

The Infrastructure: Page & Panel Terms

In comics, the script acts as a blueprint. The writer tells the artist what to draw and where the words go.

- Panel: An individual bridge or "box" on the page. Each panel represents a single moment in time.
 - Page Layout: This tells the artist how many panels to fit on the page.
 - Splash (or Splash Panel): A very large panel that takes up most or all of a page. It's used for big "wow" moments, like the volcano exploding on Page 1.
 - Inset: A small panel contained *inside* the borders of a larger panel. On Page 1, Panel 2 is an inset to show Danae's face without taking the focus off the massive volcano.
 - Wide Shot: A panel that shows a lot of the environment (the island/ocean).
 - Close Up: A panel that zooms in on a specific detail, like a face or a hand, to show emotion or an important object.
 - POV Shot (Point of View): The panel is drawn as if we are looking through the eyes of a specific character. On Page 3, we see what Rae sees.
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The "Voices": Dialogue & Text Terms

- Caption: Text that sits in a box, separate from the characters' mouths. In this script, the captions are Danae's "internal monologue" (her thoughts or her narrating the story later).
 - Dialogue: The words the characters speak out loud.
 - Muttering: In comics, this is often drawn with a "whisper bubble" (a dashed or grayed-out line) to show the character is talking quietly to themselves.
 - Off-Panel: This means a character is speaking, but they aren't visible in the current box. Their word bubble usually has a "tail" pointing toward the edge of the panel.
 - No Dialogue: This tells the artist the panel is "silent," relying entirely on the drawing to tell the story.
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⚡ The "Vibe": Visuals & Sound

- SFX (Sound Effects): These are words drawn directly into the art (like *BOOM!* or *ZZZT!*). The description "Large, jagged" tells the artist to make the letters look sharp and explosive.
 - Visual Note: A specific instruction for the artist about a character's design or movement. For example, the note about Danae's leg ensures the artist remembers her physical limitation from the book.
 - Toroid: A technical term for a doughnut-shaped object. In this case, it's part of Danae's sci-fi machine.
 - Plasma Globe Effect: This refers to those glass balls you see in science museums where electricity "snakes" toward your fingers. It's a visual shortcut to help the artist draw the energy.
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🔬 Scientific & Descriptive Terms

- Magma vs. Lava: The script uses both. Magma is molten rock underground; it becomes Lava the moment it breaks the surface.
 - Ozone: A sharp, "electric" smell often produced by sparks or lightning. When the script says "burnt ozone," it's a cue for the artist to draw a specific kind of light smoke.
 - Decimating: To destroy or kill a large part of something. Here, it describes the lava crushing the jungle.
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Pro-Tip for Reading Scripts

When you see "Panel 1 (Large/Splash)" followed by "Panel 2 (Small/Inset)," try to imagine the page in your head. The big panel sets the "mood," and the small panel focuses your attention on a specific feeling—like Danae being annoyed while a volcano is literally exploding behind her!

Does seeing the script change how you pictured these scenes while reading the novel?

PAGE 1

Page Layout: 4 Panels.

- **Panel 1 (Large/Splash):** A wide shot of the volcanic island. The peak of the volcano has just blown. Massive red-hot lava is spilling over the lip, looking heavy and fast.
 - **SFX (Large, jagged):** BOOM!
 - **CAPTION (Danae):** I looked toward the peak. Red-hot lava poured over the lip of the crater.
 - **CAPTION (Danae):** It flowed like a freight train made of magma, consuming everything in its path.
- **Panel 2 (Small/Inset):** Close up on DANAЕ'S face. She is looking up, illuminated by the red glow of the eruption. She looks annoyed rather than terrified.
 - **DANAЕ (Muttering):** Oh, dagnabbit.
- **Panel 3:** Danae is kneeling on the sand next to a complex machine (the Platform). **Visual Note:** Show her right leg stretched out stiffly/awkwardly to establish her physical limitation. She is fiddling with a mess of wires. A monitor on the machine is flashing a RED BATTERY ICON.
 - **SFX:** Fzzzt.
 - **DANAЕ:** Come on... nothing?
- **Panel 4:** Close up of the monitor. It shows a "Low Battery" symbol. There is a small waft of smoke (burnt ozone).
 - **CAPTION (Danae):** The power source is barely trickling. Nothing is coming through from the other platform.
 - **DANAЕ:** Double dagnabbit.

PAGE 2

Page Layout: 5 Panels.

- **Panel 1:** Danae is back to working on the wires, focused.
 - **SFX (From off-panel):** DUH-NAAAAAAAAAY!
- **Panel 2:** Danae jerks her head up, looking toward the treeline.
 - **NO DIALOGUE.**
- **Panel 3:** RAE busts out of the jungle foliage onto the sand. She is sprinting full-tilt. She has a heavy canvas rucksack on one shoulder.
 - **RAE (Yelling):** I got them! I GOT THEM!
- **Panel 4:** Rae is running closer, frantic. Danae is still at the machine, looking stressed.
 - **RAE:** Time to vacate the premises! Go go GOOOOO!
 - **DANAЕ:** Argh! It's not ready yet!
- **Panel 5:** Rae leaps up onto the metallic platform next to Danae.
 - **RAE:** Well, it needs to GET ready, Sis! It's now or never!

PAGE 3

Page Layout: 5 Panels.

- **Panel 1:** POV Shot looking past Rae back at the jungle. The wall of lava is decimating the trees where Rae just was.

- **SFX:** PFFFFT!
- **CAPTION (Danae):** Tree. Then lava. Then *pffft* into ash. A massive flow of molten death.
- **Panel 2:** Danae's reaction. She gulps.
 - **DANAЕ:** Hmm. I see what you mean.
- **Panel 3 (Close Up):** Danae's shaking hands twisting two wires together. A bright spark (blue/white) jumps between her fingers.
 - **SFX:** ZZZT!
 - **CAPTION (Danae):** A glimmer of hope.
- **Panel 4:** The computer monitor. The Red Battery icon turns GREEN.
 - **SFX:** BEEP-BEEP.
- **Panel 5:** Danae looks down at an open panel at the base of the stand. Inside are three fist-sized GLOWING SPHERES. They are brightening.
 - **DANAЕ:** Okay guys! Fire it up! Give it all you've got!

PAGE 4

Page Layout: 5 Panels.

- **Panel 1:** Danae pulls herself up to a standing position (using the machine for support). She is looking at the top of the machine: A metal tube (Toroid) with a black lump (ROCKY) inside.
 - **CAPTION (Danae):** I turned my attention to the toroid at the top of the stand. And Rocky.
- **Panel 2 (Close up):** Rocky (the black lump) inside the metal nest. Silver patterns on Rocky's surface are starting to glow and spark.
 - **CAPTION (Danae):** Rocky gazed back with confidence.
 - **SFX:** HUMMMMMMM.
- **Panel 3:** Danae slams the lid of the metal nest shut, locking Rocky inside.
 - **SFX:** CLACK.
 - **CAPTION (Danae):** Electricity began to flow into the little guy.
- **Panel 4 (Large):** A "Plasma Globe" effect. Fingers of lightning snake out from the coil/machine, encircling the platform, Danae, and Rae in a cage of light.
 - **SFX:** KRAKOOOM!
- **Panel 5:** Close up on Danae and Rae's hands gripping each other tightly.
 - **DANAЕ:** See you on the other side, Sis!
 - **CAPTION (Danae):** My voice was brave. My inner voice... not so much.

PAGE 5

Page Layout: 2 Panels.

- **Panel 1 (Splash/Large):** BLINDING WHITE LIGHT fills the center of the machine, washing over the sisters.
 - **SFX:** SNAP!
 - **CAPTION (Danae):** ...I hope.
- **Panel 2 (Wide horizontal):** The platform is empty. The lava has just reached the edge of the metal, melting it. The sisters are gone.
 - **NO DIALOGUE.**