

Chapter 3: Aftermaths and Prospects

April 1, 2013 *Partially Cloudy. Low Humidity. High/Low: 9/4°*

Time: 1-ish

Finally Back in the City. To Fine a Roadblock...

They meet into a detour set up by the ACR a couple blocks out from the hospital. There was one of their vans blocking the road and they had set out signs directing traffic down another side road. And there were also people manning those detours.

"Oh, definitely not a good sign..." Trevor said, slowing a distance. "You up for running?"

Alex nodded, "These are those people that are supposed to catch bugs, eh?"

"And they do a pretty decent job of it," Trevor said. He found a parking spot and took it. "Which is why I don't want to go making their jobs any more complicated than I have to."

"We can report our kill list at least, maybe they'll find a use for the bodies," Alex suggested

"Hospital. Place where three of the group is, remember," Trevor reminded Albie as he shut off the engine and got his seatbelt off. "They can find out later."

Alex sighed and nodded, "So you want to rush in and kill a second queen, eh?"

"I'm hoping it's just the ones that got past us in the forest," Trevor said. "One queen's enough, thank you."

"So you still go with 'get there, kill bugs,' plan, yeah?" Alex asked.

"Add 'Punch Erin in the face it this is her fault again' to the list, and you've got it," Trevor said, getting out of his car. "Straightforward and simple. Would have liked something more complicated and dramatic, filled with all sorts of clever stuff, but reality doesn't work like one of our games, unfortunately."

"It could work if we had time, you know." Alex said, "And here we have a less open environment, so we can actually use your boxes to tactical advantage, you know, to close doors on demand. We can even distract the bugs on ourselves and have you lock off the area while I'll just recreate a microwave oven at the room"

"We don't have time, hence: real life doesn't work," Trevor slammed the door with more force than he intended. "Less talk, more walk."

Alex walked out of the car and followed Trevor to where he planned to go.

Trevor thought about it, then scowled. He turned and pointed a finger at Albie. "Hold still."

Alex stopped in tracks and looked at Trevor with a questioning look, tilting head to side, already guessing what he might say now. "Huh?"

Trevor called up a box around Alex. And invisible, but solid and tactile force enclosing him. "Sticking to street level's gonna cause more problems than it's worth."

"Whut?" Alex asked. He didn't figure out the existence of box yet though, he didn't move a lot when standing.

"We can't just run through the barricades. So we go over and over it instead," Trevor said, point up.

"You want to climb it? Or ride a box up there?" Alex asked

Trevor didn't bother explaining. He just reached out and grabbed the box, then leapt two or three dozen feet up, snagging a foot and handhold on a windowledge before launching himself, admittedly awkwardly, to a box he set up (which would look a lot like jumping off empty air) unto the rooftop.

Alex yelped as the box was picked up and then didn't move much, just stuck himself to one of the walls, being really scared by the whole experience. He couldn't manage to make even a sound as Trevor moved him around (you'd think he'd warn him about stunts like that). After a while they got to the roof and by then, after a while of staring around, Alex managed to say something. "What." was the word as he finally managed to recollect himself.

"See? Easy," Trevor said, dismissing the box with a distracted wave as he looked around, trying to get his bearings, ears twitching slightly in response to sounds. He's pretty much mastered tuning out most of what he could hear, but down to a level he was normally used to, but when he tried... it was pretty accurate.

Alex meanwhile flopped to the ground as the support of the box left him, hissing as he fell. "Come on!" he muttered, getting up, "Next time you'd warn me, okay?"

"I did, I pointed at you and said 'hold still' too. Warning," Trevor said, distracted. The hospital was... supposed to be about four blocks away. That was a couple roof tops.

"Awesome warning," Alex grumbled and tried to look in the direction Trevor was looking, "You plan to do this stunt again?"

Trevor made a contemplative thought, then walked over to the edge of the roof. He looked down, then over to the other side, tapping his finger in the brick and concrete stop that edged it as he thought.

"Can't you make a bridge out of boxes?" Alex suggested

"That's what I'm considering," Trevor said. "I don't know how much it could hold though," he admitted.

//progress towards air walk!

"Imagine yourself as New Jezus or something.... Wait, no, no water. Whoops... It did manage to do well against a giant bug queen though and you apparently flied on it, what stops it from holding weight? Hell, why not test it over here?" Alex said

"The only thing I've tested it on was my car, which admit might have been a bit too drastic a first judge," Trevor said, carefully extending a box over the gulf with a few flickering finger. It was invisible, of course. Those came naturally, and he didn't want to risk the strength by making it translucent or opaque. "So... wanna go first?"

"Eh, when it's ready..." Alex replied and after a while of thinking he figured that the bridge might as well be ready already, but is invisible, "It's not done, is it? You didn't make it invisible, right?"

"Didn't want to risk messing with it since they are normally invisible," Trevor said. He found a little pebble and tossed it, watching it bouncing on empty air before coming to a rest. "It's all good to go." He pursed his lips, then pointed. "From there, to there wide."

Alex gulped, stared for a while on that and then turned to Trevor to say, "If I die, tell people I did it for science. And humanity. Okay, that wasn't funny, just catch me if I'll fall, okay? Okay."

With that, he slowly walked up to the invisible thing and started walking on it, onwards, trying not to stray too far to the side. And neither he looked down. It might cause some weird reactions. "I am a skywalker!" he yelled as he strolled along the invisible path.

"Don't attract attention!" Trevor gripped. Welp, at least it didn't break. That was good. He jogged after. "Get with the zip."

"Get with the what?" Alex asked, still walking

"Run or still be there when the box goes poof," Trevor snarled, picking up his pace and leaving Alex behind.

[time skippaged to the end]

Outside

The there was quite a bit, actually. It seemed like not all the bugs had come insides the building, and there was evidence of their havoc around. Damaged cars, people pinned with webs, a few of the bugs crawling over cars, buzzing and screeching at anything the provided a suitable target.

Henry looked around to see if there were any leaving via the skies. If there was nothing there he would head down to the bugs down there. He slammed his hands together to gather the attention of the bugs on the ground.

[there were a handful darting about, not looking like they were flying, but just darting about in the general area. Much less than those crawling around at ground level.

"Alright. Come and get it." Henry said to himself. He would try to draw these away from the hospital.

The bugs didn't all react to the clap, not being mammalian in that sense. But one did react to the scent that wafted out from the remains splattered on his body. The first reaction came from above. A high pitched screech that was almost painful uttered by a bug that was perched on the wall. First one, then three, then eight, then upwards of a dozen bugs joined in the screeching. Suddenly, Henry was popular again.

They didn't exactly raise up en masse, but more than just a few of them flew towards him.

Henry waited until they were within range and then clapped again. He was going to try and kill as many as he could at range. Then try and pick off the ones that were left. It seemed like a better option than just flying into a mass of them and flailing around while trying to kill them.

Reflex save to half damage DC 15

Toughness DC 20

Greykit rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: 1 11:32 AM

Greykit rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: 5 11:32 AM

Greykit: Chatzy hates bugs. 11:33 AM

Greykit rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: 9 11:33 AM

Greykit rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: 1 11:33 AM

The shockwave was pretty much a wall that slammed into the bugs, catching them and hurling them through the air of no violation of their own. Of course, they were but the some of many. As impressive as his shockwave was, it couldn't encompass all of them. Others darted in, releasing pressure propelled pellets of hardened resin, some spraying him with the mist/squirt of their resin still in its fluid state, rapidly forming into the webbing in the air.

Φαιόγαλη rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: 5+2 Resin shot

Φαιόγαλη rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: 20+2 Binding shot (DC 14 reflex)

reflex **necar** rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: 15 + 4 = 19 (The one save you always make... via chatzy.) Thy move did the bugs I hit die? Yep

Henry swooped and dived out of the way of their attacks. They really wanted to hit him with that webby stuff but Henry wasn't having any of it. He went back to doing the only area damage he could. Flying up and slamming his hands together again trying to bring more of the down.

Reflex save to half damage DC 15

Bugs rolled a die with 20 sides for reflex. The die showed: 14+2 16

Toughness DC 20 to 16 or 17. Not sure.

Φαιόγαλη rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: 16 +4 (guards), +2 (drones)

//nooooooooo

The bugs flew through the shockwave as if it were nothing this time, little more than wobbling as they muscled through it and sprayed him again.

Bugs rolled a die with 20 sides for spray attack. The die showed: 3

It seemed that both sides were struggling to gain an upper hand. Henry's attack didn't phase them like it did the first time while the bugs were unable to land their attacks. While Henry had hurt a number of them moments before he figured that he would keep up the attack. Henry would rule the skies one way or another. He kept slamming his hands together making more pressure waves to try and destroy the bugs gaining on him.

Reflex save to half damage DC 15 **Bugs** rolled a die for reflex. The die showed: 20

Toughness DC 20 **Bugs** rolled a die for toughness. The die showed: 3

The bugs caught up in the burst rolled with it well, but the shockwave still caught them up and rattled till they died and sent them plummeting to the ground, a few damaging the cars in the lot below.

//how many of these things are there left?

//No clue. They're are a couple well scattered about...

//cool cool. I believe that it is your go

The wave of bugs that had swarmed Henry were down. The rest were just agitated, crawling and leaping around the place in the parking lot, guarding the victim's they claimed.

Seeing that he now had air superiority Henry went back down to the ones on the ground. Seeing that the bugs had taken down some people fueled Henry to keep going with the fight. He put both his hands together to bring down on one of the bugs in hopes to smashing it outright before it could react.

Attack **necar1** rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: $20 + 7 = 27$

Toughness DC 25 **Bugs** rolled a die with 20 sides for toughness. The die showed: 20+4

//boo to you bug boo to you

The bug barely managed to hold on, but was knocked away by the force, being hurled a couple feet well, and Henry's fist making a new pothole in the asphalt.

//don't know if that is all it was doing or not

Henry hit with enough force to crack the pavement around him. The bug took the hit like a champ and knocked away from it. The tough shell it had worked to divert the energy away from the bug. Henry leapt after the bug not wanting to give it time to regroup.

Attack **necar1** rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: $2 + 5 = 7$

toughness DC 20

The attack missed the bug and it took the chance to collect its wits and darted away, flying further away from the hospital and screeching and buzzing at Henry as it did.

Henry wouldn't let the bug get off that easy. if he was having a hard time killing it he could just imagine what the next person would face. He flew after it and slugged it in the back as it tried to get away.

attack **necar** rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: $15 + 5 = 20$

toughness DC 20

Bug rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: 6

Poor bug. Killed while doing grocery shopping. Shame on your Henry. Shame.

The bug died in a glorious way as Henry punched through it. It would not be able to snack on any more people now. Henry flew down to the next bug. He would stomp them all out if they were going to stay here.

attack **necar** rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: $10 + 7 = 17$

Toughness DC 20

Φαίοςγαλή rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: $14 + 4 = 18$ = stunned

The bug was rattled and it's wings stilled, legs spasmed and it did little to resist being knocked a couple feet away.

Henry went to the bug that bounced a few feet off. He reached down to pick it up. He could use this to stop the other bugs.

grapple necar rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: $20 + 5$ to hit

The bug didn't fight, it just sprayed.

Φαίοςγαλή rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: $18 + 4$ (DC 14rflx)

//boo bug boo

reflect **necar** rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: $18 + 4 = 22$

Henry had the bug in his hands when it spit at him. He figured that he would turn it around so that it would stop spitting at him. He was getting sick of these things spitting. He then flew off to the next bug which he introduced to the one in his hands.

attack **necar** rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: $10 + 1 = 11$

toughness DC 19 what ever the bug would be.

Greykit rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: 8 *Dead*.

Greykit rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: 19 Weaponized bug fine, surprisingly.

Henry flew to the next bug and continued his attack with his new weapon. This bug was still kicking which was pretty scary since he figured that it would have died with that last attack. He brought the bug down on the next on.

attack **necar1** rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: $10 + 1 = 11$

Toughness DC 19

The bug Henry held on to tried to break free but there was there was very little progress on that front. All it could do was screech as Henry used it to try and clobber the other bug. Which didn't quite work as planned. Neither bug really seemed more than annoyed by it.

Bugclub rolled a die with 20 sides for grapple. The die showed: 1

Bugtarget rolled a die with 20 sides for toughness. The die showed: 19+4

Bugclub rolled a die with 20 sides for toughness as well. The die showed: 18+3

Henry kept trying to kill the bug with another bug. It would be killed two bugs with a bug. Wait? That math doesn't work. That would be three bugs wouldn't it? It didn't matter that this moment as he drove the bug into the other one.

attack **necar1** rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: $10 + 1 = 11$
toughness DC 19

As Henry fought bugs, some people in somewhat familiar dress came into his view as he passed a corner. ACR agents doing their own form of pest control, and doing a decent jump at it.

Henry tried to wave at the ACR people but his hands were full of bug at the moment making that impossible. So he yelled out instead.

"These things are not giving up. Do you know what has gotten into them?" Henry shouted.

The ACR were armed with a combination of weaponry; rifles of some sort that fired darts rather than just bullets, larger net guns and what looked like pressure washers strapped to the back of a few of them. The closest one to Henry could spare him a response. "No idea. Never seen a swarm this large before!"

"Someone might have done something to a hive. Like how bees go crazy if you whack a hive." Henry highlighted the whack word in the sentence by smashing the bug club into one of its brothers.

attack **necar** rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: $13 + 1 = 14$
toughness DC 19

Φαιόσγαλή rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: 4 target

Φαιόσγαλή rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: 17 weapon... it just won't die...

Henry's weapon twitched weakly in his grip, but was still alive.

"No one with us has found any hives," the man said. With a loud blast of air and a crackle, the group took down the last bug in the area.

Henry saw that the last bug in the area that was still alive was the one in his hands. The ACR guys had the right tools to do the job it seemed. He held on to it since it might come in handy.

"Well, someone else might have stired them up. You guys ever place a tracking device on one of these things to follow them back to their hive? Because this one is still alive and could be used for that. Lead us back to the hive so that you all can destroy it at the source." Henry brought this up while keeping the bug pointed away from any people. This thing survived this long perhaps it was time to put it to work.

"Sometime it works, sometime it doesn't," the guy closest said.

In the background, others were busy. "Garnier! Get these into the truck. Have dispatch send out another unit!"

"Pole, grab Amez and come with me. We need to give the other group a hand with the sweep."

Others, read two, were trying to work the crowd control. Because people inevitably gathered to see what any commotion was about.

"You all want this one? I think it is still alive. Plus I can lend a hand if you want. I have been knocking these things around for a while." Henry offered.

The bug twitched a few times, weakly fighting.

Greykit rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: 8

necar rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: 9 + 13 = 22

The bug tried to move but Henry held on still not letting get any where.

The man looked up from reloading the launcher he had and started a bit at the bug. He had been a bit preoccupied before and over looked it. And it was impressive that Henry was just totting it around like that. The bg itself looked pitiful though. It was well beaten, though it still showed signs of life. "What did you do to that thing?"

[it has about three or four injured tabs]

"I grabbed it and had been beating the other bugs with it. Thought this thing would have died by now but it has been hanging on. Do you guys want a this alive or should I finish it off?" Henry asked

The guy looked around the place. "You beat up others with it... You think you're Force or something, don't you?" he joked lightly. "In this case, there are too many to try catch and release tactics. Every available ACR unit is out at the moment trying to control the situation. We've gotten dozens of calls from the area."

Henry scratched his head while looking at the man. "So does that mean you don't want it then? Or save it until the rest are taken care of. Do you know where the rest of the bugs are? Seems like all the ones over here are gone. I believe most of the ones in the hospital are either dead or gone as well." Henry reported.

"We got news that someone took out a ton of them with the security mostly watching." He eyed Henry. "That was you?"

Henry looked at his shredded clothes and the large bug that was still moving in his hand. "That might have been me. I have had a very busy day as of late."

"Well, aside from the swarm in the Roswell Ward, we go calls from eight different places in the hospital. None of them huge like that one, but these things are all over the place." His radio, hanging on his chest, crackled.

"*shrrk*Ar.... we have a situation here. Floor 1, H234 *shrrk*"

The man quickly tapped the radio. "West side parking. Mostly dealt with. You need a hand?"

Henry looked at the building. He didn't know where H234 but he could figure where the 1st floor was. He listened to see if these guys were going there so he could follow them. It would be easier then bumping around in the hospital.

"*shrrk*If you can be spared. *shrrk* They did it up good. Cutting in *shrrk*"

"Don't mean to be listening in but it seems like you all could use a hand." Henry offered to help again.

The guy gathered up his equipment with a serious look on his face. "You volunteering?"

Henry grabbed the bug with both hands and pulled in different directions. The bug split in two with a spray of goo and a wet slap as something else hit henry in the chest. He tossed the two halves to the ground. The thing that hit him looked like a person's wallet. He bent down to pick it up to see if the ID survived.

"If you are willing to have me along. I can be of some pretty good help I figure." Henry said falling in line behind the man.

Greykit rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: 2: *some of the spay splattered out and left some of the resin/webbing mess on the ground.*

Thoughness DC 20 (grapple damage cant break living things :()

Greykit rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: 12.

The man shrugged on his pack called in his approach to the other people back in the building. It was deeper in the building, somewhere near the far side of the building, [closer to the main thoroughway for those coming from ambulances and such, if he was the type who would know anything about the hospital layout since I'm not sure what Knowledge that would be.]

And the evidence was piling up again. Furrows and scratches on the wall and other such property damage. Soon enough the pair found were a bunch of folk in ACR outfits were trying to cut through a thick layer of the webbing stuff. [Cue flashback to Erin's place?]

Henry saw what they were getting themselves into. This whole thing reminded him of Erin's apartment and the girls turning on them. He also remembered seeing a bunch of the bugs in there. This would be fighting on their turf with more of that webby junk.

The man made another swing at the mess and somehow lost grip of his tool, sending it flying, amidst much swearing of those who tried to dodge, and much more than swearing of the guy who it hit in the face. Said person dropped to the ground swearing and cupping his face, bleeding spilling.

Greykit rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: 1

Greykit rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: 3

Henry didn't know what was going on. They were trying to cut a new path but while he watched the blade they were using went flying by. He walked up and tested the webbing to see if it was sticky or just a tough coating to keep things out.

[It wasn't sticky at all, just a solid somewhat rubbery mass. Firm but slightly soft feeling. There were a few marks where Mark (pun unintended) had been chopping at it]

"Shit! Rob! You okay?" The guy that Henry came with said. "What the hell, Mark?"

"[swearword]! Oh god it just slipped out of my hands!" Mark, the guy that had the weapon said, frantic.

Henry grabbed the weird webby stuff and looked at the guy Mark. "Mind if I give it a go?"

Henry asked and gave it a pull.

str check **necar** rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: $16 + 12 = 28$

[**Greykit** rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: $8+8$]

Henry tore a hole in the wall. Not enough to fit through, but sizeable chunk. Like half a foot or a little more. The ACR men were still a bit too distracted with the victim's [Peter] injuries to really notice.

Henry got a chunk of the stuff off the doorway. It wouldn't do for them to get through so he grabbed more of the stuff to make the hole bigger. If they were going to get in there and in any time faster they needed to get a move on.

str check **necar** rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: $6 + 12 = 18$

Greykit rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: 19

The blockage was more stubborn this time and didn't yield to his considerable strength.

The webs did not yield. Not even a little this time. He let go and spit on his hands to get a better grip this time. He wondered how he was able to hold on to it last time with all the bug goo. He grabbed on and put a foot on the door jam to get him some more leverage and pulled with everything he had.

str check **necar** rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: $4 + 12 = 16$

Greykit rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: 17 *'Bitch please,' says the wall.*

Stupid webs! Henry cursed under his breath. Some apmed up yarn was standing in his way and it was getting to him. Why were all these little things working against him. He was eyeing the wall for a moment. If he couldn't open this door way he would make a new one

"Just open already!"

str check **necar** rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: $3 + 12 = 15$

Henry pulled and then gave up on the stupid doorway. He moved over ten feet and moved back. Dropping his shoulder he decided to ram the damn wall. one way or another he was going to make it through this dumb building.

Str check **necar** rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: $18 + 12 = 30$ (making an Henry sized hole in the wall)

Φαιόζγαλή rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: $14 + 3 + 4 = 21$ (Still busted)

The wall surrendered to Henry where the doorway would not. With a loud unhealthy crash, he barrelled through the drywall, the studs and the mess of webbing on the other side. The doorway wailed, for it's purpose was unrealized, bound as it was behind the offending webbing. The wall wailed as well, for it failed it's purpose of defining a space and preventing passage. Henry disappointed two objects that day.

The sound of ripping webbing attracted the attention from the ACR agents and away from the drama of the Mark/Rob incident. "What the [swearword]?"

That worked out much better then the doorway. There was drywall, insulation, and other forms of debris flying as he made his way through. He reached into his back pocket and pulled out his new mask and put it on. He didn't want to breathe in all that insulation. It is great at keeping a building warm but it would mess your lungs up. After getting it on he peaked his head back out the new doorway he made.

"Well, you all are the experts so I am going to follow your lead here." Henry said moving out of the hole so they could come in too.

There were, understandably, at the speechless end of taken aback by that display. "You... just... the wall..."

"The door was webbed. I couldn't get through it so I made a new door. They are going to need to repair the building any way." Henry said shrugging.

One of the ACR men just shook his head. "Mark, you take lead. I don't trust you at the back." Mark was too taken aback to complain and just nodded, getting his shock prod ready. "Rob, get to one of the nurses and let them look at your face. Ah... what's your name again?" he asked Henry.

Henry looked back at the man with his face now masked. He had forgotten to keep the thing on while fighting the bugs earlier. There were now a number of the security officers who might recognize his face if given the chance or if they cared enough. Some of these men saw it too if they were paying enough attention and could see if through all the bug guts and gore he had on his face. Either way it wasn't time to start name dropping his actual name.

"I keep that one to myself. You can call me Force. My suit got destroyed in the con explosion so I am working with this for now." Henry said pointing to his cheap looking mask.

"Uhuh..." the ACR guy said after a pause. "Whatever floats your boat. Brian. You and I will follow Mark in, got it?"

Henry followed the others in. He didn't know what to look for and these guys had the actual tools to get the job done. if they needed any heavy lifting or something smashed they could always ask.

The room was bug spray heavy, literally covered with layers of the stuff on the wall, much like Erin's place was. There were several lumps about the place, hard to make out in the thick gloom that clung to everything. Mark clicked on his flashlight and swung it around at floor and waist level, casting light on those indistinct shapes beneath the webbing as well as what was obviously a journey half covered as well.
[Rooms about 15 by 10]

"Damn... this isn't a good sign," Brian murmured.

"What are those things? They aren't people are they?" Henry asked a little confused at what he was seeing. Flash backs of Erin's apartment kept on rolling in.

"The only way to find out is to examine them..." Mark said. A low raspy hissing started welling up in the room. [DC15 notice]

Mark rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: 7 6:26 PM

Brian rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: 2

Henry rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: 11 +1 = 12

"Ah, well then let's open one of these then." Henry said as he walked over to one of the web bundles and grabbed it and tried to tug the webbing off.
str check rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: 8 + 12 = 20

The webbing didn't stand up to Henry's muscles, tearing like fabric. The harsh glare of the torch revealed the grisly form of what had been a doctor, now was likely a form destined for the morgue, shirt and coat ripped down through to skin, and flesh and even a few glimpses of the ivory white of bone, all stained with blood.

All the color drained out of Henry's face. This was a web sack full of corpse and it wasn't the only one in the room. Henry did not like the idea of humans being lower on the food chain. He left the sack and quickly went to the next one. He had hopes that one would have something living in it.

str check **necar** rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: 4 + 12 = 16

They fell from the shadows on the roof, made all the deeper thanks to the focus on the second body Henry uncovered. The rasping kicked up and the buzz of wings filled the air as they descended and attacked.

Φαιόγαλῆ rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: 7+8=15 stealth

Φαιόγαλῆ rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: 2+4+2(I think from flatfooted) attack

The attack came out of no where but they were on them in moments. Wings buzzing and legs flailing all around. It worked to break Henry out of the horror that he was feeling as he uncovered another body. He had thought that the bugs acted like giant mosquitoes just taking blood of a person and leaving. He had seen the webs before but never with people wrapped in them or them spitting it at a person nor had he seen the acid before. He knew they were an issue before but now they were topping his list of dangerous things.

That also didn't take into account of the fact that they were able to change your mind to make you follow them. That was something that he was not going to let happen to him or the professionals with him. They had the tools and the knowledge in how to deal with these. Henry had just the information of hitting them makes them die. It was a pretty universal constant but it was a good one. It was also one he was getting to put into practice. As the bugs flew all around he swung a wide right fist into the nearest one in his attempt to beat them back and off of the ACR guys with him.

attack **necar** rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: $2 + 5 = 7$ (the chatzy love continues)
toughness DC 20

Despite the amount of bugs, or perhaps because of it and the confusion it caused, neither Henry nor any of the ACR fellows were able to hit them. At least Henry's swing missed the guys as well, so win/lose.

Dodging Henry's fist rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: 19

Mark rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: 1

Brian rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: 11

The bugs tried their best to land on and crawl over Henry, but the hero managed to shake them off.

Bugs rolled a die to grapple Henry. The die showed: 18 Grapple +4 for amount

Grapple check. The die showed: $1+2+2+/-4=5$

counter grapple rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: $2 + 12 = 14$

They did the same to Brian and Mark, the ones going for the unlucky Mark not quite getting a foothold, and Brian managing to shake them off.

Bugs attacking Brian rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: 10

Grapple Brian. The die showed: 6

Resisting Brian rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: 8

Attacking Mark rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: 2

Wings, legs, and what ever those mouth things are called were all over the place as the bugs attacked. While his punch missed he was able to avoid the bugs grabbing attempts. He would love to say it was because of his awesome training at the gym but it was really because he was flailing around. He did not want to end up like one of those web sacks. He had a bad feeling creeping up he spine but shoved it aside. He had enough things crawling around here.

The room was too small for him to use his clapping attack. He didn't want to hurt the two men with him since they were having just as bad of a go with this as he was. So he took three steps forward and gave a kick trying to punt the bug away and into pieces.

attack rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: $10 + 5 = 15$

toughness DC 20 **Bug** rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: 5

With the bug flying down the hall Henry lashed out and the next nearest bug to send it following its brother. A kick to its side since they were buzzing all over the place should work.

attack rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: $12 + 5 = 17$

toughness DC 20

The bug was sent off into the dark shadows of the room, and the dull thud it made when it hit the wall was covered up by all the other noise in the room.

Mark and Brian continued their own efforts, and even though they were managing to get their gear to bear, they weren't managing to score any hits.

Mark and Brian rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: 5 and 8

The loss of one of their number didn't phase them much, and they once again tried to get touchie feelie with Henry, having a bit more success on the latching on side.

Bugs rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: 20

Grapplebugs rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: $6 + [8] = 14$

grapple rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: $10 + 12 = 22$

They got Brian, who got covered with them despite his yell, and immediately started layering him with their webbing.

Bugs rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: 13 8:52 AM

Grapplebugs rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: 16

Brian rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: 4

Mark went down as well, his own cry muffled by the the bugs as they worked to contain them.

Bugs rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: 17 8:53 AM

Grapplebugs rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: 17

Mark rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: 6

Henry got grabbed at from the side but was able to get his arm between himself and the bug and push it off of him. These things were getting better and grabbing him and from the looks of what they were doing to the others that was very bad. The two men that entered with him were on the ground and being covered in the webbing. Henry saw what the aftermath would be and had to save these men. This is why he was here and fighting against overwhelming numbers. He tried to kick the bug that was webbing the guy to his right. Mark, he was pretty sure. He needed to get one out then they could help to get their friend out.

attack rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: $10 + 5 = 15$

toughness DC 20 **Bug** rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: 4

The bug fractured, body juices and gore splattering as it was knocked off Mark and bounced off the wall to vanish into the darkness.

Henry sent one of the bugs off to meet its brothers. That left two more on top of Mark that would be trying to lock him in a snack bag. Henry swung around and tried to back hand the next bug. attack rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: $1 + 5 = 6$
toughness 20 Henry roll DC 20 fort vs pulled muscle I guess.
fort rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: $9 + 5 = 14 - 2$ str and con

The song that shall never be song. This is nothing to do with anything, but it's poetic. On a related topic, Brian struggled futilely against his bindings and the bugs worked.

Brian rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: 2

Mark struggled as well, and didn't have that much more luck either.

Φαιόσγαλῆ rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: 13

The bugs... popped. No clue why, but one moment they were croached on their new claims, hissing and waving serrated forelimbs at Henry in the dark setting, the next, they sorta just exploded. Honestly. All of them. [DC18 reflex]

reflex: rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: $6 + 4 = 10$

Result: splattered like crazy and covered in webbing mess. Entangled.

"What in the world what that? They all exploded." Henry said while rubbing his shoulder. Did he do that? He had not felt something like this before and after teh attack they all exploded. He would need to be more careful. He had some kind of exploding attack that he didn't know he had before. He was also covered in this gooey crud now and it was making it hard to move or do anything really.

intel check rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: $5 - 1 = 4$ (now Henry thinks he has an exploding attack)

str check to break out rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: $8 + 11 = 19$

Φαιόσγαλῆ rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: 5+8 broken.

//that mean he is out? Sadly yes.

There were still the muffled sounds coming from the two bound workers, the flashlights beam shining uselessly into the far wall.

Henry broke out of the web-goo that he was stuck in. This day was not turning out how he thought it would at all. He had just wanted to give some flowers to some people and see how they were doing. Now it had all gone sideways. Atleast he was still mobile. He got up and moved over to Mark. He was already near him during the fight and managed to get some of the bugs off of him. He bent down to tear the stuff off the man to free him. He would need help for what ever was up ahead.

Str check rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: $14 + 11 = 25$

Mark gasped as he was exposed to the fresh air. After a few deep gulping breaths, "Thanks... how's Brian?"

"He is webbed up as well. I am going to get him out. We are going to need back up at this rate." Henry said rushing over to Brian. he bent down to tear the webs off of him as well.
str check rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: $8 + 11 = 19$

Brian responded similarly once he was released from his bindings. And had a pissed look on his face as he got to his feet.

"Ok, so the bugs all exploded and we are in the hive. I don't know if we should push on or what. We are going to need backup either way. I just hope that they don't have any other people webbed up." Henry said looking at Brian. He seemed . . . upset.

Brian fumbled for the flashlight, then shone it around the room. The layers of webbing covered it almost in it's entirety. But there didn't seem to be anything more to it than the room. There were folds of webbing, like hammocks hanging from on the roof, presumably where the bugs had been holed up before dropping on them. Brian's sweeping light hovered over the other mounds around the room. Three others.

"It's a nest, alright," Brian said, his tone grim, "But it's not a hive. It's just... we've been calling them outposts."

"Is there more to it or is this the only room?" Henry asked.

"It would just be this room," Mark put in, gathering the other dropped equipment. "Small places for scouts and gatherers to stay." After fumbling a bit with the probe and the gun Brian had been carrying. "It doesn't really make sense though."

Henry watched the light as Brian scanned the room. Seemed that there were three more web mounds. He knew what would be in them but they would still need to break them open. Henry walked over to the nearest one and tried to tear it open.

"What doesn't make sense? Thought the bugs attacked people all the time?" Henry asked. There were a lot of bug attacks on the news so it seemed like something they would do. perhaps more people were turning into metas after the Red attack and that was what set them off.
str check 21 (taking ten on the check)

"Leave it," Brian said, "At this point, we need to bring in the police as well. And what he means in the location. This is a hospital. A well travelled and trafficked location."

"Also thought they were attracted by metas. Could be that there were a number of metas here and that brought them in." Henry knew of a couple metas in the building.

"Not to make a nest in the building," Brian shook his head before launching into what they knew about the bugs' behaviour. "We had reports plotting essentially a straight line from outside the city here. You can see there, and there," he shined the light at two spots, "where the layering is incomplete."

"There is a new patch over here too," Mark said, shining his light to the lighter somewhat glossy looking section on one wall.

"This nest is new. And the... bodies we saw are... fresh," Brian didn't like talking about it anymore than they did seeing it. "They would need a reason to set up a nest, central or not, in a place like this. They prefer out of the way and secluded areas. Even getting this many of them to this part of the hospital between the time the reports came in and now takes more than just 'for setting up a nest's sake' as an explanation."

"If they set this one up or were in the process of setting up could they have done more? Also earlier they were flying around and then all the sudden they went crazy. Instantly went nuts." Henry added. These guys knew what they were talking about it seemed.

"Instantly went nuts... We, Acer, not us personally I mean," Brian elaborated, "have seem something like that before... when they bombed a hive one and took out the queen, the remaining bugs lost all unity. They just... went nuts is a good term for it."
[Going with Acer as the slang for ACR]

"You mean B three O five?" Mark asked, rising an eyebrow that went on sen. "Might be... the scale is much different, but I can see the similarity..."

"I don't suppose you all bombed a queen in the past hour have you? Or know of any other group that would be able to pull something like that off." Henry asked.

"The only actions we've taken today has been to come here." Brian admitted.

"Must have been someone else then. So what do we do now? Is the hospital cleared or is there another one of these places?" Henry asked leaving the last two web bundles where they sat.

"For now, we pull back for the most part and call in the police," Brian said.

"The police are going to clean the rest of this up now? Or was that it for them?" Henry asked. He wasn't sure if the bug threat was over or if they were done.

"This is a crime scene now," Brian said as he and Mark pointed Henry to the ~~door~~ hole in the wall. "Clean up needs to be done with them around."

"Ah, ok. Well then time to go I guess." Henry walked out through the hole in the wall he made. If only the webs would have come off the door he would not have to make a new one. He looked around to see if there were any people who would need help.

"You know you're going to be responsible for that hole right?" Brian asked.

Henry waved the man off. "I might. Although I figure that the ends justify the means." Henry said making he way back outside the building.

[Where the cats can come in, when they get here]-----

Well... there was no real quick and easy way down and across the street to the parking lot. He'd seen a few bugs on the way over, like two or so, and the parking lot was... distressing, the amount of dead bugs and obvious signs were their webbing had been and ACR workers puttering around. Sorta made getting down a bit more of a priority.

Okay, there was one. Which might actually be pretty fun. "Hey Albie..."

"Hey Trevor?" Alex replied, tilting his head to side, "What's the plan now?"

"Ever been to a theme park?" Trevor grinned, taking careful aim. Hmm... from here to... there should be good...

Alex nervously glanced at Trevor, "Nope... I guess you'd provide a ticket now?" Alex replied

Trevor grinned even wider, one with a very predatory edge to it, and pushed Albie off the edge. With a whoop that totally belied the grimness he had just had (Seriously, super slide. He hadn't been to a water park in ages) he jumped after Albie and slid down after him.

[He would hit something about two feet down and slide over to the parking lot]

Alex yelled and tried to turn around to avoid falling down on his back reflexively (well, tried to) and then smacked into something and started sliding down, with a loud and panicked yell, "TREEEVOR!"

"YEEEEHHHHHAAAAA OOOOOHHHH CRRRRRRRAAAAA-" Trevor's elation turned into panic as his inner physics student realized he didn't add a landing strip.

The two cats, sliding at pretty decent speeds, reached the end of the ramp and hit the parking lot, skidding across far less accomodating asphalt.

[DC 18 toughness, roll die to see if you hit a car]

Trevor rolled several a die with 20 sides. The die showed: 18+6 for toughness, 4 for avoiding cars, 19+6 for hitting car.

The Car rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: 1. Poor car.

Trevor was still panicking when he hit the ground and kept going, tumbling and yelling before he bounced into a car with crunch of metal and glass and the wailing of an alarm.

Alex rolled a die for toughness with 20 sides. The die showed: 1

Alex rolled a die for reflex with 20 sides. The die showed: 13 + 4

Alex rolled onto the asphalt and hit his head among other things he hit as he rolled forward, so the only swear he could tell Trevor about his planning was stopped nearly instantly as the lynxboy rolled unconsciously on the ground.

//wouldn't really by splat. It's an angle, so its just a rough roll.

//Tell that to the head then :P

"Okay... need to work on that idea," Trevor groaned. Then he saw Albie.

[and... cause wellspring's compromised... Sweeping instrumental as the camera pans from Trevor over the still form of Albie. Zoom in slowly and the sounds of the setting fade as it emphasises the soundtrack and the ragged breathing of Alex. Slowly fade to black, punctuated by Trevor's on word. 'Crap.']

In the Hospital Room of Albie-----

[About ten minutes later. Assuming contact was made with Henry]

"So sorry..." Trevor said to Albie, what was likely the fiftieth time. Albie was up in bed, more or less in decent health, though bandaged up and looking worn. Doctors wanted to keep him for observation. For at least a few more hours.

Alex sighed at another apology. "I got it Trev." he said with a short lived smirk. He thought for a moment. "Hey, you know, it is pretty ironic if you think about it," Alex added with a grin, "Went to save the hospital, ended up needing hospital help instead."

"Speaking of..." Trevor looked over to Henry. "What happened?"

"A whole mess of stuff happened here. I came here to visit the girls only to find out that two of them already left. Then Erin turned into a bug and I had to stop that. Then there were some bugs. Then the bugs went completely nuts and tore the place up. The ACR guys said that a queen most likely died some place and took it out here. Crap!" Henry remember something. "What happened to Erin. I forgot about her during the bug swarm." Henry looked around for a nurse or doctor or anyone who might know where she was.

Alex glanced at Trevor and said, "This can't be related to our forest encounter, can it?"

"Erin turned into a bug..." Trevor growled. It was an impressive growl too.

"Yeah, you know, like she did at the con. I never saw it myself but I have today. It was very disturbing but I kicked her across the room and that stopped it. And what did you mean about a forest encounter?" Henry said raising an eyebrow.

"We were in the forest this morning. Reasons," Trevor added, forestalling the inevitable question. "Saw a swarm heading for the city."

"Did this swarm have a queen with it or leading it?" Henry asked. Would be nice if they could get this done with. Trevor liked to draw things out like this. It was best to ask direct questions.

"Trevor killed a queen in the forest," Alex replied.

"Ah, so that is what sent them all crazy. But what brought them to the city in the first place?"

Henry mused out loud.

//there any nurses around or doctors?

//not in the room.

"How should I know," Trevor said, glaring at Albie for ruining the drama of the event. "I just looked up when I was figuring out how to get the flight box to work and saw a ton of them."

"Well something set them into motion. And then they killed a bunch of people. Was not pretty here." Henry said shaking his head. Trying to get the sight of the bodies in the webs out.

"Okay... to repeat something I asked before... Erin turned into a bug?" Trevor asked.

"Yeah, I just said that. She turned into one. Like she did at the con. We talked about this during our stay in here not but a few days ago. She was like bug lady and attacked a person. I came in and stopped her." Henry repeated.

"I'm going to punch her next time I see her," Trevor scowled. "Where is she anyway?"

"I am fearful of your hearing. I just said that I lost track of her during the fight. She was being carted away by the doctors. Might need to talk to one of the doctors or nurses here to find out where she is now." Henry said looking at Alex. He didn't know if he should leave him or stay here.

"They'd better stick around after... what with the punch I'm gonna give her...." Trevor muttered under his breath.

"She didn't attack you. Why are you going to hit her? She is already in enough pain I bet. She wasn't fully healed and then I put more hurt on her. She can't be in good shape." Henry added.

"You got to punch her the last two times she caused trouble. Then your friend got to punch her the other time she got into trouble," Trevor muttered, leaning back in his chair and crossing his hands behind his head in an attempt to release. He made a face and held out his hands so he could examine his arms, still gunky from the dead queen. "Man I need a shower..."

Henry looked at himself at this. His clothes were shredded and covered in bug fluids. It was rather gross but it was an after thought. He didn't think about it until just now, he probably smelled terrible as well. He would need to get home and pitch the clothes and take a shower. he was losing more clothes this week than he had in the past year.

"Yeah, we also need to find what happened to Erin. For all we know she is being taken apart to see if there is any more bug inside of her." Henry said while poking his head out of the door looking for an employee.

With everything that had been going on, it was understandable why the place wasn't thick with them, and none were in Henry's eyesight.

"Hey Albie, you mind if I use your shower?" Trevor asked.

"...Sure I guess..." Alex said, "For how long do I need to remain here?"

"Why are you asking me?" Trevor said, getting up and sniffing at his arm, wrinkling his nose at the far less than pleasant results he found there. "Do I look like your doctor?"

Alex made a suggestive face for a moment, "Maaaaybe..." The face was gone nearly instantly tho, "...joking. No one told anyone? Can someone call me a doctor? Actually, scratch that, can someone bring me paper and pencils?"

//they would have told him you know. For a few hours. Till about 5.

"Aren't you the patient here? You'd got all the lines," Trevor called over his shoulder as he headed to the small room that held the shower and toilet.

"But... The paper... What if I'll get bored?" Alex asked, following Trev with his eyes.

"In five minutes?" Trevor said, rolling his eyes as he closed the door.

Alex sighed and watched everyone leave with him staying in the bed. He shuffled around in the bed. It was quite better than what he had managed to improvise in the forest... Actually, it is quite better now than the past couple of days that he would admit, were quite awful. And today wasn't too much better... At least he could rest. With that, he curled up under blankets, closed his eyes and started recalling the recent events, thinking about them.

It took a couple minutes, there was a lot of fur and a lot of gunk, but eventually the sound of water coming from the little bathroom stopped. Then it took a few more minutes before Trevor came out with clothes that looked both damn and well wrinkled, his plan to try and make a box that would hold water while letting the clothes through failing, forcing him to resort to wringing them out by hand.

Φαίοςγαλή rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: 5

Alex heard Trevor coming and peeked at him. "Oh hey," he said, getting pulled out of his thoughts.

Trevor had his head tilted and a finger waggling in his ear, trying to get another one of those annoying drops of water out of his ear channel, occasionally jerking his head in attempts to forcibly dislodge it. He glanced around the room. "Where'd hero-man get to?"

"He went to do hero thing," Alex replied and blinked innocently, "Out there, searching for Erin." he said, intending to use some of his magic things (microwaves) to test how the door would react. Instead though, his palm shined with bright light of reddish-white spectrum as he pointed

at the door, creating fancy spotlight. "Huh. That wasn't what I wanted to do." Alex said, stopping putting up the light.

"Uhuh..." Trevor said, pausing midstep and looking at the door. "You know if you point that at me I'm gonna toss a box at you, right?"

Alex grinned and aimed his hand at Trevor, "Hehe," he chuckled, "No worries, not gonna do it. I honestly wanted it not to be of visible effect... Eh... Is the light supposed to happen when I try to microwave... Or it's just light... I guess I'd test it before pointing my hand at you." Alex said and lowered his arm down. He already knew what was he capable of, at least to bugs.

"Sure..." Trevor said, dropping into one of the chairs and gnawing at the fur at his wrist, worrying out a tangle with his teeth. "I gotta update my book..."

//wonder how to make the toughness variable... linked elongation or bouncing?

//Eh? Variable?

//make a box soft enough to rest on. Like a cushion.

//Ah

"Update?" Alex asked, "With more stuff to read?"

"No, my note book of Stuff I Can Do For Some Reason. Should give it another name so it can get a better acronym than Sic... Dufsrr..." Trevor muttered. "Maybe just SIC."

"Oh, that book," Alex replied, facepawing. Yeah, too much tech. At least that notebook won't die from his deadly handwave. OR WOULD IT? "Call it Stuffbook"

"Lacks a certain..." Trevor waggled a finger in the air as he groped for a word. "Oomf to it."

"Stuffbook..." Alex said with an ominous tone, "OF DOOM! Wanna me char it a bit for oomf?"

Trevor snapped and formed a box with just enough opaqueness to it that it was a ghost outline in the air, about five inches on each side, hovering over his hand. "No."

"Jeez, I was joking," Alex replied, "...I wonder what would Henry do now... If Erin bugged out and stuff..."

"He tends to punch every problem he faces," Trevor muttered, having first hand knowledge of that one. "And his punches aren't something you can really ignore anymore."

Alex sighed and replied, "Well, with how our situation is turning out, all of us are going to be solving all our problems with one thing. When all you have a hammer everything's..." Alex stopped there, hoping Trevor would follow with that. Didn't wait for too long though to continue, "Seems like I might fall down there too at least. I have microwaves. And light so it seems. And radio. It's a damn universal thing, I can try to put it up nearly anywhere. I can microwave bugs to death. I can annihilate security cameras and sneak in without tech knowing. I can burn the eyes of people that might spot me when I try to get in. I can warm up pizza. I can even become the

greatest villain of all time and kick the dog by melting the ice cream of people without even them KNOWING OF IT! Or something like that. But really. He can't simply be punching whatever is there where he's headed."

"You might think so," Trevor yawned. "Doesn't chance the fact that I seems to be. But he's been talking to people too, in his whole superhero thing."

"Huh," Alex scratched behind his ear, "We should have really told ACR about the queen we killed."

Trevor paused, then facepalmed. "Gah! I totally forgot about that!"

Alex sighed yet again. "Well, I guess we should do it now. Maybe they have a phone line? A site? We should totally tell them. Just don't tell about our other quirks. Just in case."

"We can ask Henry. He's got contacts," Trevor sighed.

Alex shrugged, "We told him already"

"But we didn't ask him," Trevor pointed out.

"You sure that a superman wannabe would pass the opportunity to tell the bigass bug kill to authorities?" Alex asked

[Henry's Search]

Henry had no paper or pencils at the moment. He left that stuff in the truck plus he still needed to find a person who might know where Erin was. With Trevor going for a shower it seemed that left Henry to find her.

"Well, with him in the shower I am going to look for Erin. I will be back once I find something out. See you in a bit." Henry said and walked out the door and down the hall. There might be a receptionist some where on this floor that he could ask.

//Trevor really has it in for Erin, doesn't he?

Trevor shucked of clothes and snagged all of the shampoo and body wash the hospital stocked the room with and brought it in with him. Soon, gunky bug paste, soon you will just be another bad memory to add to raging hate I have for all your kind. Trevor grinned and started his rather thorough washing.

As expected, there was a nurse manning the station. She had the distinct appearance of something harried due to having more tossed on their plate than they should. She seemed to be handling it fine enough though. Some people just did better than others under stress.

"Hello mama, I was wondering if you could tell me where my firend is. She seems to have been moved from her room. Her name is Erin O'Neil." Henry inquired.

She looked up sharply at the 'mama' salutation, but if she had something to say about it, she held it back. "Hello. You said you were looking for a patient? If you could give me a moment...." she did some tinkering on her computer. "Can I have the name again please?"

"Sure thing. Her name is Erin O'Neil. She came in a few days ago from the con. I went to her room and she wasn't there. The two girls that were with her left yesterday. With everything that has been going on today I just wanted to check on her and see how she is doing." Henry responded.

He tapped away at her keyboard, pulling up records and such with much tapping, tabbing, typing and more tapping. "Erin O'Neil..." she hummed and hummed for a few moments. "She was transferred from this wing down to... room 234 in Section H. That's on the first floor."
//assuming a rather decent electronic database and not paperwork hell too much in the sense that she'd have to track it across the building... That they would at least record a patient moving rooms and such.

"Perfect! Thank you very much. I will head there now and see how she is doing." Henry said with a wave and headed off to the second floor to see how Erin fared during the whole bug issue.

Off to the second floor Henry went. Now what does he do?

- Look at the directions on the walls
- Find another receptionist
- Wander about

Henry looked around for the signs on the wall that would show him which way to go. He didn't want to take up anyone else's time at the moment plus they would most likely just point at the signs anyway.

The signs on the walls pointed to various wings and such, but also had grouped numbers. He would likely head in the direction the 200 - 250 indicated.

Henry walked slowly down the hall looking left to right as he went. He didn't know what kind of wing this was. Erin was moved after the first bug attack so this could be where they hold dangerous people or it could be just another general area. He didn't know which. But he kept moving toward her room.

When Henry did find room 234, it turned out to be an office or board room type space, with table with chairs around it.

Henry scratched his head in confusion. This was the room that the lady had told him to head towards. He entered the room to look around. Perhaps there was a door on the other side that led to the area that she was being held in. It could happen, he didn't understand building design.

Unfortunately, there wasn't much more to the room than he had first seen. No second doorways, the only other door to the room was just the second entrance another twelve or so feet down the hall from the one he had used.

Henry was puzzled at all of this. This was the room he was told that Erin was in yet she wasn't here. This didn't even seem to be a room that they would keep someone in. He left the room and went back into the hall. Then started to check in the rooms next to the one Erin was too be held in. The rooms on each side and the ones across the hallway. He wanted to see if these were all offices and meeting rooms.

This side of the hospital was less patient rooms and more administrative, with a dash of open space tossed in. There was also a chapel down the hall.

'Well that ruled that out', Henry thought. He went back to look for another person who worked here. He needed to find the correct room. Maybe this wasn't section H of the hospital or perhaps they filled out the form wrong. They needed tracking units on each other. The amount of time that gets wasted looking for each other is getting out of hand. So Henry went a looking again.

It took Henry a while to find another person. Well, not a long while, but it wasn't immediate, and there was a bit of a pressing urge to get this over with. At least they were able to provide a better answer.

"You were looking for room 234? If it's not the one on this floor, it's likely one of the treatment rooms in section H. That is on the first floor. Near the intensive care."

Henry face palmed. Who ever designed this hospital should be shot. First floor having its numbers start with 2 and signs that don't point out anything. Even the stair wells were not labeled properly. This was a fire code nightmare of a building. It is a wonder more people didn't die in the hospital evacuation. But he went down to the second of the first floors which against all logical was now the actual first floor. However that worked he started walking down the halls looking for the correct room this time.

//graded terrain. That's my explanation and I'm sticking to it.

The terrain started to look slightly familiar to Henry, then he turned one corner and ran into a police barricade. There wasn't someone directly manning the police tape that crisscrossed the hallway, but there was one standing a couple dozen feet down the hall, by all appearances chatting with someone out of sight.

Henry saw the barricade and didn't want to go past it. He didn't want to get arrested at this point in the day and he felt that he pushed his luck enough for one day. He saw the officer not too far away but he was talking to someone. He just cleared his throat to get his attention. Something must have happened down here for the police to show up. Did they have Erin down here and had to call the police. That lady she attacked must have pressed charges. That sucks for Erin.

Henry's appearance instantly set the officer on guard, and his motions were very measured as he approached. "Can I help you sir?"

"Yes. My friend was moved down here about an hour ago and I wanted to see how she was doing. Is it possible to get past this and see her? or did something happen down here?" Henry asked.

"I'm sorry, but from this point on is a crime scene. Until the investigation is complete, this area is off limits," was the response.

"Can you atleast tell me if my friend is ok? She was getting moved down here during the bug attack. I just want to make sure she is safe. Her name is Erin O'Neil." Henry said hoping that the officer would be able to tell him. If she was down there and safe then he could tell the others. The fact that this was a crime scene did not sit to tell with him.

"Sir, we are currently in the process of indentifying those who were involved in the situation and are collaborating with the ACR on this matter."

"There was a situation down here? Wait! What happened? Did something happen to my friend? I need to know if my friend is alive. If you are working with ACR ask for Mark or Brian they know me. They can say how I was able to help." Henry should have figured that the bugs would come down here. They are drawn to metas and Erin was strapped to a bed. Pretty much serving her to them. He didn't know if she ended up as one of those web bundles or not.

The mans look suddenly sharpened. "You were here earlier?"

"I was in the hospital but I was a floor above. Well a floor or two. Then the bugs came in and things went all to hell. But My friend was being moved down here during that. I just want to know if she is alive and ok." Henry explained.

"The ACR workers that found the scene reported being with somone fitting your description," his tone was still level. "We will need you answer a few questions in relation to the investigation."

"I can provide information but I don't know how much help it will be." Henry agreed to help the officer.

//is this near the area that the 'hive' was being built?

//yeppers. You would have come in from the other side the first time though.

//oh man, Henry going to freak out once he realizes this

The officer sighed and shifted the barricade a bit. "If you would come with me."

"Sure thing officer." Henry said and followed the police officer past the barricade.

//I'm really not up to coming up with interrogation/questioning... questions...

//Henry wouldnt have a lot of answers about what happened there.

Summary: There were thinkings he couldn't tell Henry, not with it being an active investigation (try to bully all you want.)

Henry let out a breath. This shouldn't be this difficult. He wasn't asking for any private information. Just a basic question that for some reason was not getting answered.

"I am not asking you to tell me anything about the case right now. I told you everything I know and that I did. All I have asked now is if my friend is still alive. If she is then that is great and I can walk away. If she is dead I will walk away and send her parents my apologies. If you don't know then tell me so I can stop wasting my time." Henry said deflated.

Summary: All dead were found to hospital staff. The patient that was supposed to be in the room is unaccounted for. Oh, right. Hospital security camera's recorded bugs hauling someone out of the building.

Henry had a good idea of what that thing was that they carried out. They had taken Erin once before and now she was able to turn into a bug. Something had happened and it wasn't making sense. He headed back to where Alex and Trevor were. They might know what was happening here.