Chief standing next to Detective Phoenix, a green-skinned woman. He's taken aback.

ETHAN
 Whoa, you're green!

KATE
 And you're not color blind.
 Congratulations.

2 - Ethan is embarrassed by his reaction.

ETHAN
 I'm sorry. I guess I'm not used to
 this much multidimensionism.

KATE
 Just try keep the vegetable jokes
 to a minimum.

CHIEF MALHAM
 All right, you two, you can be P.C.
 on your own time. We have work to
 do.

3 - The Chief hands Park a high-tech wristband.

CHIEF MALHAM
 Here. Wear this. It'll keep you in
 interdimensional contact with ADOLF
 at all times.

4 - Wide shot of the three of them.

CHIEF MALHAM
 It'll also serve as a translator in
 case you end up in some ass strange
 planet.

KATE
 (To herself)
 Ass strange?

CHIEF MALHAM
 We got a lead on a drive by
 shooting on TM-983L. I want you
 there 3 hours ago.

ETHAN

Yes, ma'am, sir. Um, what are we supposed to say?

5 - The Chief walks away.

CHIEF MALHAM

Don't say anything. Just get your asses over there before I take out my whip.

PAGE NINETEEN (5 PANELS)

1 - Kate turns to his new partner.

KATE

You better let me take the lead on this one, rookie. I have a bit more experience with multidimensionism.

ETHAN

Rookie? Really? Kind of a cliché nickname, don't you think?

KATE

True, but I just don't think you've earned a better one yet.

2 - Kate talks into her wrist computer.

KATE

ADOLF, open a portal for us.

ADOLF

As you wish, Detective Phoenix.

3 - Ethan talks to Kate as they walk toward a newly opened portal.

ETHAN

You don't have a problem calling the computer ADOLF?

KATE

No, why would I?

ETHAN

It's... not important.

4 - They walk through the newly generated PDP.

KATE

You're a ass strange one, rookie.

5 - Dimension TM-983L. Various LAPD police cars are parked in front of a house (which is also the crime scene). The Lead Officer (Hawkins) is giving orders to the other cops.

OFFICER HAWKINS

Call the M.E.'s office and get someone down here, damn it, before the press shows up.

PAGE TWENTY (6 PANELS)

1 - Detectives Phoenix and Park come out of a portal next to the crime scene. They are addressing Officer Hawkins, though he's not yet looking at them.

KATE

Officer Hawkins? I'm Detective Phoenix. This is Detective Park with the I.P.D. We have reason to believe this may be an interdimensional incident.

OFFICER HAWKINS

Oh great, just what I need some--

2 - Officer Hawkins looks at the detectives and is shocked. Kate assumes it's because she's green and becomes upset.

OFFICER HAWKINS

Oh, I...um...

KATE

We're going to need everything you have on the victim.

OFFICER HAWKINS

Um...

3 - Kate keeps giving orders while to her right, other officers are whispering to each other while staring at the detectives, angering Kate.

KATE

Name, Workplace, Drinking Buddies, everything!

4 - To her right, Kate sees other officers whispering and pointing.

KATE

We're also gonna need a rundown on recent criminal activity in this area, specifically drive by shootings.

5 - Kate is frustrated, shouting at the staring officers, while Ethan stares at something off-panel.

KATE

All right, enough already! I'm green, okay! Deal with it! Now can we quit staring and start working around here?

ETHAN

I think for once, Kate, it's not you they're staring at.

6 - Detective Phoenix is looking off-panel, at what Ethan is pointing toward. She's shocked by what she sees.

KATE

What do you mean? I--
(Staring)
Holy crapola!

PAGE TWENTY-ONE (1 PANEL)

SPLASH. Ethan and Kate are standing in front of the dead body, which is laid out in front of the house. It's that universe's Ethan Park in a white lab coat, shot dead. Phoenix is surprised, but Ethan's expression is serious.

PHOENIX

(To Ethan)
You're dead.

TO BE CONTINUED...