

Chronicles of Tomorrow

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Panel 1

Caption: Countdown: 14 days

Maya Patel an engineering student sits at her desk in her dorm room. The room is neat and organized, with textbooks, notebooks, and study materials arranged around her laptop. She looks stressed but focused as she stares at the assignment instructions on her screen. The lighting is warm from a desk lamp, suggesting she is working late in the evening.

MAYA (thought bubble):

Sigh okay. This engineering assignment due date is around the corner. I should probably get started soon.

Panel 2

Close-up of Maya's laptop screen. An online course page displays the project groups.

Group Members:

- Maya Patel
- Alex Chen
- Ryan Miller

Panel 3

Close-up of Maya's laptop screen showing a drafted email. The email window fills most of the panel.

EMAIL FROM MAYA:

Hey guys, I'm Maya.

Our assignment is coming up. I was thinking we should divide the work today so we're not rushing later.

Here's my phone number: 647-563-8921 so we can make a group chat.

Panel 4

Alex walks across campus carrying a backpack. He glances down at his phone after receiving Maya's email notification. He looks responsible and attentive.

Panel 5

Ryan lounges in his bedroom playing video games. Empty snack wrappers and gaming equipment are scattered around him. A notification sound catches his attention and he glances at his phone.

Panel 6

Back in Maya's room. Maya sits at her desk reading responses in the newly created group chat.

ALEX:

Good idea. I'm cool with doing Part B.

RYAN:

Not gonna lie, I haven't even looked at it LOL. I'll check it out tonight.

Panel 7

Caption: Countdown: 4 days

It is now late at night. Maya sits alone at her desk relieved to be finished her portion of the assignment. She has clearly spent hours working.

MAYA:

Finally. Finished.

Panel 8

Close-up of Maya's face. She wears an annoyed expression as she reviews the group project document.

MAYA (thought bubble):

...but where is Ryan's work?

Panel 9

Maya opens the group chat on her laptop. A previous message from Alex confirms he has completed his section. Maya types a message to Ryan.

MAYA (text):

Hey Ryan, how's your part coming along?

Panel 10

Close-up of Ryan's response in the group chat a couple hours later.

RYAN (text):

My bad. I was kinda busy today but I'm gonna get to it tomorrow.

Don't worryyyy ;p

Panel 11

Maya lies in bed holding her phone. The room is dark except for the light from the screen. She looks skeptical rather than convinced.

MAYA (thought bubble):

We'll see.

Panel 12

Caption: Countdown: 2 days

Maya sits back at her desk the next day. The project document is open on her laptop. A large blank section labeled "Ryan's Section" dominates the screen.

Panel 13

Maya sends another message through the group chat.

MAYA (text):

Did you get a chance to work on it Ryan?

Panel 14

Close-up of Ryan's response in the group chat.

RYAN (text):

omg dude i totally forgot.

Tomorrow for sure.

Panel 15

Maya sleeps in bed. Above her, several images swirl together like fragments of a dream: the blank project document, Ryan's messages promising "tomorrow," and reminders of the approaching deadline. Suggesting that the assignment is consuming her thoughts even while she sleeps.

Panel 16

Extreme close-up of Maya's eyes snapping open in the darkness. She wakes up suddenly after an idea strikes her.

Panel 17

From across the room, Maya sits upright on the edge of her bed. On her desk in the distance sits a large toolbox. Maya stares directly at it as though she has just connected the dots.

MAYA:

I have an idea.

Panel 18

Still wearing her pajamas, Maya works in the dark wearing a welding mask. Bright sparks fly from a blowtorch. The reader cannot yet see exactly what she is building.

MAYA (thought bubble):

Let's see if I've learned anything the last 3 years.

Panel 19

Caption: 4:13 am

The welding is complete. Maya stands with a wrench hanging at her side. We see her from behind as she stares at a fully constructed time machine occupying the corner of her dorm room at 4 am.

Panel 20

Caption: One year into the future

Still wearing the same pajamas, Maya steps out of the time machine into Ryan's room one year in the future. Ryan is older but otherwise unchanged, still sitting at a computer.

MAYA:

Ryan! Did you finish the assignment?

RYAN:

Tomorrow.

Panel 21

Caption: 2085

Maya steps out of the Time Machine once again, the year is 2085, she is still wearing the exact same pajamas she wore when she built it. She stands in a futuristic city filled with flying vehicles and towering skyscrapers. Across from her sits an elderly Ryan in a floating hover-chair. Despite the dramatic passage of time and technological advancement, Ryan appears just as relaxed and unbothered as ever.

MAYA:

The project?

RYAN:

Tomorrow.

Panel 22

Caption: Countdown: 24 hours

Maya emerges from the time machine back into her dorm room. Morning sunlight streams through the window. The time machine hums quietly behind her while her alarm clock blares loudly beside the bed, displaying 7:00 AM. Maya stands in the middle of the room with messy hair, dark circles under her eyes, and the defeated posture of someone who has completely run out of solutions.

MAYA:

We are so cooked.

Panel 23

Caption: Countdown: 12 hours

The scene shifts to the classroom. Maya sits at a table between Alex and Ryan. Open notebooks, papers, and laptops are spread across the desk. Alex looks uncomfortable but attentive, while Ryan leans forward toward Maya with an apologetic expression, desperately trying to explain himself. Maya stares straight ahead, exhausted and emotionally checked out after everything she has been through.

RYAN:

Dude, I'm so sorry. Time just got away from me but I swear I'll help more—

Panel 24

Close-up of Maya. She slowly raises one finger to cut Ryan off before he can finish his sentence. Her expression is completely unimpressed. The exhaustion, frustration, and disbelief from the

entire story have culminated in this moment. Maya already knows exactly what Ryan is about to say.

MAYA:

Let me guess,

MAYA (emphasis):

Tomorrow?

AI Use Declaration

Artificial intelligence was used solely as a visual illustration aid during the creation of this comic. The story concept, characters, dialogue, panel sequence, pacing, and overall creative direction were developed by me. I provided detailed descriptions for each panel, including character appearances, settings, facial expressions, camera angles, dialogue, and visual elements.

AI-generated images were used to help translate my written ideas into visual form. Multiple rounds of revisions were required, and I directed the editing process by providing specific feedback and corrections to ensure the illustrations matched my intended vision. I also made additional modifications and refinements using other applications and manual editing techniques to achieve the final result.

The AI tool did not generate the comic's narrative or creative content independently. Its role was limited to assisting with the illustration process and helping visualize concepts that I had already designed and specified.