

ARG Plot Skeleton

Rabbit Holes:

- Various versions of someone begging for help to solve some problem?
- An anecdote about loving Grannie's Carrot Cake and a Call to Action for help getting to it?

Story Beats:

Day One

1. Lucy ekick's Grandmother has passed; Lucy ekick needs to find the legendary family recipe
2. We unlocked this folder and found another clue.

Day 2

3. This clue revealed contact info for an employee at Auntie Sweetums, we contacted him and he made us solve a puzzle to check if the Lucy ekick is actually Grandmother's granddaughter
4. We solved the puzzle and get the info to meet the employee in the minecraft let's play server tomorrow

Day 3

5. Meet ~~Monty Mole™~~ [MOLE'S NAME IS NOT MONTY MOLE™ ITS LAUREN SOLACE] trustable employee of Auntie Sweetums Baked Goods. He reveals some exposition and gives the players a few clue pieces from Grannie. These lead to the Recipe and provide clues on how to decipher it.
 - a. (Does not imply the recipe is encoded or reveal it's a recipe)
6. Find Recipe's location, communicate it to Lucy ekick so she can retrieve it.
 - a. Solve the clues from Solace to determine this

Day 4

7. Some sort of run-in with the Evil Corp. Lucy ekick finds recipe and...it's a recipe...
 - a. Evil Corp claims they have the rights to the content from Grannie that they claim she made while working for Auntie Sweetums. Lucy ekick refuses to hand it over
8. Crack the recipe code! It tells us about this "mechanism" and what it does. Also points the players to where the puzzle that tells them where to find it is (that will be the answer to the puzzle in step 10).
 - a. Also reveals that the Big Bad Corp is EVIL

Day 5

9. Guardian Related Beat: Hidden Message from Grannie, Lucy ekick finds another file hidden on the computer. More difficulty encrypted.
 - a. Reveal the Guardian's role, Lucy ekick's family's legacy and role in it.

- b. Will contain a line like: "I think I have found the current generation of the Jefferson family, I've got a lead on a man named Ron Jefferson who works at a company called Golden Ardeo."
- 10. Oh no! Evil Corp wiretapped us and found out about the recipe, now they're racing us to get the Mechanism!
 - a. Corp sends out tweets taunting the Players.
 - b. Web-based game for this

Day 6

- 11. Determine how to use the mechanism to banish people to other timelines because it's the only way to stop the CEO.
 - a. 1st Puzzle: Can make it so the player needs to get the location for the headquarters by reversing the address of it and finding the GPS coordinates. Looking for coordinates to triangulate the CEO's location so the device can be set to his location
 - b.
- 12. Big Conclusion: Lucy ekick banishes CEO of Evil Corp to the Shadow Realm, get the carrot cake recipe
 - a. Puzzle as a web based image to turn the dials and make it work and input the coordinates properly (interactable antikythera mechanism)

Some Basic info:

Current names:

Bridget "Grannie" Smith - Goddess

Lucy Smith - Lucy ekick

Lauren Solace - Mentor, Mole

On the Antikythera Mechanism:

It can control time in various fashions, stopping, rewinding, etc. Most important ability is it can banish someone to a Time Rift or remove their timeline. The one in the ARG is different from the one in Greece in the Real World. The ARG one is completed and in good condition, making it the true target of the Evil Corp.

Character Bibles:

Kirsten Roethel

The Sidekick

Name: Lucy Smith

Appearance: Young woman, around early twenties. No specific way that she needs to look, but her online presence should reflect her age.

Relationship: Granddaughter of "Grannie" Smith, who passed months prior to the ARG. She recently found a mysterious file on her deceased grandmother's computer, and she takes to the internet to get it cracked open.

Why: She wants to savor this one last connection she has to her late grandmother, hoping that whatever is in this file (labeled "recipes") can help her move on.

Lucy Smith was devastated by her grandmother's passing, even though her age meant it was bound to happen soon. The two were very close, but Lucy was never informed of Grannie Smith's role as a guardian of the Antikythera Mechanism (A.M.). Lucy always saw her grandma as a kind old lady, with some great baking recipes. Months after her passing, Lucy finally felt she had moved on enough to go through some old belongings that were left to her by Grannie. One of these things is her old computer.

On the computer, Lucy finds some things she would expect, such as old photos saved, digital books, and files for when she used to work for Auntie Sweetum's. However, one folder stood out most to her... one titled "Lucy". Expecting to find pictures, old emails, and maybe even an unread letter, she attempts to open the folder, only to find it locked and password protected. In frustration and desperation, she tries to think of anything that could work. Unfortunately, she is unable to crack the code, and takes to the internet to find help in getting into the last memory she has of her beloved grandmother.

Other information:

- She is aware of her grandmother working for Auntie Sweetum's, but she is oblivious (as most are) to the true intentions of the company, meaning she could be susceptible to their persuasions since she recognizes that old connection.
- Lucy has a generally strong internet presence, but is not particularly tech savvy/a genius when it comes to these puzzles. That is why she requires the player's help.
- She may have had the feeling that her grandmother began acting a bit more erratic and paranoid before her passing, but she denies anything abnormal, saying it was only due to her old age

Nick Wotton

Goddess

Name: Bridget "Grannie" Smith

Age: 87 (Deceased of natural causes)

Appearance: Silver grey hair, big thick glasses covering kind green eyes. Bridget had a somewhat slumped posture from years spent baking, cooking, and writing recipes. She often wore a series of floral printed dresses.

Location: Bridget lived in a small house in Huntington, West Virginia, not far from her children and grandchildren.

Description: Bridget was [sidekick-name]'s Grandmother. She passed away on 28th November, 2020. She had a fierce love of cooking and baking. She was well-loved for her Famous Carrot Cake.

Grannie is the most recent Guardian of the Antikythera Mechanism (A.M.) in a long family line of Guardians descending from Ancient Greece. She believed she had hidden and saved the Mechanism thus preventing her granddaughter from having to participate in the dangerous line of work.

However, she knew something was up with Auntie Sweetums and got a job there to try and get close to the Big Bad corporation. She knows who the CEO is (see below), but he does not know her. There she realized that the corporation was closer than she thought, but she was running out of time. So she left a series of clues and codes for her granddaughter to follow in an effort to hide the mechanism further.

Before she was able to completely reveal the situation to her granddaughter, Grannie died of seemingly 'natural causes.'

How is she the Goddess: Grannie serves as the goddess by being the one who leaves clues and directions. These clues and directions will be in the form of her blog posts, answers to riddles, and reward information gained after completing a puzzle.

Misc Attributes:

- Had enough Tech Savvy to run a blog/twitter/something like that
- Used to work for Auntie Sweetum's Baked Goods

Letter from Grandma to Granddaughter

Mitch Tanguay

The Mentor

Name: True identity unknown, goes by alias "Lauren Solace"

Age: 54

Appearance: Actual Appearance unknown

Location: Unknown, most likely in some part of West Virginia in proximity to Auntie Sweetum's Baked Goods Operations HQ

Description:

Lauren Solace, true identity left unknown, is an employee at Auntie Sweetum's Baked Goods, a puppet corporation designed to mask its evil parent corporation. Having been hired by the corporation in her early twenties, she met Bridget "Grannie" Smith approximately one year before she "retired." She became a good friend of Grannie, looking up to and admiring her as a respectable, honest person and an impeccable employee. However, a few months before Grannie retired, she realized something was very off.

Now, thirty years later, Lauren has been promoted to a member of Auntie Sweetum's Baked Goods top secret research team tasked with locating the Antikythera Mechanism, an ancient device believed to contain some unimaginable power. Realizing that Auntie Sweetum's is really a coverup business for a much larger evil corporation, and recently hearing of Grannie's death, she begins to piece everything together and decides to contact [sidekick] in hopes of helping her locate the Antikythera Mechanism that Grannie successfully hid before the corporation can figure out its location. From her position in Auntie Sweetum's HQ, she can feed [sidekick] information regarding the company's progress and what they already know. She does this through a burner email, or by leaving hints online.

How is she the Mentor: Lauren serves as the mentor by providing inside information on the company's progress and hints on how to find the mechanism based on what the company already knows about Grannie and her connection to the device.

Ian Khung

The Villain

Name: Golden Ardeo Ltd.

What: Mostly A Financial Corporation With Connections In Several Industries, Known For Owning Other Large Businesses Such As Morgan And Sun Entertainment

Who: The Boss Of The Corporation Is Ronald Jefferson, Distant Relative Of Grannie

How: Uses Auntie Sweetum's Baked Goods As A Front For Their Deeper And Evil Goals

Why(Recipe): Need The Secret Information Supplied By Encoded Recipe

Why(Coded Info): Leads Them To The Antikythera Mechanism Which He Can Use To Go Back In Time To Change The Past

Slogan: "Building a Brighter World"

Appearance of Ronald

Age: 56

Looks: Age Has Not Been Nice To Him, Grey Balding Hair, 6ft2 With A skinny-ish Build

Summary:

This corporation is being run by Ronald Jefferson. Golden Ardeo Ltd. is known for owning other large businesses but they mostly are using Auntie Sweetum's Baked Goods as a front for their evil doings. Ronald is a distant relative of Grannie Smith as their families split apart 5 generations ago due to a dispute over the antikythera mechanism. Grannie Smith's side insisted to keep the mechanism hidden and untouched while Ronald's side wanted to use the mechanism and all of its powers. The Smiths had control over the mechanism ever since and the Jeffersons have searched to find it. Over time, the Jeffersons have lost track of who the guardian of the mechanism is until recently. Auntie Sweetum's Baked Goods hired Grannie but were initially unsuspecting of her and her connection to the mechanism. As Ronald gradually figured out more and more, Grannie left the company before Ronald finally figured it out. Before she left, Ronald overheard of this "great carrot cake recipe with valuable ingredients that should not be shared." He later put it together that this recipe was a key to the mechanism. With the death of Grannie, the search for this carrot cake recipe speeds up greatly. Ronald desires this mechanism in order to carry through with his plan of preventing the assassination of John F. Kennedy. This would cause a large tear in the current timeline, altering events in the worst way possible. The Butterfly Effect.

Things Corporation Uses:

1. Website For Auntie Sweetum's Baked Goods
2. Account For Golden Ardeo Ltd. (Twitter)
3. Account For Ronald (Twitter)

Misc. Notes

Plot Points That We Need to Hit:

- Death of Lucy ekick's grandmother and announcement of recipe.
- Introduction of corporation and mole: "Auntie Sweetum's Baked Goods"
- Mole helps the players obtain the recipe
- Discovery of Recipe
- The Mole is an old friend of Grannie's that wants to help out and hates Evil Corp
- Baking corporation turns out to be a shell company used by a greater organization to attain the Antikythera Mechanism.
- Recipe is a cipher that explains how to acquire the Mechanism.

Story Summary - Nick Notes

Grannie is the most recent Guardian of the Antikythera Mechanism (A.M.) in a long family line of Guardians descending from Ancient Greece. She believed she had thoroughly hidden the Mechanism, thus preventing her granddaughter from having to participate in the dangerous life of a Guardian.

However, she knew something was up with Auntie Sweetums and got a job there to try and get close to the Big Bad corporation. She knows who the CEO is (see below), but he does not know her. There she realized that the corporation was closer than she thought, but she was running out of time. So she left a series of clues and codes for her granddaughter to follow in an effort to hide the mechanism further. Some of these clues she entrusted to a coworker at Auntie Sweetums. She then charged this coworker with staying at the company and providing a contact on the inLucy e for her granddaughter.

Before she was able to completely reveal the situation to her granddaughter, Grannie died of seemingly 'natural causes.' Now, months later, the granddaughter has stumbled upon a mysteriously encrypted and locked "Recipes" folder on the computer. She seeks help from the internet.

A number of clues point towards a recipe for carrot cake. IT turns out that this recipe is in fact an encrypted message that hides the location of/way to find the Antikythera Mechanism. When the players solve this riddle, their communication with Granddaughter is interrupted and intercepted by the Big Bad Corp, so now they have the secret too.

The A.M. has an effect on time; however, it needs to be specifically set with a particular combination and has a small margin of error.

The CEO is a member of a different branch of Grannie's family. There was a schism 300 years ago when one sister decided the A.M. should be weaponized but the other didn't want that.

The ending: The Lucy ekick uses the machine to do something to the villain that ends his timeline and banishes him to a Pocket Dimension where he is effectively dead.

Story Summary - Luna Notes:

The Smith family has always been the guardians of The Antikythera mechanism, they protect the time machine run by Antikythera mechanism from the hands of all the one planned to use the machine for personal benefit. However, 300 years ago, one child of the Smith family rebelled against the family, thinking that the machine should not be hidden from society. That child was expected from the family and created another branch of Smith, and always attempted to steal back the mechanism.

Grannie was the latest guardian of the Smith family. Grannie had been hiding the family secret from her granddaughter in order to give her grandchild a normal life. Grannie knew that the Auntie Autumn Baker Good is actually a cover for the Big Bad Inc. run by Villian Smith - a descendant of the corrupted branch of her family. Grannie made her way into the company without Villain's notice to learn about his plan. However, knowing that she didn't have much time left, Grannie left some clues with her trusted coworker for her granddaughter in order to follow the family path.

But before the secret got to Grannie's granddaughter, she died from natural causes. And days passed. One day, Lucy suddenly craved her grandma's famous carrot cake and remembered her last words: "If you want my Bake Good, there is a folder with all of mine called Recipe. Use it." However, the folder is locked and despite how many usernames and passcodes she tried, the file is still locked. Too desperate, she asked for help on the Internet." (Day 1)

With the help of you, Lucy can finally open the folder, but in the folder there is only contact information of a person with the code Mole. (Day 2) Lucy contacts the person and that person gives her a clue.

You and Lucy continue to learn more about how the machine functions and how close is Villain to the machine from the Mole.

Ending: Player successfully functions the machine and sends Villain to his own timeline. What happens to the Villain is dependent on the imagination of the players.