

# Fallout 4: "Half life"

### Version 1.0

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### **Document Revisions Table**

Version	Description	Requestor	Date
1.0	Initial Document	Professor Ouellette	Feb 20, 2023

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# **Level Summary**

#### **Quick Summary**

This single-player Fallout 4 level "Half life" serves as a supplemental level to the main storyline, which happens in a small town not far from Diamond city within the Commonwealth, before the "Institutionalized" quest. The level tells a story about a journey where the player goes to Moon River town to investigate the missing of Doctor Ironia's patient, Avernia.

This level features multiple game styles including melee, ranged, and stealth (in some areas) styles, with the skill tests set on cover-shooting, weapon switching, squad cooperation, charisma check, lockpicking, hacking, and pickpocketing. Armed with a new piece of equipment — a surge pulse grenade, which allows the player to mess their Synth enemies' faction around for a few seconds, the player can take different ways to fight their way through Synth & traps in the factory of the town.

#### **Level Feature Overview**

Category	Sub-Category	Feature List
Player	Player Weapons	<ul> <li>Melee         <ul> <li>Baton (from Synth)</li> <li>Axe</li> </ul> </li> <li>Ranged         <ul> <li>Institute laser</li> <li>Pistol</li> <li>[Optional] Shotgun (chest, lockpicking)</li> <li>[Optional] Gamma gun (by chest, hacking)</li> <li>[Optional] Reba (Sniper rifle, chest, exploration)</li> </ul> </li> <li>Thrown         <ul> <li>Surge pulse grenade (change faction, custom weapon)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	Player Skills/Abilities	<ul> <li>Charisma check</li> <li>Lockpicking</li> <li>Hacking</li> <li>Pickpocketing</li> <li>Stealth</li> <li>(Resource management)</li> <li>(cover &amp; vertical shooting)</li> </ul>
Al	Enemies	<ul> <li>Synth/Hacked Synth         <ul> <li>Leveled melee</li> <li>Leveled ranged</li> <li>Leveled (Legendary) boss</li> </ul> </li> <li>NPC (potential enemy)         <ul> <li>Doctor Ironia (Human, Boss Raider level)</li> <li>Parlos (Synth, Boss Raider level)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	Friendlies	Detective Lyle (pre-quest starter)

		<ul> <li>Doctor Ironia (female doctor; may change faction based on player's choice)</li> <li>Parlos (male Synth businessman; may change faction based on player's choice)</li> <li>Newt (Town mayor, side quest giver, the first greeter in the town)</li> <li>Townspeople         <ul> <li>Chest guard (require charisma check)</li> <li>Pedestrians</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Challenges	Gameplay Themes	<ul> <li>Fight with Synths (melee, ranged, boss level)</li> <li>Faction switching in combat         <ul> <li>Use surge pulse grenade to switch faction</li> </ul> </li> <li>Ranged &amp; melee cover shooting/attacking</li> <li>Charisma check</li> </ul>
	Obstacles/Hazards	<ul> <li>Traps (laser blocking the way)</li> <li>Locked door (requires key or lockpicking or hacking)</li> <li>Terrain (can see the goal in the early stage but cannot access it right away, need to find the way)</li> </ul>
Context	New/Unique Gameplay Where Fits in Game	<ul> <li>Use surge pulse grenade to change enemies' faction</li> <li>Before the "Institutionalized" quest, after entering Diamond City</li> <li>Standalone level         <ul> <li>Supplemental to the main storyline</li> <li>Won't affect the main quest of the game</li> </ul> </li> <li>Fictional         <ul> <li>New story &amp; new combat</li> </ul> </li> <li>The player can access the content near Red Rocket Station through NPC Detective Lyle, who will show up, after the "Dangerous Minds" quest with Detective Nick Valentine</li> </ul>
	Challenge Fit	The level fits into the game at around the end of ACT II of the main quest flow, where the player already knows about charisma check, stealth, lockpicking, hacking, pickpocketing, and different melee and ranged weapons. Besides, at that stage, the player should already know about their enemies (Synth) in a way what they can do and how the player can handle with them in different gameplay styles
	Additional Info	<ul> <li>In the start of the quest, it assumes the player already helped Nick Valentine as a background</li> <li>The story should happen before the "Institutionalized" because the story is about Synth, and becoming Institutionalized will affect the choice</li> </ul>
Aesthetics	Major Visual Themes	<ul> <li>Town – Concord</li> <li>Hospital</li> <li>Lab – The Institute</li> </ul>

Set	ting/Mood	•	Rainy
		•	Gloomy
		•	Suspenseful

### **Development Schedule**

Milestone	Date
LDD	2/20/2023
Whitebox	3/6/2023
Initial Gameplay	3/27/2023
<b>Gameplay Complete</b>	4/17/2023
Aesthetics	4/24/2023
Launch	5/1/2023

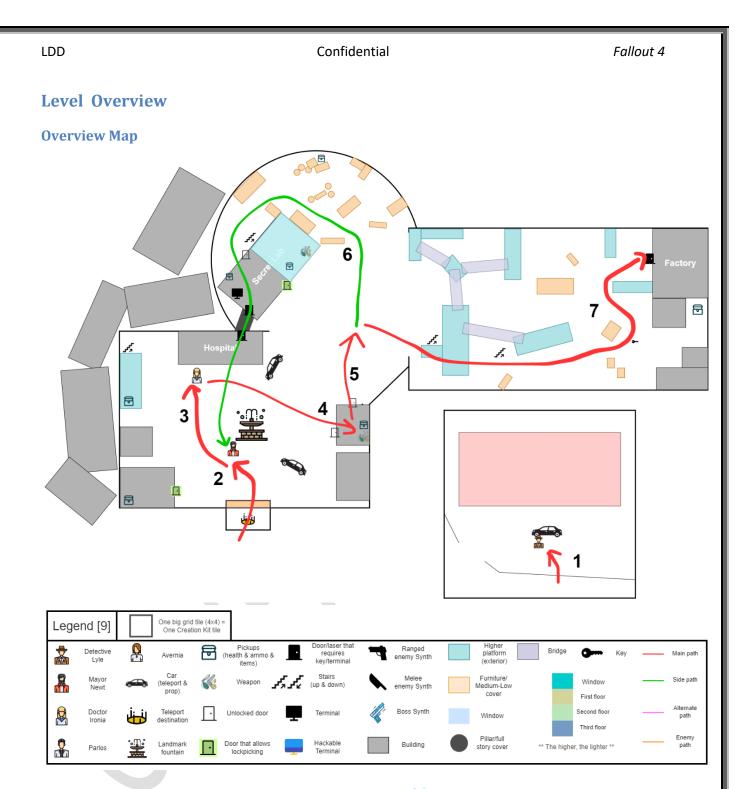


Figure 1: Overview Map 1 [8]

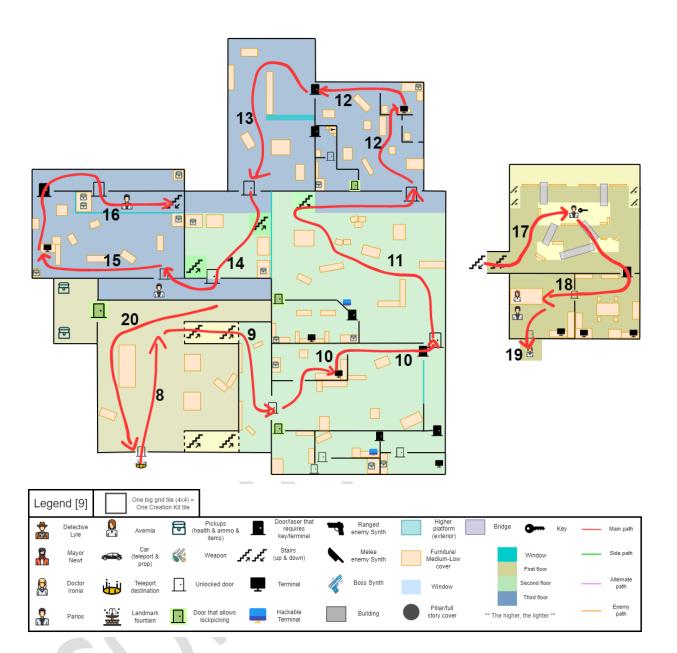


Figure 2: Overview Map 2 [8]

Мар							
Label	Gameplay Summary						
1	Player finds NPC Detective Lyle and talks to him, quest starts. Accept -> Lyle gives a ride						
2	Player talks to Town Mayor Newt when arriving Moon River Town, he tells the player to find Ironia for more						
	details on Main quest, meanwhile gives a side quest (find the key in Secret Lab)						
3	Player talks to Ironia, knows about the background, and is tasked to find her patient Avernia in the factory.						
4	[Optional] get some gears in the town						
5	Start journey: main quest & side quest branch						
6	Take down the hacked Synths near the Secret Lab, enter the lab and get the key, could return through a secret						
	door leading to hospital, side quest complete						
7	Take down the Synths guarding the factory and get the key from Synths to open the gate, enter the factory						

8	Force greeted by Parlos, start by a quick talk, know a little bit about the character and the background. Then					
	he leaves through the door behind him, need to chase him					
9	Synths rush out, take down Synths and go to the second floor					
10	Unlock the door by terminal in a room, eliminate Synths on the way and get to the door, enter the next room					
11	See the stairs on the left but it is blocked by a glass window, find the way to the left. See the door on the third					
	floor, go to the stairs and get to the door, eliminate Synths on the way					
12	Find door locked, find the terminal and unlock the door, get to the door, enter the next room					
13	See a leveled boss Synth and door through window, eliminate all Synths and get to the door					
14	Get to the opposite through stairs, eliminate Synths in the room					
When entering the room, force greeted again by Parlos through a window, chase him. Find the terminal a						
	use it to unlock the door					
16	Eliminate the Synths on the way and get to the glass room. Find a secret stairs and get to the next room back					
	onto the ground floor					
17	Force greeted by Parlos again and fight with him, after defeating him talk to him					
18	Get the key and go to Avernia's room with him					
19	After talking and knowing the story, go back to the first hall through shortcut. However, meet Ironia after					
	opening the door. Make a major choice, and fight the other one					
20	Quest complete, go back to the town and report to Newt					

#### **Narrative Flow Chart**

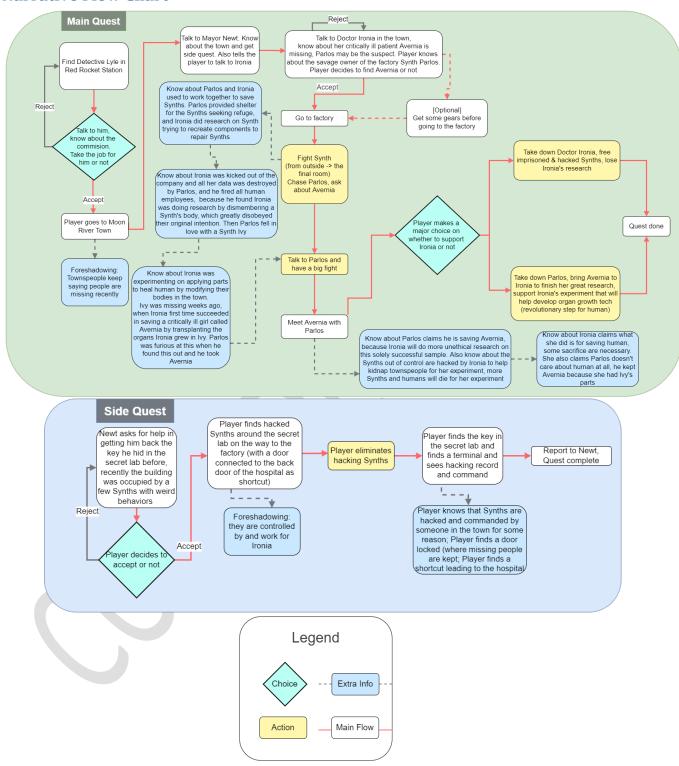
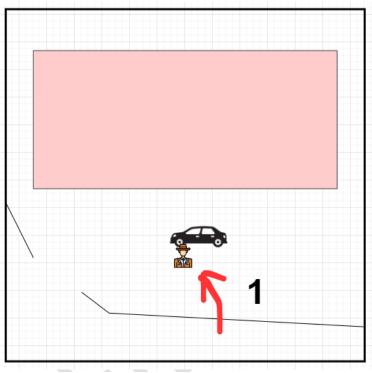


Figure 3: Narrative Flow Chart [x]

# Level Details

### **Detail Maps**

#### **Red Rocket**



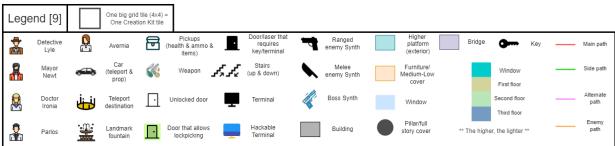


Figure 4: Detail map: Red Rocket [8]

Map Label / Stage	Event Summary	Event Details
1	Find NPC Detective Lyle near	Key information:
	his car at Red Rocket	<ul> <li>Activates quest and map marker</li> </ul>
		Tells that he had a flat tire and is replacing tire
		<ul> <li>Foreshadowing: replace parts</li> </ul>
		Tells that he is on an urgent call but he just received a
		request from his old friend Newt, Mayor of Moon River
		Town

		<ul> <li>Quest about finding a missing person</li> <li>If reject, greeting changes</li> <li>Upon accepting, quest is added to Data         <ul> <li>Lyle says that he can offer a ride</li> <li>Objective: Moon River Town -&gt; Newt</li> </ul> </li> <li>Conveyance:         <ul> <li>Bright red car</li> <li>A man in suit walks around/crouches at his car replacing his tire</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
1*	Go to Moon River Town	<ul> <li>Key Information:</li> <li>Take Lyle's car to the town</li> <li>Upon accepting: Car is unlocked</li> </ul>

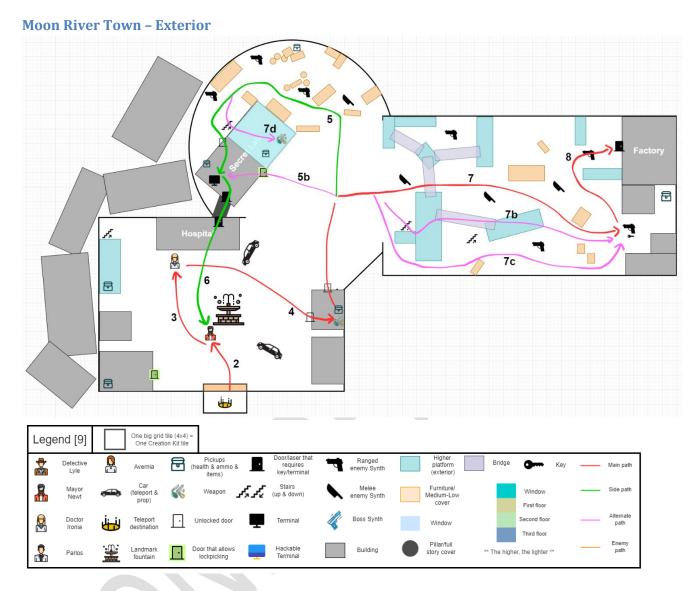


Figure 5: Detail map: Moon River Town [8]

Map Label / Stage	Event Summary	Event Details
2	Enter Moon River Town and talk to	Key information:
	Newt	<ul> <li>People are missing, Ironia reported one case, talk to her for more details         <ul> <li>Objective: talk to Ironia</li> </ul> </li> <li>Parlos and factory</li> <li>Lots of Synths in the town, they follow rules, except some behaving strange (in the building behind hospital)</li> <li>Give side quest: lost key in secret lab, find it to him</li> </ul>

		<ul> <li>Objective: find the key</li> <li>Quest fails if killing NPC before quest complete (applies to all stages if not otherwise noted)</li> <li>Conveyance:         <ul> <li>Framing</li> <li>Fountain and a man nearby</li> </ul> </li> <li>Pinching         <ul> <li>A car pointing to the fountain narrows down player's attention</li> </ul> </li> <li>Light (streetlamp)</li> <li>Challenge/goal:         <ul> <li>Charisma check: get more caps</li> <li>Give the basic information and flavor of background</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
3	Talk to Ironia	<ul> <li>Key information:</li> <li>She is looking for Avernia, her critically ill patient</li> <li>Avernia was missing two days ago after the operation</li> <li>Savage Synth Parlos in the factory, must be him taking Avernia <ul> <li>Objective: go to factory</li> <li>Optional: get some gears</li> </ul> </li> <li>Conveyance: <ul> <li>Right behind Newt, easy sight line</li> <li>Big signage above her: hospital</li> <li>Light (streetlamp)</li> </ul> </li> <li>Challenge/Goal: <ul> <li>Charisma check: foreshadowing she is not caring about Avernia herself but something Avernia brings to her</li> <li>Portray the image of a good doctor caring about her patient</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
4	[Optional] get gears	Key information:  Contains:  Institute laser (ammo x60)  Pistol (ammo x 60)  Surge pulse grenade x3 (change faction, 1 damage)  Part of armor  Stimpak X3, Bobby pin x 4  NPC/note introduces Surge pulse grenade Conveyance:  Light (streetlamp)  Townspeople wandering in that area Miscellaneous:  Encourage exploration & challenge check:

		<ul> <li>On the bottom left corner, a chest (shotgun) can be obtained by lockpicking the door</li> <li>On the top left corner, a chest (suit) can be obtained</li> </ul>
5	[side quest] eliminate Synths and enter the secret lab	<ul> <li>Ranged Synths x 3, melee Synths x 1</li> <li>Low – medium level, considering player may do side quest after finishing the main one</li> <li>A chest can be found in the corner (pickups)</li> <li>Find a key on the ground in the building that can be entered without a key from the back <ul> <li>This is not an interior requiring teleport, it's an open building in the small world with door</li> <li>A some pickups can be found in the building</li> <li>If investigating terminal, will know these weird Synths are hacked by someone in the town, and they are commanded to kidnap Synths</li> <li>Objective: Newt</li> </ul> </li> <li>Conveyance: <ul> <li>Right at the front left when exiting gear room</li> <li>Light (streetlamp)</li> <li>Pinching</li> <li>A car narrows down player's sight line and help focus on the target</li> </ul> </li> <li>Challenge/Goal: <ul> <li>Cover-shooting</li> <li>Stealth: lots of covers</li> <li>Players learns to use surge pulse grenade</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
5b	Alternate path to the building	Key information:
6	[side quest complete] Report to Newt	Key information:  • Get back through a secret door leading to the hospital  • Foreshadowing: it's something to do with the person in hospital  • Could backtrack  • Reward: stimpak x 3, caps x 150, exp medium
7	Get the key from Synths guarding the factory	<ul> <li>Key information:</li> <li>Encounter: ranged Synth x 4, Melee Synth x 3</li> <li>Low level</li> </ul>

		<b>-1</b> , ,,1 , ,,, ,,, ,,, ,,,
		<ul> <li>They stay at their position until a target is found by the squad</li> </ul>
		A chest (pickups, including bobby pins) can be
		found behind the building
		Can find a note from the body: bring her back
		Conveyance:
		Large billboard above the factory
		Light indicating the entrance
		The Synth with key wears different suit
		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
		Can be directly noticed when coming out from the  Socret Lab (the deer requires leginishing can be
		Secret Lab (the door requires lockpicking can be
		opened from inside) Challenge/Goal:
		<b>3</b> .
		Vertical combat
		Elevated platforms, bridges
		Cover-shooting with verticality
		Better sight line to observe the battlefield
		(standing on the platform)
7b	Alternate path to 7	Challenge/Goal:
		Utilize verticality to create advantage/find a
_	41	advantage point
7c	Alternate path to 7	Challenge/Goal:
		Stealth
_		Pickpocketing
7d	Alternate path to 7	Key information:
		Rooftop of Secret Lab
		Can get ammo, pickups and a sniper rifle
		Challenge/Goal:
		Different game style: sniper
		Can kill Synths from distance
8	Enter the factory	Key information:
		Use key to unlock the door
		Teleport to the interior
		Conveyance:
		<ul> <li>Light, highlight the entrance and its lock</li> </ul>

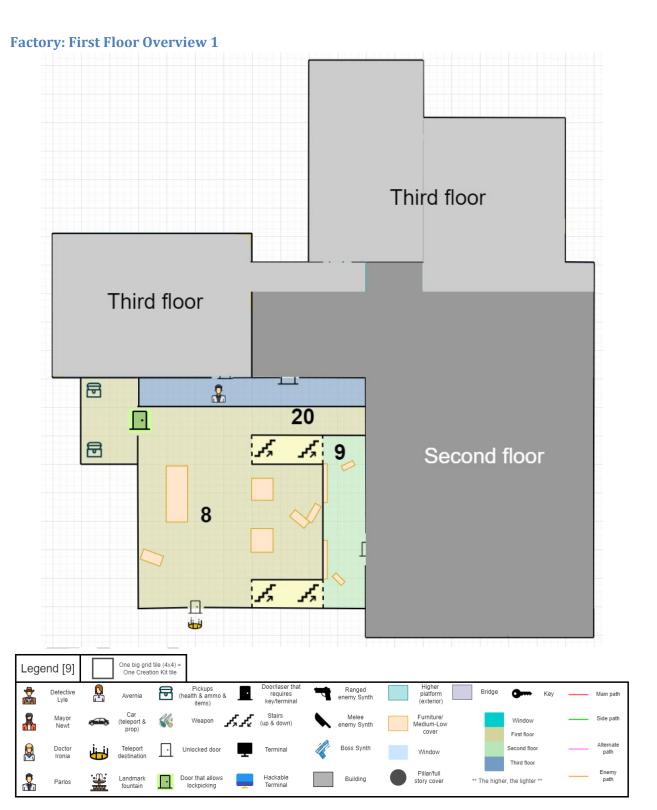


Figure 6: Detail map: First Floor Overview 1 [8]

### **Factory: First Floor 1**

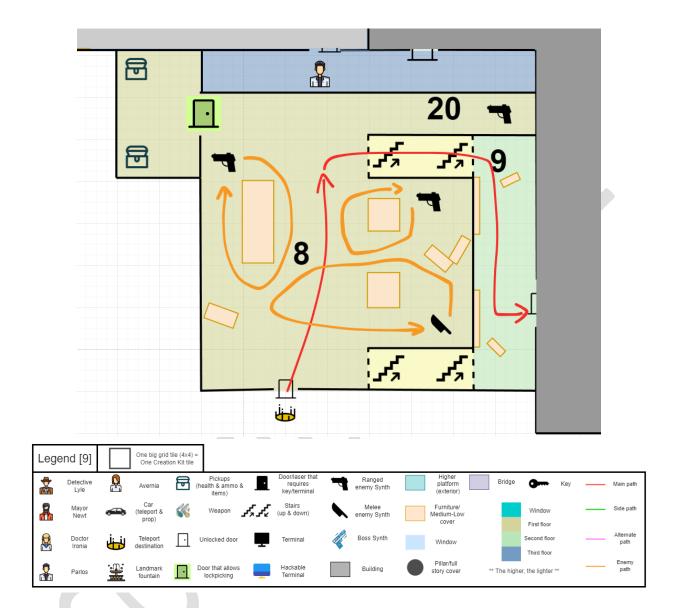


Figure 7: Detail map: First Floor 1 [8]

Map Label / Stage	Event Summary	Event Details
8	Enter factory, talk to Parlos and fight Synth	<ul> <li>Key information:         <ul> <li>Force greeted by Parlos, he claims he doesn't have Avernia and persuades the player to return</li> <li>After dialogue, enemies come out</li></ul></li></ul>

		<ul> <li>Parlos stands in front of the player above (third floor)         Enemies come out from right first, drage player's attention to the right</li> <li>Challenge/goal:         <ul> <li>Cover-shooting</li> <li>Vertical combat</li> <li>Charisma check: tells that he is protecting Avernia if success, otherwise he doesn't admit he has Avernia</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
9	chase him to the second floor	Conveyance:  • Light highlights the door to the second floor on the right

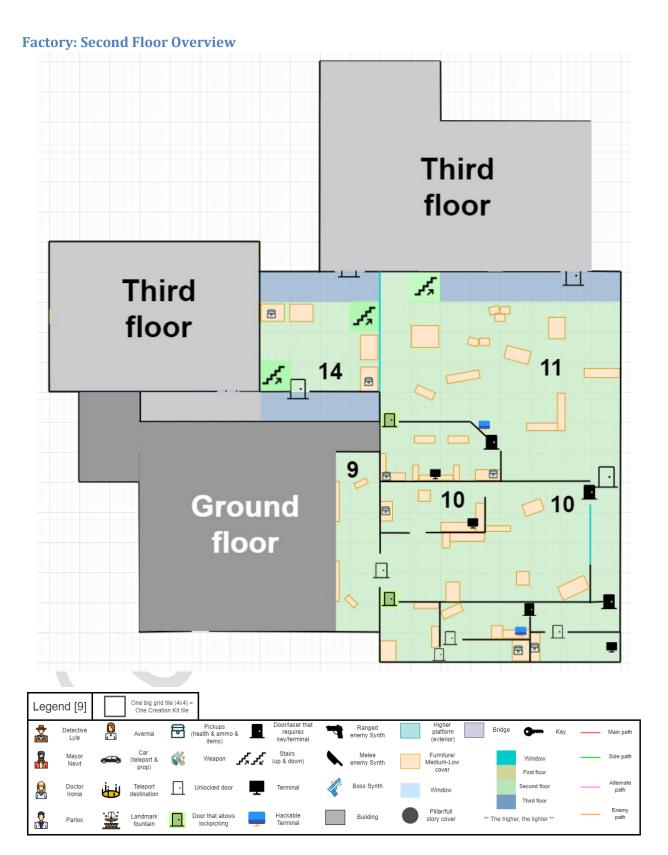
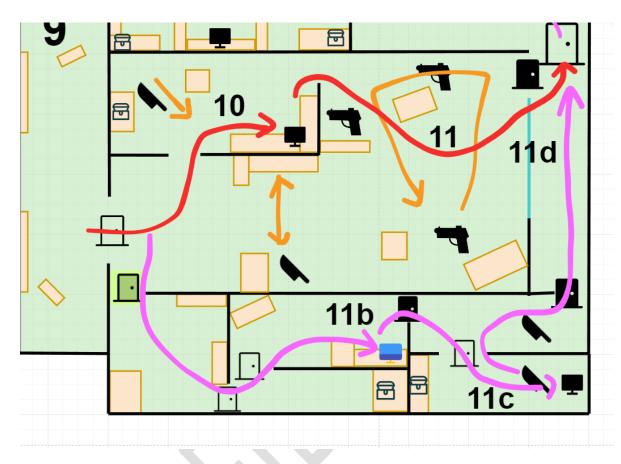


Figure 8: Detail map: Second Floor Overview [8]

### **Factory: Second Floor 1**



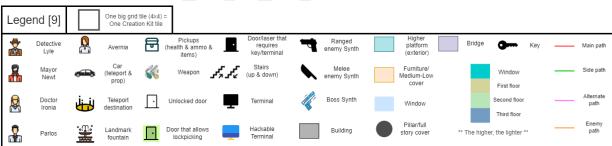
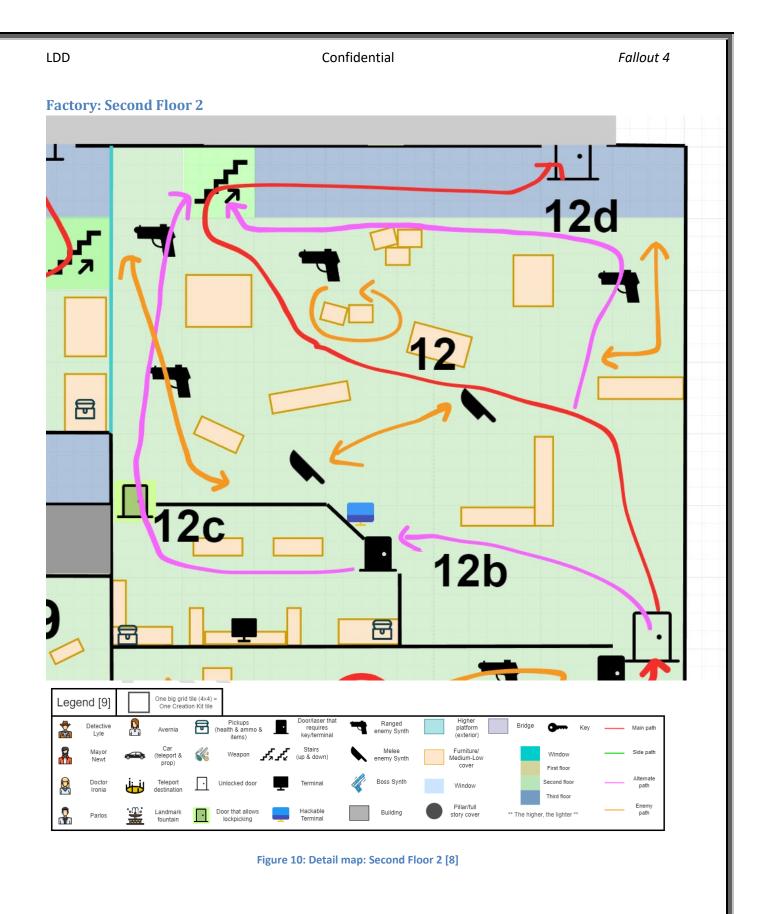


Figure 9: Detail map: Second Floor 1 [8]

Map Label / Stage	Event Summary	Event Details
10	Get to the terminal and unlock the	Key information:
	door	Encounter (patrol)
		<ul> <li>Ranged Synth x 3, melee Synth x 2</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>Low-medium level</li> </ul>

		<ul> <li>Pickups: bobby pin x 4, stimpak x 3, ammo x 30 others</li> <li>Conveyance:         <ul> <li>See the door through glass</li> <li>Pinching</li></ul></li></ul>
11	Get to the door and enter the next room	Key information:  • Objective: find the way to the third floor
11b	Alternate path to 11: get into the room on the bottom	Challenge:  ■ Requires lockpicking  ○ Low-medium level
11c	Hack the terminal and open the door leading to the next room	<ul> <li>Challenge:</li> <li>Hacking</li> <li>Miscellaneous:</li> <li>Pickups: surge pulse grenade x 3, all rifle ammo x 30, shotgun x 20, pistol x 20</li> </ul>
11d	Get into the room and use terminal to unlock the door, fight Synth and get to the final door	Key information:  • Encounter: (raid)  • Melee Synths x 2  • Low-medium level  Miscellaneous:  • Pickup: bobblehead, charisma + 1



Map Label /		
Stage	Event Summary	Event Details
12	Fight Synth and get to the third floor through stairs	<ul> <li>Encounter (patrol)         <ul> <li>Ranged Synth x 4, melee Synth x 2</li> <li>Low-medium level</li> </ul> </li> <li>Conveyance:         <ul> <li>See the door above in the front</li> <li>See stairs</li> <li>Affordance: stairs</li> <li>Also see temporary final goal on the left through glass (a door leading to the position where Parlos was standing when the player entered the factory)</li></ul></li></ul>
12b, 12c	Alternate path to 12: get into the room on the left	<ul> <li>Key information:</li> <li>Terminal: know about the history of the factory: Parlos kicked all humans out months ago</li> <li>Chest: axe</li> <li>Pickups: ammo x 30 to all, stimpak x 2, surge pulse grenade x 2</li> <li>Challenge: <ul> <li>Hacking</li> <li>Lockpicking (can be opened inside without lockpicking)</li> <li>Melee</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
12d	Alternate path to 12	Challenge:  • Stealth

### **Factory: Second Floor 3**

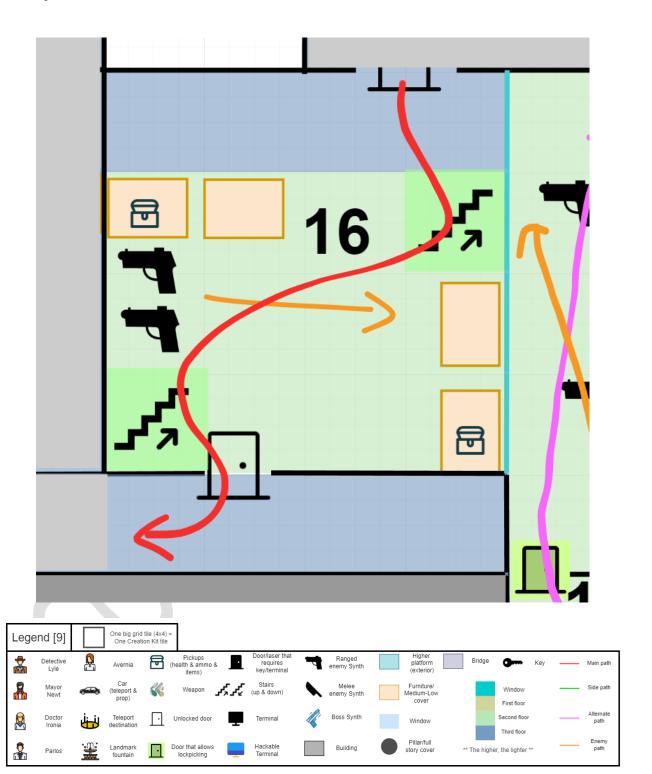


Figure 11: Detail map: Second Floor 3 [8]

Map Label / Stage	Event Summary	Event Details
16	[After getting out from the Third Floor from the top side] Fight Synth and get to the opposite third floor	Key information:  • Encounter (raid)  ○ Ranged Synth x 2  ○ Medium level  Conveyance:  ○ See the door on the opposite  ○ See stairs  ○ Affordance: stairs  Challenge/goal:  • Surge pulse grenade  • Vertical combat  • Weapon switching  Misc:  • Pickups: surge pulse grenade x 1, stimpak x 2, ammo x 30 to all, others

### **Factory: Third Floor Overview**

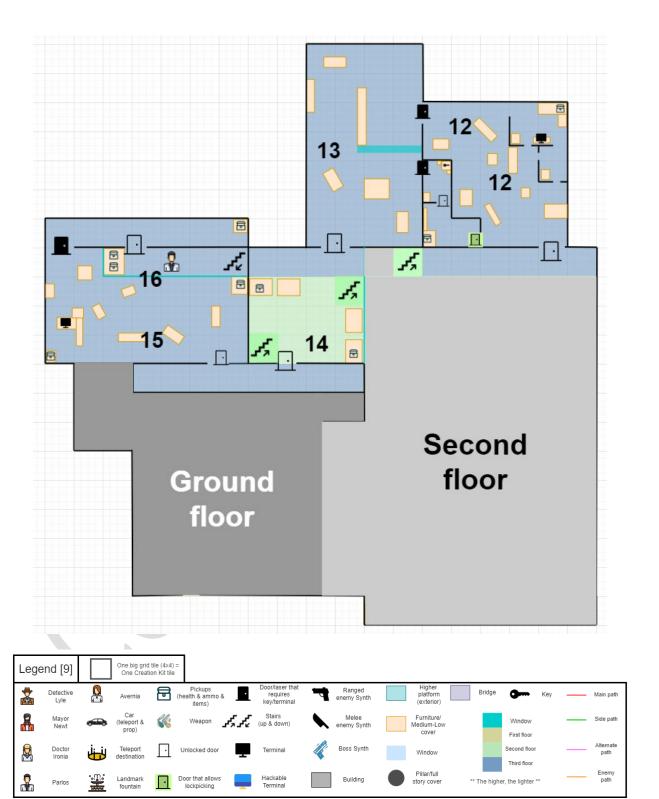


Figure 12: Detail map: Third Floor Overview [8]

### **Factory: Third Floor 1**

Teleport destination

Landmark fountain

Parlos

Unlocked door

Door that allows lockpicking

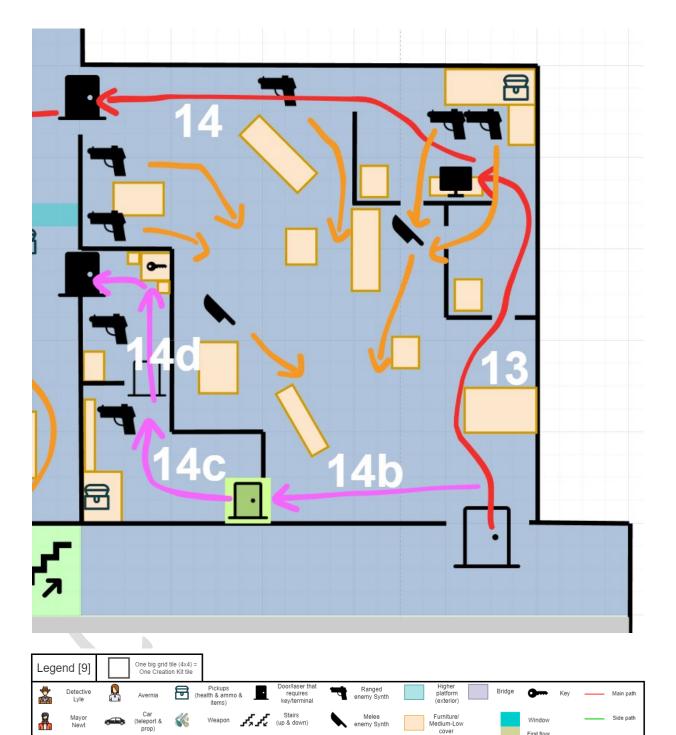


Figure 13: Detail map: Third Floor 1 [8]

Hackable Terminal Boss Synth

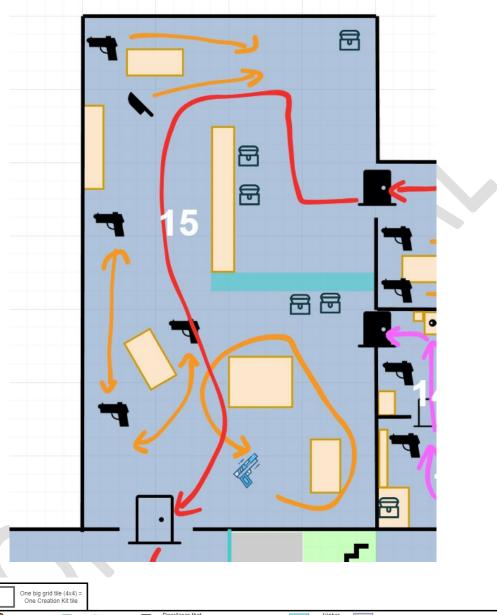
Building

Pillar/full story cover

\*\* The higher, the lighter \*\*

Map Label /		
Stage	Event Summary	Event Details
13	Find the terminal and unlock the door/laser	Key information:  • Encounter (raid)  ○ Ranged Synth x 2, melee Synth x 2  ○ Medium level  • Pickups: bobby pin x 3, rifle ammo x 30, others  Conveyance:  ○ Pinching  ■ See the door on the diagonal  ○ Lights  Challenge/goal:  • Cover shooting  • Stealth  • Prioritize enemies
14	Get to the door	<ul><li>Key information:</li><li>● Encounter (raid)</li><li>○ Ranged Synth x 3</li><li>○ Medium level</li></ul>
14b, 14c	Alternate path to 14: get into the room on the left, and get into the next room	Key information:  • Encounter (ambush)  ○ Ranged Synth x 1  ○ Medium-high level  • Pickups: stimpak x2, gamma gun, surge pulse grenade x 1, others  Conveyance:  • Lights  Challenge/goal:  • Lockpicking
14d	Find the key on the desk and enter the next room	Key information:  • Encounter (ambush)  • Ranged Synth x 1  • Medium-high level  • Key  • Shortcut to the next room

### **Factory: Third Floor 2**



Legend [9] Higher platform (exterior) Pickups (health & ammo & items) Ranged enemy Synth Detective Lyle Bridge Car (teleport & prop) Melee enemy Synth Furniture/ Medium-Low cover Weapon Teleport destination Boss Synth Doctor Ironia Unlocked door Window Pillar/full story cover Door that allows lockpicking Landmark fountain Building Parlos \*\* The higher, the lighter \*\*

Figure 14: Detail map: Third Floor 2 [8]

Map Label / Stage	Event Summary	Event Details
15	Eliminate normal Synth and boss Synth then get to the door	Key information:  • Encounter (patrol)  • Ranged Synth x 4, melee Synth x 1  • Medium-high level  • Boss Synth  • Gatlin  • High level  • Pickups: stimpak x 3, all ammo x 30, surge pulse grenade x 1, others  Conveyance:  • Can see the door through glass  • Lights  Challenge/goal:  • Cover shooting  • Prioritize enemies  • Strategy making (plan path)  • Resource management

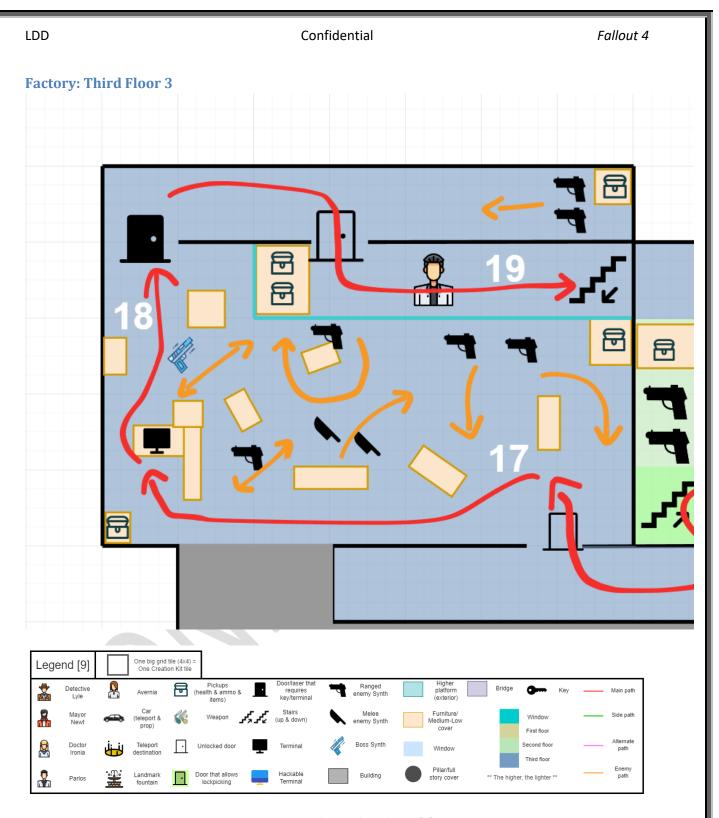


Figure 15: Detail map: Third Floor 3 [8]

Map Label /		
Stage	Event Summary	Event Details
17	Force greeted by Parlos, find the terminal and unlock the door	Key information:  • Encounter (patrol)  • Ranged Synth x 4, melee Synth x 2  • 2 ranged and one melee Synth are medium-high level, the rest are High level  • Pickups: ammo x 20  • Parlos tells that Ironia is not trustworthy and dangerous, he is saving Avernia  • Parlos makes his last warning then leaves through the secret stairs  Conveyance:  • Framing: can see Parlos through glass  • Light highlights the terminal and the door  • Pinching: can see the door  Challenge/goal:  • Cover shooting  • Prioritize enemies  • Strategy making (plan path)  • Resource management  • Stealth
18	Get to the door	Key information:  Boss Synth  Laser gun  High level
19	Fight two ambushing enemies and follow Parlos to the stairs	<ul> <li>Key information:</li> <li>Encounter (ambush)</li> <li>Ranged Synth x 2</li> <li>One medium, one High level</li> <li>Pickups: all ammo x 40, stimpak x 3, surge pulse grenade x 2</li> <li>Challenge/goal:</li> <li>Prioritize enemies</li> <li>Resource management</li> </ul>

# **Factory: First Floor Overview 2 Third** floor **Third** floor oxdotSecond floor انظ One big grid tile (4x4) = One Creation Kit tile Legend [9] Pickups (health & ammo & items) Higher platform (exterior) Ranged nemy Synth Car (teleport & prop) Melee nemy Synth Weapon Side path

Figure 16: Detail map: First Floor Overview 2 [8]

Unlocked door

Door that allows lockpicking

Landmark fountain

Parlos

Boss Synth

Building

Window
Pillar/full
story cover

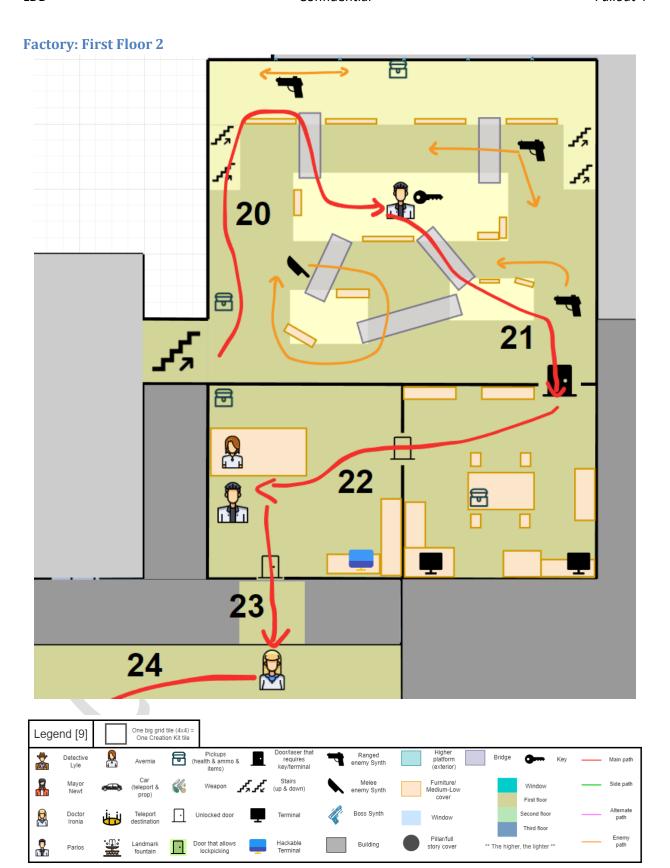


Figure 17: Detail map: First Floor 2 [8]

Map Label /		
Stage	Event Summary	Event Details
20	Fight with Parlos and get the key	Key information:  Ranged Synths x 3, melee x 1  High level (patrol)  Boss Synth Parlos  Gatlin  High level  Pickups: stimpak x 2, all ammo x 40  Conveyance:  See Parlos directly on the higher platform  Lights highlight the exit  Challenge/goal:  Cover shooting  Prioritize enemies  Strategy making (plan path)  Resource management  Vertical combat
21	Talk to Parlos and meet Avernia with him	<ul> <li>Key information:         <ul> <li>Get the key from him</li> <li>Parlos used to work with Ironia to save Synth, he provided shelter Ironia researched on recreating replacing parts</li> </ul> </li> <li>Something went wrong and they broke up, he kicked her out</li> <li>He didn't trust humans anymore</li> <li>Show the player what ironia did to Avernia Conveyance:         <ul> <li>Walk with Parlos</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
22	Talk to Avernia	<ul> <li>Key information:         <ul> <li>Ironia did research on growing organs in Synth and healing human by transplanting the organs from Synth to human</li> <li>Ironia hacked Parlos's Synth and kidnapped Synth in the town for her experiment</li> <li>Ironia experimented on her patient as well</li> <li>Avernia is the precious sample – the sole success</li> <li>Ironia will kill all Synths and Avernia</li> <li>Parlos fell in love with Ivy, Ironia transplanted organs from Ivy to Avernia to save her</li> <li>Claims Ironia will kill all Synths and her patients</li> </ul> </li> <li>Challenge/goal:         <ul> <li>Hacking</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

23	Encounter Ironia and make major choice	<ul> <li>Know about Parlos fired all humans and destroyed Ironia's data</li> <li>Know about Parlos refused to offer help to the town (letter replied to Mayor)</li> <li>Know about Parlos is cruel to human but has crazy affection to Avernia</li> <li>Key information:         <ul> <li>Parlos kept the human girl Avernia because she has</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
		organs from Ivy, he doesn't care about human at all  Parlos destroyed Ironia's data Parlos had no idea what this research means to human Ironia invites the player to accomplish this great achievement Ironia did these because she thinks sacrifice is necessary for a greater improvement She promises Avernia will have a new life if the player helps her Major choice: support Ironia or stop Ironia Fight with Ironia/Parlos Boss, high-level Laser gun Shortcut to the first hall Fight in the hall If kill any of them before making major choice, automatically join the other's faction (as if the player chooses the other one) Challenge/goal:
		<ul> <li>Cover shooting</li> <li>Resource management</li> <li>Vertical combat</li> </ul>
24	Quest complete, report to Newt	<ul> <li>Key information:</li> <li>Report to Newt, quest complete</li> <li>For aftermath, see the section in Appendix B "Aftermath" &amp; "Narrative Summary"</li> <li>Reward:  <ul> <li>Exp high</li> <li>Caps 500</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

## **Skill Progression Chart**

	Start		Red Rocket	Moo	n Rive	r Town	Factory -	First Floor	Factor	y - Secon	d Floor	Fac	tory - T	hird F	loor	Fact	ory - Fi	inale
Map Marker ID ->	-		NB1	NB2	3	4	NB5	6	7	8	9	10	11	NB12	13	14	NB15	16
Core mechanics (Challenge / Proficiency)																		
Move	М		E	Е	Е	M		М	М	М	М	М	Н		Н	Х		Н
Jump	Е		E		Е	M		М	M	M	М	M	М		Н	Х		Н
Attack (melee/ranged)	Е				Е	M		М	M	M	М	М	Н		Н	Χ		Н
Interact	M		E	E	Е	E	E		M	М	М	M	М		Н	Н	Χ	Н
Actions & Skills (Challenge / Proficiency)																		
V.A.T.S.	M				E	E		E	M	М	М	Н	Н		Н	Н		Н
Defending (bash)	Е				E	M		М	M	М	М	Н	Н		Н	Х		H
Lockpicking	E				Е			E	М	М	М	Н						
Hacking	Е								M	М	М							
Charisma check	E			Е			M											
Stealth	E				Ε	E		M	M	М		M	Н		Н			
Predict (if an enemy is about to attack; if the player will get hur					Е	E		E	M	М	М	Н	Н		Н	Х		Н
Dodge attack	Е				Е	E		M	М	М	М	Н	Н		Н	X		H
Find the way & secret items	Е		E	Е	Е	E		E	M	М	М	M	M		Н	M		М
Locate enemies	E				Е	E		E	E	М	М	Н	М		Н	Н		М
Switch weapons & strategy making and switching	Е				Е	E		E	E	М	М	Н	Н		Н	Х		Н
Aim	Е				Е	E		E	M	M	M	Н	Н		Н	Χ		Н
Pickpoketing	Е					E									Н			
Resource management (including AP)	E			E	E	E		E	M	М	М	М	Н		Н	Х		Н
Prioritize enemies	Е				E	E		E	M	M	E	M	Н		Н	Н		
Enemies (Challenge)																		
Synth Ranged	Е				Е	E		E	M	M	М	M	Н		Н	Н		
Synth Melee	Е				Е	Е		М	M	М		Н	Н		Н	Н		
Boss (Leveled; NPC)	Е												М		Н	Х		Х
Weapons & Equipments (Proficiency)																		
Pistol	Е			Е	Е	Е		M	M	М	М	M	Н		Н	Н		Н
Institute Laser	Е			Е	Е	E		М	М	М	М	Н	Н		Н	Х		Х
Snipe Rifle	Е					E		E	E	E	М	M	М		М	M		М
Shotgun	Е			Е	Е	Е		Е	M	М	М	M	Н		Н	Н		Х
Gamma Gun	Е				Ž							M	M		Н	Х		Х
Baton					Е	E		E	E	М	М	М	М		Н	Н		Н
Axe					,					E	E	М	М		Н	Н		Х
Surge Pulse Grenade				Е	Е	E		E	М	М	М	М	Н		Н	Х		Х
Pickups (supplies & collections) (Difficulty & rarity)																		
Medicines	Е			Е	Е				М	М	М	М	Н		Н	Н		
Ammo	Е			Е	Е	Е			М	М	М	М	Н		Н	Н		
Bobblehead	Е								E									
Bobbypins	Е			Е					E				Н					
	0:00	4	1:00	2:00	3:30	5:00	5:30	6:40	8:00	9:30	11:00	12:30	14:40	15:10	17:50	20:00	21:00	22:30
	Notes	:																
	*00:0	00 =	Minute : Seco	ond														
	* This	cha	rt tracks the r	nain p	ath ba	sed on t	he main qu	ests (Instit	ute line	)								
	* This	cha	rt assumes th	e play	ertak	es the po	ossible & ir	tended pa	ths, and	collects	all weap	ons						

Figure 18: Skill Progression Chart

	Legend			
	Е	M	Н	Х
New skills	Intro	Reinforce	Master	
Starting Skills (START)	Beginner	Advanced	Expert	Master
Challenges	Easy	Medium	Hard	Legendary

#### **Aesthetic References**

The level takes three major aesthetic themes – town (Concord style; exterior), factory (fallout 4 like manufacturing factory; main interior) and lab (The Institute style, side interior).

In the factory it is built with lots of crates, machines, pipes, metal grids and so forth, together creating an industrial look, where verticality is highly stressed here. In the lab there are lots of experimental apparatus, office settings, medical facilities, and cells (following the story)

For the exterior which is a town the story happens contains several buildings like in Concord, some trees and foliage, a street with a road circling around the big fountain, an open small hospital where the player can walk in, several vehicles, and passersby. The weather is set at rainy (at dusk), giving the feel of gloomy, suspenseful.

#### Visual Theme 1 Exterior: Concord style town & factory





[1]





[3]

Figure 19: Contact Sheet for Visual Theme 1 [1,2,3,4]

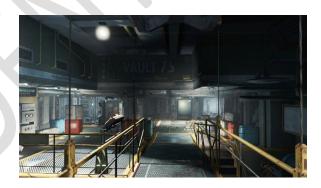
## **Visual Theme 2 Interior: Lab and Factory**





[5]





[6]

Figure 20: Contact Sheet for Visual Theme 2 [5,6,7]

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# Appendices

### Appendix A: New Skills / Gameplay Mechanics

#### <Mechanic A>

#### Surge pulse grenade

- Description
  - A newly developed grenade that is effective against Synth. It releases a special pulse in area that will paralyze the control center of Synth for seconds by contact
  - After throwing this grenade, it will explode after 2 seconds or on impact, and will change
     Synth's faction to be friendly to the player and hostile to other Synths for 3 seconds
- User Interface
  - o Takes the similar look to fragment grenade
  - o Has an area electric energy pulse VFX when it explodes
- Parameters
  - o Damage: 1
  - Duration: 3 seconds
  - o Recharge time: N/A
  - Supply: rare; 3-6 in total for the whole level (some are in chest)
  - Area: ½ or 1/3 of Cryo grenade
- Conveyance
  - Description by notes or dialogue
  - Teaching in the early stage
- Feedback
  - Enemies affected by this will be rendered in a blue hue/VFX/outline and will return to normal after the effect

#### **Appendix B: Context Detail**

#### **General Context**

"Half life" is a standalone optional supplemental level to the main game. It is available after the quest "Dangerous Minds" where the player will meet Detective Nick Valentine, before "Institutionalized". It contains a main quest and a side quest with challenges including charisma check, lockpicking, hacking, pickpocketing and so forth set at a low level to allow the player easily to engage in the level & story. The player can find Detective Lyle near the Red Rocket Station after "Dangerous Minds" and start the quest by talking to him. The quest revolves around the commission where the player is tasked by a town mayor & Dr.Iroina to find a missing patient, and finds out the threatening fact beneath the surface. The stage is set in a town called Moon River Town, which is not far from Diamond City in the Commonwealth.

#### **Backstory**

Detective Lyle is a good friend of Nick. This day on his way to an urgent call he had a flat tire and stopped at the Red Rocket looking for a replacing tire, at this time players found him. Since Nick talked a lot about the player, Lyle knew about the player as well. Lyle now has something urgent to deal with, while he has just received a new request from his old friend Newt (the town mayor) which is to find a missing patient. So, Lyle gives this seemingly easy job to the player, and sends the player to Moon River Town.

Synth Parlos and Doctor Ironia used to work together to save Synth refugees. Parlos provided shelter by starting a manufacturing factory and Ironia did research on changing Synth's broken parts by recreating new ones. But one day when Parlos found out Ironia was doing her experiment by dismembering a Synth Parlos kicked her out and destroyed all her research data, and Parlos fired all humans in this factory because of Ironia's "betrayal". Then Parlos fell in love with a Synth called Ivy, and Ironia continued to do her research in Moon River Town hospital on growing perfectly fit organs in Synth and healing humans by transplanting these organs from Synth to human body. As a doctor she could do her experiments on critically ill patients easily, but for Synth she used her collected knowledge to secretly hack Synths nearby and commanded them to kidnap more Synths for her experiments.

A few days ago, Ironia first time succeeded in healing a patient called Avernia by transplanting the organs grown in a kidnapped Synth Ivy, when she was about to do more research and take more data on this precious successful sample, Parlos found out the reason of Ivy's missing, and he took away Avernia with all his fury. Then worried Ironia reported to Newt who then asked Detective Lyle for help.

#### **Aftermath**

• The player chooses to stop Ironia's unethical experiments. All kidnapped and hacked Synths are freed, and the town returns to a peaceful sanctuary, just as its beautiful name, attracting more Synth refugees to come. However, Parlos still refuses to offer any help to humans in the town, making the town invulnerable to attacks from outside. Meanwhile since all the research data is lost, and the town loses a highly skilled doctor, people gathering here are exposed to the invasion of illness and forced to continuously require help from outside.

• The player chooses to support Ironia's research. Avernia is brought back to Ironia for her more dangerous experiments. Soon after, Avernia finally wakes up with her new body – Ironia has made a revolutionary step in human history, she succeeds in her organ-growing technique. The technique spreads through the world quickly and is bought by many big bio-technology companies. More and more people recover from deadly illnesses, however, with more and more Synths missing. The Institute has decided to act now.

#### **Narrative Summary**

Stage	Event Summary	Event Details
0	Quest start	<ul> <li>Player finds Detective Lyle in the Red Rocket</li> <li>Know about Detective Lyle and background of the commission</li> <li>Learnt that Mayor Newt is asking for help</li> <li>Know about Moon River Town</li> </ul>
5	Quest rejected	
7	Quest accepted	
10	Travel to Moon River Town	Detective Lyle gives the player a ride
20	Talk to the Town mayor Newt	<ul> <li>Know about the town</li> <li>Basic info on Missing, weird Synths, Ironia</li> <li>Take side quest</li> <li>Told to talk to Ironia for details</li> </ul>
25	Talk to Dr.Ironia	<ul> <li>Learn that patient Avernia is missing, and she saw suspicious figures walking towards the factory</li> <li>Learn that (told by Ironia with bias) the owner of the factory Parlos is a savage Synth who abandoned the town hospital and left patients to die because he didn't want to save human, he only cared about Synth</li> </ul>
29	[optional] Get some gears	
30	Fight with Synth – stage 1	<ul> <li>Outside the factory</li> <li>Find a terminal containing a command "bring her to me"</li> <li>The player makes sure Avernia is here</li> </ul>
40	Fight with Synth – stage 2	<ul> <li>Inside the factory</li> <li>Cut scene         <ul> <li>Learn that Parlos doesn't want to start the hostility between him and the player and persuades the player to return</li> <li>(charisma check) Parlos claims he is protecting Avernia</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
50	Fight with Synth – stage 3	<ul> <li>Second floor in the factory</li> <li>Cut scene         <ul> <li>Learn that maybe Ironia is not as good as we thought</li> <li>Parlos claims he took Avernia to save her</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
60	Fight with Parlos	<ul> <li>Learn that Parlos and Ironia used to work together</li> </ul>

		•	Learn that Ironia did unethical experiments on Synth then Parlos kicked her out and destroyed her data
70	Find Avernia in coma in a bed with Parlos	•	Parlos tells that Avernia is the solely successful sample and Ironia will do more experiment on her and he claims that he doesn't want to sacrifice anyone in this ridiculous experiment  Learn that Parlos just found out Ironia is kidnapping  Synths in the town and doing experiments to those critically ill patients in her hospital  Learn that Avernia has hacked Synths to do this for her
80	Dr.Ironia shows up in this room as well (after the player has eliminated all enemies on the way)  [Major choice]	•	Ironia tells that Parlos cares about this human girl Avernia just because Ivy's organs have been transplanted to Avernia, otherwise he doesn't want to save human at all Ironia claims that she wants to save human, if she succeeds illness may not exist anymore in the future. To do this, some sacrifices are necessary  Design goal  Make two choices more balanced, neither of them is purely good nor bad Main focus still revolves around Ironia's experiment (stop sacrifice <-> revolution)  Choice 1: Stop Ironia's experiment, take down Parlos
90	Join Parlos faction, fight Ironia		Taries
100	Join Ironia faction, fight Parlos		
110	Quest complete	•	Go back to the town with Parlos, free all Synths imprisoned in Ironia's secret lab, and destroy all research data. No Synths will be harmed here but humans in the town will keep suffering from illness and attacks from outside
120	Quest complete	•	Go back to the town with Ironia, she takes Avernia back to her hospital and continues doing her experiment, more Synths are sacrificed, organ growth tech will be completed soon

## **Appendix C: Character Descriptions**

### **NPC 1: Detective Lyle**

Description	Shares the same outfit with Nick Valentine, human male, medium tall, black
	hair
Background	Had a flat tire on his way to an urgent request, while repairing his car at the
	Red Rocket, he got a new request from Newt. As he was torn between two
	requests, the player showed up
Goals/Motivation	Gives the player quest, tells the player about himself and Moon River, gives
	the player a flavor and a ride
Personality/Archetype	Generous, charismatic, casual, easy-going, Sherlock Holmes-like but looks
	busy
Relationships	Friend of Nick, heard of the player's glory; Old friend of Mayor Newt

### **NPC 2: Doctor Ironia**

Description	Scientist, doctor, looks professional and harmless that elicits great sympathy		
	by her words		
Background	Used to work with Parlos to help protect Synth, when researching on		
	recreating parts to repair Synth's body, she was inspired to grow organs in		
	Synth's body to heal humans (and kicked out by Parlos and all her data was		
	destroyed). In order to accomplish this impressive feat. After she first time		
	succeeded in transplanting grown organ from a Synth Ivy to her patient		
	Avernia, Avernia was taken by Parlos		
Goals/Motivation	Get Avernia back – She is the precious sample		
Personality/Archetype	Performs like she is the perfect victim, and claims she did everything for		
	human ignoring the harm she has brought to others, intelligent but lacks		
	empathy		
Relationships	Ex-workmate to Parlos; Avernia's doctor-in-charge; Hacker and commander		
	of the weird Synths		

#### **NPC 3: Parlos**

Description	Synth businessman but not bad at fight, feels like a mafia boss, well-dressed
	and looks smart
Background	Used to work with Ironia to help Synth, settled down here near Moon River Town and took the charge of a weapon manufacturing factory. When he found out what Ironia did to Synth he expelled Ironia and all humans and destroyed all her data. Fell in love with a Synth called Ivy. Recently he found Ivy was missing because Ironia's hacked Synths took her and Ironia did experiment on her by growing organs in her body to save a critically ill patient Avernia, with his full fury he took the Avernia
Goals/Motivation	Avenges Ivy's death; Frees all Synths kidnapped by Ironia; Ceases Ironia's unethical experiment; Keeps Avernia safe
Personality/Archetype	Understanding, sympathetic, charismatic and personable, but unfriendly to human
Relationships	Ex-workmate to Ironia; Fell in love with Synth Ivy; Had affection towards Avernia for her having a half-life of Ivy

## NPC 4: Mayor Newt (side quest giver)

Description	Normal mayor, wearing a suit, medium height, blonde hair					
Background	Lost a key near secret lab before which is now occupied by Ironia's hacked weird-acting Synths. Meanwhile, associating with the recently frequent					
	missing as well as his worry that the offenders could do something worse,					
	he must ask for help					
Goals/Motivation	Get back the key lost in the secret lab and find the missing patient. If					
	possible, investigate the reason behind this, bring safe and peace back to					
	the town					
Personality/Archetype Timid, righteous, dull						
Relationships	Mayor of the town; Old friend of Lyle					

## **Appendix D: Dialog Flow**

### **NPC 1: Detective Lyle**

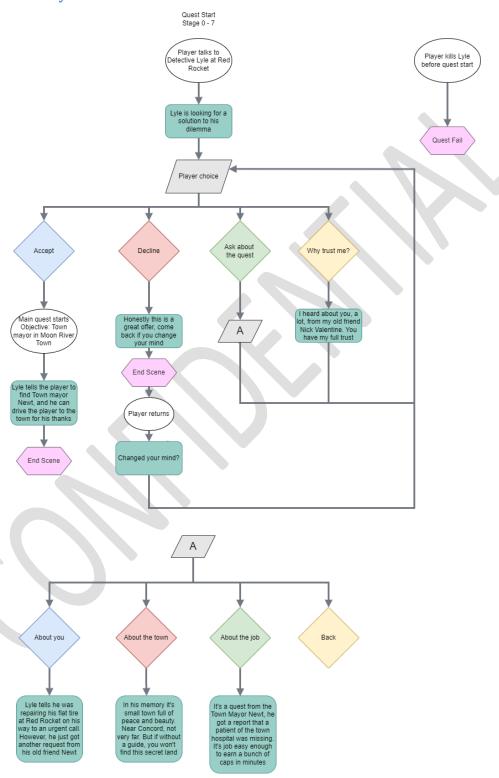


Figure 21: Dialog: Character 1 Lyle, Stage 0 – 7 [8]

#### **NPC 2: Doctor Ironia**

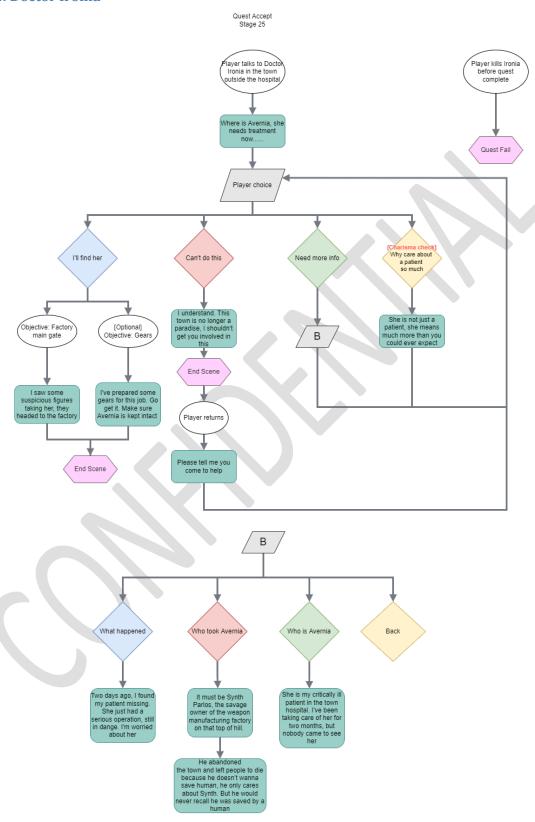


Figure 22: Dialog: Character 2 Ironia, Stage 25 [8]

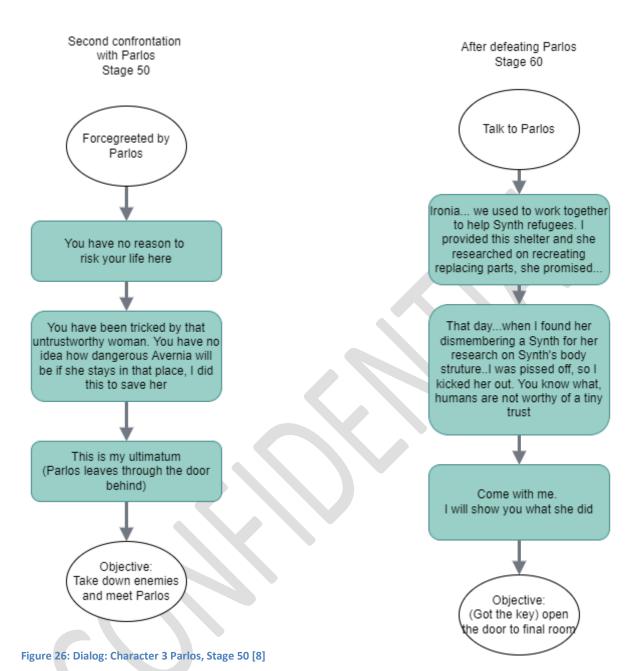
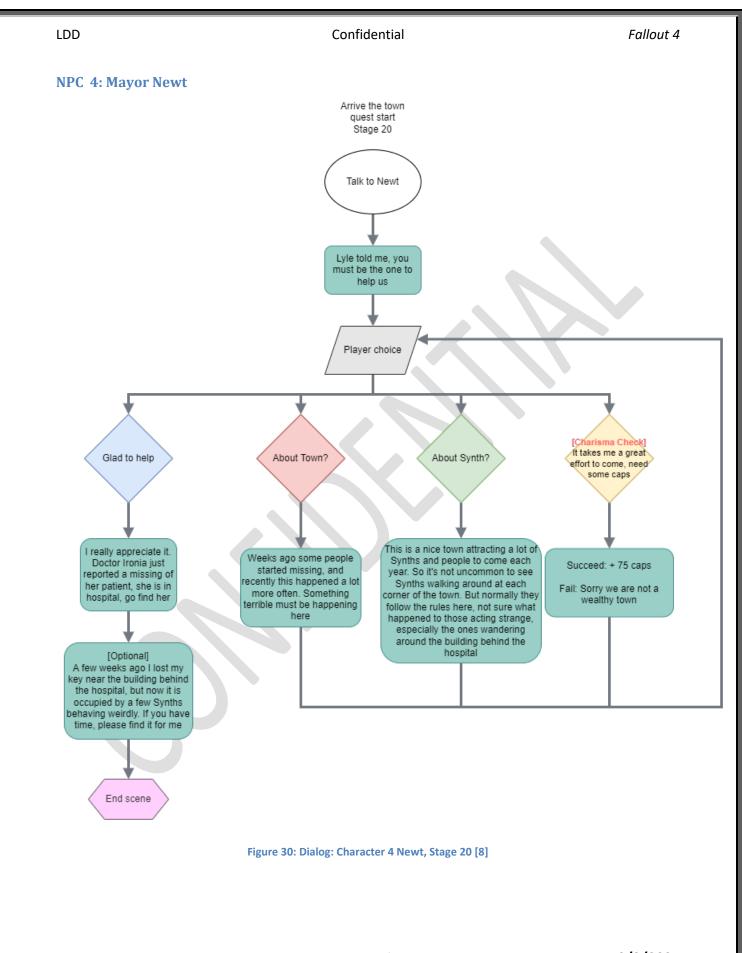


Figure 27: Dialog: Character 3 Parlos, Stage 60 [8]

Figure 28: Dialog: Character 3 Parlos, Stage 70 [8]



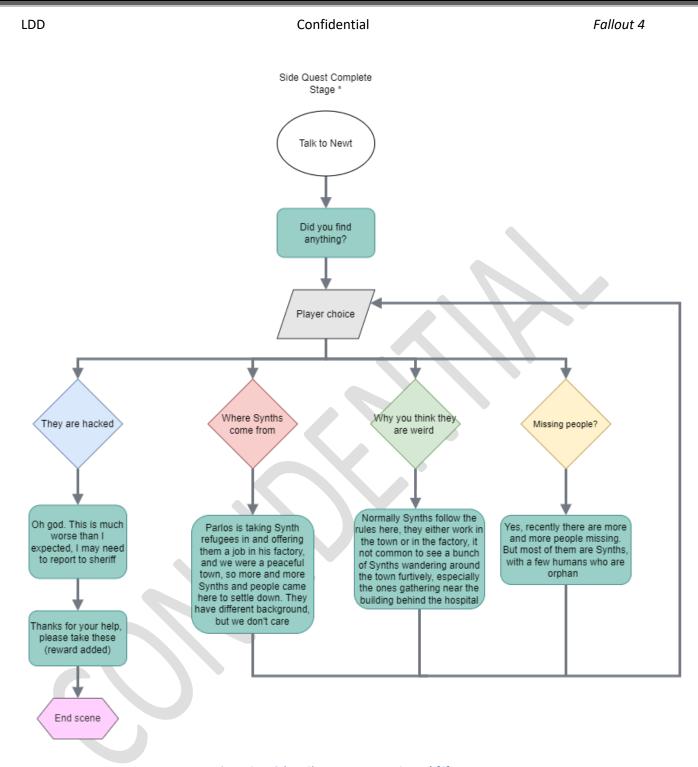


Figure 31: Dialog: Character 4 Newt, Stage \* [8]

## **Appendix E: Development Risks**

Map Label	Description/Mitigation	Туре	Priority
Label	<ul> <li>Narrative pieces</li> <li>Arrange information pieces in the dialogue/notes in a good way to make sure the player is collecting core information which builds up to help make major choice</li> <li>To avoid making the story too complex to the player</li> <li>Mitigation</li> <li>List the core narrative pieces and follow the flow to create a dialogue skeleton first</li> <li>Then iterate and make changes</li> </ul>	Dialogue	High
	<ul> <li>Faction based mechanics</li> <li>Easy to mess around enemies' original faction &amp; relationship when they recover from the effect (when the effect is over, enemies may have already built hostility towards each other and will not become friendly any more)</li> <li>Mitigation</li> <li>Clear their hostility when they become normal again</li> <li>Or change the effect to be "change enemies' faction to be a third independent faction which will keep enemies fighting both other enemies &amp; the player"</li> <li>Or enlarge the effect time to make sure they will probably not have the chance to become normal         <ul> <li>This increases the power of the weapon and needs to balance</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Script	High
	<ul> <li>Continued dialogue after the combat</li> <li>There will be a continued dialogue between the player and Parlos after beating him, then Dr.Ironia will come and prompt the player to make major choice after talking. This includes a lot of animation, cut scene and dialogue after combat.</li> <li>Mitigation</li> <li>If hard to achieve, could let Parlos die and the player make choice considering his will, since the major choice is focusing on Ironia</li> </ul>	Script/Dialogue	High

## **Appendix F: Key Asset Needs**

Description	Туре	Priority
NPC models (Lyle, Newt, Parlos, Ironia, Avernia, townspeople,	Model	High
raiders, etc.)	(including	
Avernia doesn't need animation and movement	mesh,	
Lyle needs an animation crouching at his car and replacing his tire	material/textur	
,	es and	
	animation)	
Crates (could be interacted with to get items)	Model	High
Items (including all those can be used by the player, e.g. pickups,	Model	High
weapons, armor)		
Bobby pin		
Weapons		
o Baton		
<ul> <li>Grognak's Axe</li> </ul>		
<ul> <li>Bladed board</li> </ul>		
<ul> <li>Institute laser</li> </ul>		
o Pistol		
<ul> <li>Combat shotgun</li> </ul>		
<ul> <li>Gamma gun</li> </ul>		
<ul> <li>Reba (Sniper rifle)</li> </ul>		
<ul> <li>Surge pulse grenade (fragment grenade look)</li> </ul>		
Armor in all parts		
Pickups (radaway, stimpak, etc.)		
Enemy spawning system (several waves)	Script	High
(Charisma check system)	(Script	High)
(Lockpicking system)	(Script	High)
(Pickpocketing system)	(Script	High)
(Stealth system)	(Script	High)
Faction change system	Script	High
M/L covers (see also Lab pieces & Factory pieces below)	Mesh	High
	(including	
	material/textur	
	es)	
Modular kits & architecture items	Mesh	High
• Interior		
Lab pieces		
<ul> <li>Wall, ceiling, floor, pillars, etc.</li> </ul>		
<ul> <li>Office settings (desk, electrical appliances, etc.)</li> </ul>		
<ul> <li>Lab settings (sample container, high-tech devices)</li> </ul>		
Could be used as covers		
Factory pieces		
<ul> <li>Wall, ceiling, floor, pillars, etc.</li> </ul>		
<ul> <li>Factory settings (machines, metal grids, pipes,</li> </ul>		
crates, shelves, etc.)		
Could be used as covers		
• Exterior		

<ul> <li>Concord style town</li> </ul>		
<ul><li>Wall, roof, street, road</li></ul>		
<ul> <li>Doors (both interior and exterior)</li> </ul>		
Lights (dusk light in exterior; normal lights in interior – darker in	Light	High
factory, lighter in lab but both bright enough to see clearly)		
Car (can use other transport models as substitute)	Mesh	Medium
Fountain (landmark, hero piece)	Mesh	Medium
Town set dressing (e.g. Foliage, normal trees, streetlamps)	Mesh	Low
Weather system (rain, dusk)	Script	Low