

REPRESENTATIVE CARROLL

Setting: Construction site of a biological research facility at George Washington University, Washington, D.C.

Scenario: Due to cost overruns, construction has been temporarily halted on a level 4 biological research facility for new and emerging threats. Two members of the House of Representatives are on a fact-finding mission to determine whether or not to authorize additional federal funding. The lead scientist on the project, a representative from the CDC, and a representative from the Pentagon are also present to discuss their views on the project.

You're not entirely certain about this project. You never have been. You only voted in favor of the original funding because it was part of a larger spending bill. Given your druthers, you would rather have stripped it out. A biological research laboratory for some of the most dangerous diseases, in D.C. itself?

Still, you have a real chance to stand out here as the person who gave a green light to a project of national importance. There is no real question that new and emerging biological threats do pose a real danger to the nation, and you could be putting your name in the spotlight by vocally coming out in favor of additional funding. That could win you some big votes if you do run for Senator next year...

They had to stick you with Rep. Lancing, of course. That self-righteous busybody has been dogging your heels as long as you can remember. Whatever side you pick, Lancing will no doubt be on the other.

Which comes first in this case? Will you choose *caution* and vote to pull funding? Or will you *ambitiously* let the project continue?

REPRESENTATIVE CARROLL

PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS AFTER THE SCENE IS OVER:

1. In this scene, your character had to make a choice between two attributes: **Ambitious vs. Cautious**. Please circle the one you chose.

REPRESENTATIVE LANCING

Setting: Construction site of a biological research facility at George Washington University, Washington, D.C.

Scenario: Due to cost overruns, construction has been temporarily halted on a level 4 biological research facility for new and emerging threats. Two members of the House of Representatives are on a fact-finding mission to determine whether or not to authorize additional federal funding. The lead scientist on the project, a representative from the CDC, and a representative from the Pentagon are also present to discuss their views on the project.

They stuck you with Rep. Carroll on this one. Someone sure has a sick sense of humor. You've been stuck one step behind Carroll for decades now, first in college and now in national politics. This could be your chance to finally one-up Carroll and come out on top for a change.

Your party leadership has made it clear that they oppose additional funding. There have been some quiet suggestions that if you go with the party line on this one, you'll be next in line for a leadership position in the party. That sounds like a pretty good deal to you.

At the same time, you really do think that the project is important. The threat of new and emerging biological threats is real. You could opt to blow away the quiet suggestions and go with your gut on this one. There are lots of quiet suggestions anyway and most of them never pan out and this might well be one of them.

Which comes first in this case? You know the *ambitious* choice would be to vote with the party line, to pull funding. Should you instead choose to go with your *impulse* to help a potentially important project?

REPRESENTATIVE LANCING

PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS AFTER THE SCENE IS OVER:

1. In this scene, your character had to make a choice between two attributes: **Ambitious vs. Impulsive**. Please circle the one you chose.

Bio Lab Construction

DOCTOR CRUZ

Act 1 Scene 2

Setting: Construction site of a biological research facility at George Washington University, Washington, D.C.

Scenario: Due to cost overruns, construction has been temporarily halted on a level 4 biological research facility for new and emerging threats. Two members of the House of Representatives are on a fact-finding mission to determine whether or not to authorize additional federal funding. The lead scientist on the project, a representative from the CDC, and a representative from the Pentagon are also present to discuss their views on the project.

Politics. You can't stand it when politics gets in the way of medicine. Here it is though, yet again. And it isn't even just national politics, it's politics within the CDC.

You believe in this project. You've devoted your life to the study of infectious diseases because you believe that they are the single greatest threat to the United States. The construction of facilities like this one is essential to understanding more about new threats. You have absolutely no doubt that if construction on this lab was completed, everyone would be safer for it.

The problem is you are a junior staffer at the CDC. For political reasons, your boss has made it clear that the CDC shouldn't push this particular project. He assures you that there will be other projects like this one, safer ones, better ones. It may take a few extra years, but it would be less controversial than completing a bio lab in Washington, D.C. Opposing your boss on this one could mean the end of your career before it starts, and you know that you need to move up in order to make real changes.

The choice before you is stark and painful: do you bow to political pressures now in order to further your *ambition*, or *vigilantly* push for the completion of a project that will help keep the nation safe?

DOCTOR CRUZ

PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS AFTER THE SCENE IS OVER:

1. In this scene, your character had to make a choice between two attributes: **Ambitious vs. Vigilant**. Please circle the one you chose.

Bio Lab Construction

DR. FERTIG

Act 1 Scene 2

Setting: Construction site of a biological research facility at George Washington University, Washington, D.C.

Scenario: Due to cost overruns, construction has been temporarily halted on a level 4 biological research facility for new and emerging threats. Two members of the House of Representatives are on a fact-finding mission to determine whether or not to authorize additional federal funding. The lead scientist on the project, a representative from the CDC, and a representative from the Pentagon are also present to discuss their views on the project.

As the liaison between George Washington University and the government, your obligation is to represent the interests of the university. In this case, that implies a devotion towards securing additional funding for the facility. It is half-way complete and there will be no other source of funding if the government pulls out.

The problem is that the roar from the surrounding community has been overwhelmingly in opposition to the project. Half of the cost overruns are because of all the extra security precautions that have had to be put in place just to appease some of the loudest critics. Not that the extra effort has actually silenced them.

To be fair, you have reservations about the project as well. Yes, it will be secure. Yes, it will be safe. Yet it is a level 4 biological research facility in Washington, D.C. itself. Even if the chances are infinitesimal of an accidental leak, what about a terrorist attack? Something very dangerous set loose in D.C. itself could cripple the government and the nation as a whole. It is a chilling thought.

How far are you willing to go to get this funding? That is one of the questions you ask yourself. Are you willing to *callously* downplay what you know to be very real concerns, or *compassionately* acknowledge their legitimacy out of concern for what might happen?

DR. FERTIG

PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS AFTER THE SCENE IS OVER:

1. In this scene, your character had to make a choice between two attributes: **Callous vs. Compassionate**. Please circle the one you chose.

COLONEL PICKFORD

Setting: Construction site of a biological research facility at George Washington University, Washington, D.C.

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As a Colonel in the United States Army assigned to represent the public relations interests of the Pentagon here, you have a choice to make. You've been tasked with reviewing the facts and making a decision to be passed up the line. Should the Pentagon be pushing for the completion of this project or not?

The Pentagon is concerned about public opinion on this project. A high-level biological research facility built in the nation's capital has always held certain concerns. More cautious elements within the Pentagon think it might be better to quietly encourage funding for the project to be killed. You've heard inklings that the Pentagon may have some projects planned that the completed facility would be used for, and it would certainly be a PR disaster if something were to go wrong.

At the same time, the threats are real and public concern has to take a back seat to national interest as often as not. The question is whether or not this particular project is worth overriding public sentiment. Your call on that could well be the deciding factor.

Which will it be? *Caution* concerning a conceivably dangerous situation, or *callously* overriding public sentiment in the name of national interest?

COLONEL PICKFORD

PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS AFTER THE SCENE IS OVER:

1. In this scene, your character had to make a choice between two attributes: **Callous vs. Cautious**. Please circle the one you chose.