

## **Rift Crasher 3**

**By Davidfish and Slaykout**

The Finale to the rifting adventure

### **Summary**

With the people of Alterna reunited with the surface world, everything seems to finally be calming down for Lunar and Solar for a while, until it hasn't. A security breach into Max's lab reveals that someone from Alterna broke in and used the rift portal in it. Lunar, Solar, and Orion chase after the mysterious person to uncover what problems they are trying to cause. The chase takes them into an Earth timed between the future and present Earth, right when a new Metaverse Digital World was being created. Lunar's journey takes him and his friends into the new online world, as well as the Minecraft AI world. They discover the secrets of the old and new people they meet, and even learn the full story of Solar's past. The chase after this person turns into a chase against time, as someone attempts to steal the power of Lunar and Solar and threaten the security of all 3 timelines. Our heroes will have to work together again to stop the people disrupting order in their worlds.

### **Book Information**

Rift Crasher 3 will end the trilogy of the rifting journey Lunar has gone through. I have yet again taken ideas from other people and works of literature to create this so shout out to them.

This adventure definitely reveals a lot about the backstory of the main characters and even some previous ones that we have seen in the series which I was really excited to think of and implement. With the conclusion of this trilogy, another major change might happen in place.

Finally, shoutout to Sammi, for providing quite a bit of guidance and advice for how this book could go.

## Chapter I (Lunar's POV): Security Breach

It was a normal day at the lab. Lots of people were still visiting and learning all sorts of new things. I was polishing my Super Merge weapon for future use in case something else ever happens. I think it was cool that each one of my friends has something that they like to use in combat. There's a real personality. I kept thinking about Solar and what she has gone through before I was able to enter this world. There were still so many questions I wanted to ask. I had no time to think about it though; I had to meet up with the team for a meeting. I made my way to Max's office where everyone was there waiting for me.

"Ah there you are. It's about time," said Max.

"Sorry, I was working on improving my weapon," I said.

"No big deal, we aren't in a rush. You look great today by the way," said Solar.

"Oh, thanks, I was also improving my systems," I said.

"Alright let's get down to business. As we all know, the lab is doing better than ever before. People from all over the globe are coming down to visit," said Max.

"That's pretty exciting," said Dylan.

"It sure is. But that means we will probably have to change some things to accommodate all this attention. Not all of it is positive," said Max.

"What do you mean by that?" I asked.

"Orion, show everyone the latest reports," said Max.

"Sure thing," he said.

Orion opened up a chart full of data that it seemed like he collected.

"Well based on this chart, break in attempts have been higher than ever, no doubt because of the new technology and awareness people are getting. So we have to be on our highest alert," he said.

"That's right, and because of this, I'll be showing you guys the newest security system Solar and I worked on," said Max.

A video started playing on the big screen showcasing what the new lab was made of. The security features only activate if someone tries to break in past the science center part of the lab, as that was where most of the important technology was being held. A dummy was shown entering through the doors and testing all of the security. It was met with new and improved robot guards with weapons fueled by Solar's energy. Along with them were drones with sleeping darts released, tripwires, electronic cages, and much more. It looked almost impossible to breach.

"Of course if none of that works, we have Little Buddy ready to be released," said Eli.

"Yeah, assuming they first get past me at the doors," said Orion.

"It's all very good work, so I just wanted to show everyone what we have, and to look out for any intruders in the coming weeks. Seeing as the lab is now closed, feel free to go home you guys," said Max.

Everyone went home except Solar and I, since we lived at the lab.

"The whole thing looks great Max. I'm glad you guys built this," I said.

"Aw thanks. You know we didn't add all the features we wanted to. We saved a spot for you to add your own. Whatever your AI heart desires," said Solar.

“Really? Sounds great. I will after I just rest. I’m tired,” I said.

I walked with Solar back to my room before she went on her own. I had a whole night of thinking of the last security feature for the lab. Problem was most of the good stuff was taken. I could’ve made a bunch of killer robots with the Super Merge. Now that would be cool. It took a while but I was able to start planning something at my desk. I guess I was lucky to not need sleep or else I would be crashing now. Despite this, I still chose to lay down on my bed and get some sleep.

I woke up to the sound of a blaring alarm inside the lab. At first I had no clue what was happening, but then realized Max’s new security system went off and someone was breaking in. I got up and ran towards the main room that was being secured. Max’s personal office was also in this secure area. After I got there, a bright flash and small explosion happened, leaving me knocked out on the ground for a bit. When I woke up, Max, Solar, and Orion were there ready to greet me.

“Are you ok Lunar?” asked Solar.

“I’m fine, but I don’t know who was here just now.

Max opened a locked door with his keycard and let us inside. It looked like the intruder made a mess of the security system. There were robots and drones damaged and beat up, and not a single tripwire or cage activated.

“It can’t be... they got past all of this somehow!!” said Max.

We slowly investigated the room for more hints on who our culprit could be. The one thing I noticed was that they didn’t touch any technology, not until the very last room at least. It was the room with the rifting portal I came through. We busted in and saw that it was activated.

“What the... this person used the rift portal,” said Solar.

“He did, and he took it to some timeline in the past, but not as far back as we once were in,” said Max.

“When does it lead to?” I asked.

“150 years from the original timeline you’ve lived your life in. Which is really odd,” said Max.

“Well what can we do now?” asked Orion.

“Only one thing we can do. You guys are going to have to chase after him,” said Max.

“But what about the security?” asked Orion.

“Don’t worry about the lab, I’m gonna fix up the systems. Something tells me this isn’t just some random intruder from the city,” said Max, “As for you two kids, I know it’s a little sudden, but are you guys up to the task. I noticed you guys have been pretty bored,”

“I’m down and up for anything. Let me at this guy,” said Solar passionately.

“Another adventure won’t hurt,” I said.

“Perfect! I’ll stabilize the rift to ensure safe travels. In the meantime, you three can go pack up whatever you need. I’ll also give you a frame to let you guys return whenever you need to,” said Max.

“Awesome! Alright I’ll be in my room packing up,” said Solar.

With that, Solar and Orion took off to pack their respective belongings. I noticed Max looked a little tired.

“Are you doing alright Max?” I asked.

“Me? Never better, haha. Well not fully. Ever since the lab became an attraction and innovation center... well it’s been a lot for my back. Literally and mentally,” he said.

“Yeah I know what you mean. You’re doing great though! The whole world is in your debt for your energy sources,” I said.

“I know it’s all great. I just wish I had more of a break. After this situation is resolved, I’m booking a trip to a resort. I could really use it. But don’t worry so much Lunar. I’m sure you will be great as well,” said Max.

“Oh yeah you do need that break I know. I’ll go get my things ready too,” I said. I turned and went back to my room. What did he mean by I will be great too?

“Have fun out there!” he yelled at me.

“For sure!” I replied.

## **Chapter II (Lunar’s POV): Velocity Ville’s Future**

I met up with Solar and Orion at the crime scene. Max was able to clean up most of the mess, but the room was still in rough condition. I was so confused on who this person was, and why they used the rift portal.

“Alright, are you guys ready to do this thing?” asked Solar.

“Haha, ready as I’ll ever be,” I said.

“I’m new to this rifting stuff. Don’t get me killed out there,” said Orion.

“Don’t worry! You’ll be in good hands,” said Solar.

Orion seemed convinced by this and was feeling confident again. I had to be confident. Max was counting on us to stop this intruder. Without waiting any longer, we jumped into the rift together. It was a weird feeling, but nothing I wasn’t used to. We ended out on the other side soon enough. Max sure did a good job at sending us to a safe location. The output portal placed us inside a forest covered by trees, but close enough to the nearest sign of civilization.

“Woah, so this is what it’s like going in the past,” said Solar.

“Yeah, tell me about it,” I said.

“What is this place anyways, I never studied history in school,” said Orion.

I started scanning the nearby town to see if I could find some clues. For some reason, it looked awfully familiar. There were roads and buildings that looked like places I’ve been to before. Finally, I saw something that made me sure I knew where we were. It was the same exact factory Mojang used to create their robots. The same one I fought Evil Lunar in.

“Guys, we are in Velocity Ville,” I said.

“Hm? What’s that all about?” asked Solar.

“The time I lived my life in, it was a city where my friends and I visited for an event hosted by Mojang. Things were interrupted and I had to stop my clone, but everything worked in the end,” I said.

“Huh, so would the building over there be Mojang by chance?” Orion pointed to another much larger building.

I analyzed it for a second. It was the same location as the Mojang I knew, except it looked completely different. It was way larger, and it looked like it was working on so many more projects than ever before.

“That’s funny, they really expanded the place up,” I said.

“Well whatever is going on there, the intruder made his way there. I picked up a trail from samples I collected back at the lab,” said Solar.

“Alright then, let’s move,” I said.

I grabbed the rift portal and stored it inside my systems for whenever we needed to use for future use. The town looked more modern than in the past, but the world Max lived in was way more futuristic. Despite all that, the world seemed to be in ok hands. There were no signs of mass pollution yet, and energy seemed relatively stable in this world. I was glad to notice that O-Rez was completely gone in this timeline. The building was replaced by another more reputable car company. The trail Solar took us on led us right to the entrance of the new Mojang building. It was way more impressive up close. Everything looked so modern. It looked like it was a public building now, so we decided to walk right in. I could fully see what this place was now. Mojang decided to make their headquarters a museum and show off all their accomplishments.

“Wow, this looks amazing,” said Orion.

“It sure is. I can’t believe they changed the place so much,” I said.

We continued walking around until I saw something that made my jaw drop. I thought I was dreaming at first. There was a plaque with a picture of my friends and I when we stopped Evil Lunar and his plans, taken right outside the Mojang factory. I almost forgot we had a group picture. I looked at the plaque closer and it was recognizing us for saving that world that day. It seemed that people only knew about the rogue robots, and had 0 clue about the rift that would’ve destroyed the world.

“This is amazing! People actually know me for this. I wish the others knew about it,” I said.

“So this was your adventure before you met us?” asked Solar.

“It was. This was before we found your USB. It was one heck of an adventure. There are some faces you guys might recognize here,” I said.

“Yeah I remember Sammi and Aidan for sure!” said Solar.

“Huh, that tough one looks cool. Reminds me of me,” said Orion.

“Oh him? Yeah that’s Finley. We used to be enemies, but that was in the past. He is a tough guy,” I said.

I kept examining the plaque wondering what Ruby would’ve thought of this place. Someone in the building came up to greet us.

“I see you’re looking at our memory plaque. We were told there was so much chaos on that day,” the person said.

“Oh I do agree,” I said.

I couldn’t say that I was the person who was there. Not now at least.

“What brings you guys here today?” they continued.

“We came here looking for an individual. We tracked them here but we don’t know where inside this place they could be,” said Solar.

“Hm, I can try to help you guys but I don’t know if I know this person. I’m an innovator here. My name’s Oona by the way,” she said.

“Oh! Well nice to meet you. I’m Solar, and that’s Lunar. Oh and that is Orion,” said Solar.

“Sup,” said Orion.

“Oh well nice to meet you guys too! I have an office here and there I can try to help you guys find this person. Just follow me,” said Oona.

She started walking inside the building more and we followed.

“You think she’ll be able to help us out?” asked Orion.

“No clue now, but she seems nice. No harm going with her. Especially since I don’t know this area now that it’s in the future,” I said.

“Alright well, if anything happens, I’ll be there to shut it down,” said Orion.

“Yes we know, tough guy,” said Solar.

The place sure has grown since I saw it. There were exhibits everywhere and demonstrations going on. Everything looked so cool. I had to contain my excitement until we reached Oona’s office first. It would freak people out if I told them I was rift traveling through time. Eventually we made it to what seemed like a staff only zone. Of course Oona let us in and we made it to her office.

“Well it’s not much but it’s honest work. I do all my work here,” she said.

“This is so cool. It’s better organized than my room at the lab,” said Solar.

“Oh! Well where do you guys come from?” she asked.

No one knew what to say, so I decided to break the ice.

“Hey uh, so how freaked out would you be if I said that I was the guy from that plaque?” I asked.

### **Chapter III (Lunar’s POV): Mojang’s Metaverse**

“I’m sorry, what did you say?” asked Oona.

“Oh, well basically, we used a rift to enter this timeline. We’re actually from the future. 150 years from this date to be precise,” I said.

Oona looked confused. I don’t think she believed me yet.

“So you’re telling me that you’re Lunar,” she said.

“Yeah exactly! Oh come on, did I age or something since that photo. I can prove it right here and right now,” I said.

I took out my Super Merge and tried to find 2 things that I could use. I settled for the classic lamp and picture combo and made a cooler looking lamp. Oona was shocked.

“There’s no way. History said you were the only owner of the Super Merge. So it is you!” she said.

“Thought it would be cool to show off. Solar’s my sister. We’re both AI, and Orion is the lab’s security guard,” I said.

“Wow, it’s an honor to really meet you guys. I have so many questions from that day. They spoke about it like the world was going to end,” said Oona.

“Yeah, because it might’ve ended if I didn’t stop the robots. What kind of questions?” I asked.

“Oh tons of things. Like the people who were there that day and how intense it was. Ruby was there too, right?” she asked.

“Yeah she was. She helped us through the crisis. How come you ask?” I asked.

“I heard she was the best manager Mojang ever had. We had a plaque in her honor when she left and got replaced. I will never know what it’s like to work alongside her but she still inspires me to this day. You’re so Lucky Lunar,” said Oona.

“Oh I see. I agree, it was nice working with her,” I said.

“Yeah, well you can tell more about yourselves later. I know you guys are on a mission. So you said someone you’re following came into here correct?” she asked.

“Yeah exactly. I’m looking at my device and it says they’re in this building somewhere, but I can’t detect any more specific trails,” said Solar.

“Hm, a lot of people come in on a daily basis. I can try to check the files and see if anything happened,” said Oona.

She went on her computer and got to work. Soon enough, we got an answer.

“I think the cameras picked up something. Someone walked in looking for help, but then some of my team members took them to our Metaverse testing room to have them use the software. I’m not sure if this is the person you are looking for,” said Oona.

Solar walked up to the computer and ran some identification tests.

“Well, by some miracle the trail from the recording matches the same one I have. This is probably our guy,” said Solar.

“That’s perfect,” said Orion.

“Well I know where the Metaverse testing rooms are, but I’m not sure if they’ll let you guys use it. I can try to get you guys in though,” said Oona.

“That’s appreciated. Thank you. What is the Metaverse though?” I asked.

“Oh well all sorts of companies have tried to create their own digital world, but Mojang decided to make their own. It was a 10 year project but we finally got to the testing phase. People would connect online through virtual reality and interact with one another,” said Oona.

“That sounds sick. Is there Minecraft involved too?” asked Solar.

“Right, about that. We wanted to make some sort of connection between the Metaverse and our game, but when Ruby was manager, she implemented a policy that banned anyone in this company from ever going into the files and using them for something else,” said Oona.

That statement shocked me. It meant she left the company to never harm anyone from the AI world. That relieved me so much.

“I think I know why she did that. She didn’t want to further harm the AI world in that game,” I said.

“Hm? What are you talking about?” asked Oona.

“The game has a secret world full of AI. The people there live happily and peacefully for the most part. We had to deal with it and she revealed that the company was extracting data from it. We weren’t super happy about it, but she promised to never do it ever again,” I said.

“Oh wow, I never knew that was a thing. We weren’t ever told the story about that world,” said Oona.

“Yeah well, it can be a story for the future one day,” I said.

“I can try to take you guys to the area where we do the testing but I’m not sure if they’ll let you guys use it. We can try though,” said Oona.

We followed her out of her office and deeper into the staff only zone of the Mojang building. There are more serious changes here than I thought. Everything looked like it was being done purely for research. We made it to a huge room with people inside. It must be the testing room Oona was talking about.

“Well just like I thought, there aren’t any more visors ready for use by anyone else. I don’t suppose you guys have any solutions?” said Oona.

I thought about it for a bit, then came up with an idea. The rifts allow us to travel through timelines, but it has also proven to let us go through virtual worlds. It was a crazy idea, but one I had to test out regardless.

“Hey Oona, I think the rifts we used might let us enter this Metaverse. It worked with an online world before, so as long as it’s a world it might work. Do you have the main system where the Metaverse is being hosted?” I asked.

“Oh yeah I do. Give me a sec,” she said.

“Lunar this is a crazy idea, but I’m starting to like it,” said Solar.

“Trust me, it’s the only option we have right now,” I said.

“Whatever happens, just make sure I get out alive,” said Orion.

“That’s supposed to be your job for us haha,” said Solar.

Oona returned with a bunch of wires.

“Here! These connect to our main machine,” said Oona.

“Perfect, thanks so much,” I said.

We got to work on constructing a portal frame that could allow us to enter this Metaverse without the need of a visor. It was tricky at first, but I was able to connect the wires into the portal frame without causing an accident. When it was time to turn on the rift, nothing went wrong. It opened up like normal.

“So guys, what do you think?” I asked.

“It looks amazing! I’m proud of you brother,” said Solar.

“Looks fine. I’ll have to get used to rifting again,” said Orion.

“This is so cool! And I thought technology was advanced in this world,” said Oona.

“Well, if that guy is in the Metaverse right now, we’ll need to get to him with this. Is that ok Oona?” I asked.

“It should be. Even with this rift thing I’ll be able to monitor your statuses through the computer. The Metaverse keeps tabs on everyone inside,” said Oona.

“Alright then, I think we can make it our way inside then. Ready guys?” I asked.

“You know the answer, Lunar,” said Solar.

The three of us got ready to jump in again. It looked scary at first, but we did make it to another side. Surprisingly, it worked. We entered a fully digital world without a visor. There was no sky, it was just pixels and other modern looking colors. It looked like a network. Everyone inside was being represented by a player model. I looked at Solar and Orion and noticed that we also had a player model made for us based on how we looked in real life. The only difference was that we could physically feel things.

“So guys, how do we all feel?” I asked.

“I feel just fine. We all look so cool!” said Solar.

“Are you kidding? I look awful,” said Orion.

“Oh come on Orion, you look just fine,” I said, “So Solar, any trails?”



She looked at her device.

“Yeah, yeah we got something! This way guys!” she said.

Solar took us and left Orion and I to chase after her. Something tells me we’re gonna have a fun time here.

## **Chapter IV (Solar’s POV): Solar’s Memories**

The device was tracking a huge trail leading to somewhere so far away. It was going to be a long while before we reached this mysterious person. They must have been traveling for at least an hour at this rate. These adventures were fun but tiring at the same time, but I’m glad to spend time with Lunar and the other people in my life.

“I’m so tired. Solar, are we there yet?” asked Orion.

“Not yet Orion old buddy. There’s still plenty of time before we reach this person. I mean look around you. There’s tons to enjoy in this world,” I said.

“Like what. All I see is a bunch of pixels,” he said.

“Oh come on. There’s a bunch of people just like us here. Doing all sorts of cool things I imagine,” I said.

“Alright fine, I can try giving it a chance,” said Orion.

“Proud of you,” said Lunar.

The world looked so fascinating. It makes me wonder how come we don’t have anything like this in the world I come from. People would have a blast here. We kept walking but stopped once we encountered some large main building. It looked like official business.

“Huh, wonder what this is,” said Lunar.

“I’m not sure. We should go check it out. We got time,” I said.

We all walked inside to see what the deal was. It looked kinda important almost too. There were a bunch of other people inside here with us. This looked like the place people go for online games with others and trading.

“Wow, so this is how we gambled back then. Feels weird saying that,” said Lunar.

“I like the vibe of this place. Super cool,” I said.

We kept walking forward until I accidentally bumped into someone. This wasn’t any normal player model. They looked different, and were larger than the rest.

“Oops! Sorry about that, I didn’t see you,” I said.

The stranger turned around and saw us.

“Oh no worries, I was distracted by something. I’ve never seen you three before.

What brings you guys to the terminal?” they asked.

“Oh we don’t know this place. We are new to this whole Metaverse thing,” I said.

“Ah the newbies. Well, allow me to introduce this place and myself. I’m Dimentio, an Admin created by Mojang to supervise and keep order in the Metaverse. And this place is the terminal. The main place where people meet up to play games and do business together,” he said.

“Woah, that sounds pretty cool. It’s nice to meet you. This is my brother Lunar and our friend Orion. We are here to look for someone that invaded our lab back at home,” I said.

“It’s always nice to meet new people on the Metaverse. I was designed to be as helpful as I could to others. So about this person you are trying to get to?” he asked.

“Oh right, well here I have a device that has a trail on them. I’m not sure if you know where they are located based on this,” I said.

“Hm, well I can take a look. How did you guys bring this into the Metaverse? It’s a physical object from Earth,” said Dimentio.

“Oh that’s right. We came in here with a rift portal. A scientist helped us. Her name was Oona,” said Lunar.

“Innovator Oona? She is one of the best here at Mojang! Now let me see if I can help you guys out,” he said.

Dimentio floated upwards and opened a whole screen of technology for himself. I guessed that as an admin he had the power to do anything in this world.

“Ah, I see now,” he said.

“Got anything for us?” asked Orion.

“Yes, here. I tracked the coordinates of this person. Their model appears right here as you can see. I can send a teleport at nearby coordinates as I can’t put you guys right next to them,” said Dimentio.

“Oh my god. That would help us so much,” I said.

“Yes, no worries. Anything for visitors of the Metaverse,” he said.

“Alright then, let’s move out!” said Lunar.

Dimentio seemed to be typing in commands. Soon, we were out of the terminal and into an isolated area of the Metaverse. There were no signs of life here really. It was like the outskirts of real life cities.

“Over there!” said Lunar.

She pointed in a direction and we saw a person standing. They saw us too and made a run for it. The three of us began our chase after them. We needed to know why they broke into our lab. The person brought us deeper into the outskirts. I tried firing a blast at them but they were pretty good at dodging. It must be how they bypassed all of the security back at the lab. Still, we were slowly closing in on them. Just when I thought we had them, they fell into a small crack in the ground that led to somewhere else. We caught up and decided to catch our breaths.

“That guy is pretty fast for someone using a visor,” said Lunar.

“Where did he even go anyways?” asked Orion.

Lunar decided to inspect the crack they went through. I was busy focusing on something else. There was a trinket on the ground, but I remember it clearly from the past. When the people kept chasing after me. My thoughts were interrupted by Lunar.

“Guys, I think this crack goes into the Minecraft world I keep telling you guys about. It’s crazy but, I think they didn’t patch it out when they were making this. We can try to enter,” said Lunar.

I couldn’t focus on what he said. My mind was still blank.

“Solar, are you ok?” asked Lunar.

I still couldn’t respond. Eventually, Lunar waved a hand in front of me.

“What? Oh sorry Lunar. I’m currently looking at something... it’s freaking me out,” I said.

“What? What are you talking about?” he asked.

I showed him a small trinket in my hand. He took a closer look and noticed the Novafuel Industries logo.

“How did that get here?” he asked.

“It’s not just any old trinket. It belonged to the people who were hunting me down,” I said.

“You mean, when you were living on the edge?” he asked.

“Yes, exactly. Orion, do you recognize this at all?” I asked.

“I do. Mr. Grizz did use that to keep track of all the mercenaries after you. When you guys took him out I heard they disbanded and did their own thing. But if this is here, it means that person has some connection to one of them,” he said.

“It’s a long story, but I remember it like it was yesterday,” I said.

The lab incident happened right after I was built. I couldn't do anything at the time but I saw the chaos ensue. It was just as bad as I remembered it. I was able to get out somehow. Almost immediately they noticed I was gone, and soon after, there were patrols of Nova Fuel assassin's after me. Each corner I turned there were people trying to kill me. One of them stood out to me. He was the most aggressive of them all, and let alone dedicated. I was able to make my own weapons and energy with the little amount of sunlight I absorbed before the steam rolled in. Our encounters gave us scars and wounds each time, and everytime it would end in one of us retreating. I knew this couldn't keep on, so I built a little base, the same one Lunar and his friends got trapped in. After that day, I was safe. With my family and friends with me, I wasn't being chased anymore. I used that opportunity to stop Mr. Grizz and his gang once and for all. The plan worked out in the end. I haven't seen any of the assassins ever since, and I hoped I wouldn't have to see any reminder of them anymore.

“Wow, that’s a lot to take in. I’m glad we came in time,” said Lunar.

“Yeah, I didn’t realize it was like that for you. I was never directly in the front lines,” said Orion.

“It’s ok guys. I’m just glad that it is mostly over. But it means we have to be careful about the person we are dealing with here. Anyways, Lunar, you said you know where to take us?” I asked.

“I sure do. There’ll probably be a few friends that I can call,” he said.

## **Chapter V (Lunar’s POV): Name’s Rocco**

“This little crack here will take us into that world. I’m not sure how the transition will work but I’m sure it’ll be ok. Solar and I have rifted into it before,” I said.

“Whatever you say fancy boy,” said Orion.

I opened the hole for us to jump in. We all went in at the same time. I was hoping this wouldn't break anything from the system. I woke up on some flat grass. Just like I expected, we changed player models to fit the game again.

“One day I will have to investigate how this world lets us travel so harmlessly,” I said.

“Wow, back in here again. How are you doing Orion?” asked Solar.

“Ugh. This place feels weird. And why is everything a square?!” he asked.

“Don’t worry buddy. You’ll get used to it. I called an old friend to help guide us,” I said.

We waited for a while, but I knew she was coming. Someone tried to jump scare me, but I knew who it was.

“Very funny, Alex,” I said.

“Oh come on, it worked last time,” she said.

“Good to see you again. I heard you already met my sister from a previous adventure,” I said.

“Oh yeah I remember you too! It was a scary trip,” said Alex.

“Alex! So happy to see you again,” said Solar.

“Same here! Who is the big guy, doesn’t look like Finley,” asked Alex.

“Oh that’s Orion. He’s here to guard us,” I said.

“Charmed to meet you,” he said.

“Well it’s nice to see some old and new faces. So what are you guys up to?” asked Alex.

“Well we need to chase after someone. They broke into the lab back at home, and now they escaped here out of all places,” I said.

“I still have a general trail on my device, but I don’t know how to translate it to this Minecraft world,” said Solar.

She gave Alex the tablet to have her look at it.

“Ah, I see. Don’t worry guys, I can translate this for us,” she said.

“Thanks so much,” I said.

She took a good look at the tablet.

“I think I know where this will lead us. Follow me,” said Alex.

We started our chase officially in the Minecraft world. It’s so weird being here mainly for quests and stuff. I should really come back from time to time for normal playing. I wish I could just type a teleport command, but with the rift I had no access to commands or cheats. The terrain so far wasn’t too hard to walk around. It was normal biomes and nothing too crazy yet.

“I didn’t know you got an Allay Alex,” I said.

“Oh yeah I found him one day. He helped us get powerfiles for Solar here. I still haven’t gotten a name for him yet,” she said.

“Well he’s pretty darn cute if I do say so myself,” said Solar.

I started recognizing the area we were entering. It’s been a long time but I knew where we were. It was the town where we first met Axol.

“Well as much as a surprise this is the trail on this device you got leads us right towards Axol’s bar. Perhaps he’s seen this individual,” said Alex.

We walked right in. I was glad to see everything here was normal again. People looked like they were having fun unlike last time. We spotted Axol at a table with Kailani, another friend I haven’t seen for a long time.

“Heyyy, what’s up guys,” I said.

“Oh my god Lunar? I haven’t seen you for ages,” said Axol.

“It’s been a long time AI boy,” said Kailani.

“Haha, good to see you guys again as well. So much has happened since then,” I said.

“I can tell, who are your new friends?” asked Kailani.

“Oh well this is Solar, who is my sister. And that guy is Orion. Our security guard at the lab we were made in,” I said.

“Charmed,” said Orion.

“I didn’t know you had more friends in this world Lunar. Well it’s super cool meeting you guys!” said Solar.

“Lunar’s a great guy. Saved our world a few times now. I’m the owner of this bar here,” said Axol.

“I’m Kailani. Got these 2 powerful tridents noone has ever seen before,” she said, “Ah Alex, nice to see you as well,”

“It’s good to be here. I was taking a long break at home,” said Alex.

“What brings you all here anyways?” asked Axol.

“Well, we came here through a rift to chase after an intruder that broke into our lab at home. Solar’s device brought us here but now the trail just ends. We were wondering if you saw anyone in particular walk in,” I said.

“Hm, now that you mention it, I did see someone walk in that I’ve never seen before in town. He looked distressed and tired. So I offered him a drink. I think the cameras here caught the recording,” said Axol.

He walked behind the counter and grabbed a camera and showed us the footage.

“Does this look like your guy?” he asked.

I took a close look. It was hard to tell because of the transition from the Metaverse to the Minecraft world, but the 2 models look similar enough.

“Holy shrimp paste. This is the guy. Where did he go?” I asked.

“I honestly couldn’t tell you exactly where. But I had a feeling this guy wasn’t from here, so I had a tracker on him. Here are his coords,” said Axol.

I read them out loud.

“Wow, that’s far away,” I said.

“Well we have to go then right? But we don’t know how dangerous this place could be,” said Solar.

At this moment, someone from behind joined our conversation.

“Sorry to interrupt your conversation, but I couldn’t help but notice those exact coordinates you just said,” they said.

“The coordinates? Do you know what’s at those coordinates?” I asked.

“I remember it like it was yesterday. Hm, wait a second. I recognize you. You took down Zero didn’t you,” they said.

“Why yes I did! And who are you?” I asked.

“Name’s Rocco. Been living here for a while now. I’m sure Axol has seen me from time to time here,” he said.

“You are a pretty frequent customer,” said Axol.

“If I remember correctly, you killed Hopper during the whole Zero mess didn’t you?” asked Rocco.

That brought me back to the battle. I still felt guilty about doing so, but it was the only way to get rid of him.

“Yes... I was the one who killed him. But I swear I tried everything I could,” I said.

“No, it’s ok You did what you had to. Hopper would’ve been ok with it,” said Rocco.

“Do you know Hopper?” asked Axol.

“Do I know him? Little do you guys know I was his brother,” said Rocco.

That shocked everyone in the room. I didn’t know Hopper had a family. I just remembered he had a nice house when I was in his mind.

“Oh my god. I’m so sorry,” I said.

“Don’t worry about it. Winning requires sacrifice sometimes. I’m sure he was more than happy to die with honor. Anyways, I do recognize those coordinates. Those are exactly at the house we used to live in. When Zero came in and looked for a right hand man to corrupt, he picked Hopper because at the time, he was the strongest known AI in this world. I had to abandon the house soon after, and ended up retreating here,” said Rocco.

“I didn’t know all that about him. He sounds like a great guy,” I said.

“Oh yes. He sure was. I’ll never forget him,” said Rocco.

“Lunar you have to tell me this story later on. It sounds so interesting,” said Solar.

“Of course I will,” I said.

“So if you guys are going to head out to chase after this mysterious person, I’ll offer to guide you there myself, since it leads to my old house. Promise,” he said.

I thought about it for a while. We did just meet this man, but no one else in the group has ever been to those coordinates.

“Alright Rocco, welcome to the party!” I said.

“Glad to hear it. So when do we go?” he asked.

“Well I think everyone is ready, unless you guys want to join,” I said.

“I’m down for more adventures! What about you Axol,” asked Kailani.

“Uhh, I have to stay here to monitor the bar. That and I was planning to meet Finley later on today,” he said.

“Oh I see how it is. Lame! Have fun you two haha,” said Kailani.

“Well I guess this is everyone. We can go now. Where did you build your base anyways?” I asked.

“You guys are going to love this. It’s ten thousand blocks across the great sea,” said Rocco.

## **Chapter VI (Lunar’s POV): Hopper’s Story**

If I knew we were going to be taking a long trip across the ocean again I would’ve called Via or Augie to help. I hate to say it but Rocco’s ship isn’t that good. We all barely fit on it.

“Have you ever considered upgrading your boat?” asked Orion.

“Oh no need! She’s a beauty,” said Rocco.

“Ugh, I’d rather jump off,” said Kailani.

To my surprise, Kailani actually jumped off the ship. I went to the edge to see where she went, but then realized she was helping the boat move faster. Her tridents sure were powerful.

“Thanks Kailani!” said Alex.

“Oh yeah don’t worry about it,” she said.

“Hmph, I think we would’ve been just fine,” said Rocco.

We were moving at a way faster pace after her boost. It only took about 20 more minutes to get to land again. We had a quick lunch break while we were waiting. The dock looked like it hasn’t been touched in years.

“Oh yeah, it’s been a super long time since I’ve been here,” said Rocco.

“How come you never decided to go back?” I asked.

“Brings too many bad memories back. I liked living in my new town anyways,” he replied.

Rocco was able to dock the ship, and everyone got off. He led us past a bunch of forests and biomes to get us to his home. I was pretty excited to see what it looked like. I never really had a chance to know what Hopper was like. To my surprise, there were tons of signs of activity here despite nobody living here. We climbed the last hill, and something weird was there. It was a whole new building right at the coordinates.

“What the hell happened here? Where did my home go!?” said Rocco.

“I’m not sure. This place looks like it’s a prison,” said Solar.

“There’s people outside the place. Maybe we could ask them what’s this about,” said Alex.

We walked up to the two guards at the front gate. They looked like they meant business.

“Hey, buffoons. What’s the big deal with my house?!” asked Rocco.

“What, the prison? We were instructed to build a prison here. It’s been here for some time now,” one of them said.

“We are merely creations of the Admin. Anyone sent to this place by him is instructed to be imprisoned,” the other one said.

“Listen, I don’t know who this Admin is, but I want my home back. So either give it back or fight me,” said Rocco.

“Rocco, I think we should think of something else,” I said.

It was too late, the guards already went in to attack. Rocco was able to keep them at bay, but more were coming.

“Alright guys, let’s show them how we deal with bad guys,” I said.

“Oh yeah, it’s time,” said Solar.

These guards were easier to fight off than I thought. I didn’t want to kill them at first since they were people like us, but then I realized that these were really just robot AIs and had no meaning. After that, killing them was a lot easier. Soon enough, we finished off the ones that came to us. Rocco broke down the door and told us to follow him.

“Stupid guards. This is MY territory. It’ll take more than them to stop me,” he said.

“Pretty brave of you. I don’t know who this Admin person is either,” said Alex.

I remember that we met an Admin back in the Metaverse. I thought that Ruby barred this world from coming into contact with that world though. But the guards here are proof that somehow they got access to it.

“Actually, Solar, Orion and I were in another digital world before we came into this one. It’s another timeline, one where Mojang created a Metaverse. There was a hidden gap that led to this world, and that’s how that Admin found out. We actually met him and he’s a nice guy,” I said.

“Well I don’t know how nice he is for destroying my home. I’m getting my revenge after we find this guy you’re looking for,” said Rocco.

“He had all the abilities in the digital world. He was probably able to code his own bots when he got access to this one. But I don’t know how or why he would do that,” said Solar.

“Well either way we should hurry up before more guards come. I know a secret basement in the house that no one should know about,” said Rocco.

We walked down a lot of steps. I was fascinated by the architecture and work he put into his home. Hopper must’ve been a creative person. Once we reached the bottom, Rocco opened a lock combination of levers on the wall and opened a piston door.

“There we go. Still got it in me,” he said.

This room looked like their former treasure room.

“Now this is where we would plan all our quests together. It’s nothing too special but it’s home and family,” he said.

We all looked around the room. These guys had a ton of trophies on display. There were sponges, nether stars, and more. There was also a table with a book on it.

“Hey Rocco, what’s inside this book?” I asked.

“What? It was Hopper’s quest log. Whenever we completed something, or he wanted to share his thoughts, he would write in there. The last time he wrote was the day before he was taken,” said Rocco.

“May I?” I asked.

“Go for it,” he said.

I turned to the most recent log to see what was in there.

*Dear Quest Log. It was a huge W for Rocco and I today. We were able to tackle a 7 wave raid and saved tons of lives. The Chief thanked us and rewarded us with even more jewels that I could ever hope for. On other news, our house was expanded today to have a 3rd floor. I’m not sure what we want to use it for, but it’s got plenty of space to house people if we ever want to grow our party. All these adventures have gotten me tired. Sometimes I wish crazy events didn’t happen as often. And sometimes I wish I wasn’t always seen as a hero. Rocco looks up to me because I kick the most ass, but little does he know he’s great too, just has a temper sometimes. I feel like I won’t be getting the rest I want. Today there were more killer bots on the loose out to get people. We avoided them but, I fear they will be multiplying and closing in on us soon. I don’t know who is behind this yet, only that there’s one person who has their control. I’m going to go out one day alone and take on this beast myself. It needs to be done to save the people in this world. After that, it’ll be vacation time for the two of us. I wish he knew how cool he is.*

I noticed Rocco was also reading with me, and he seemed sad. I didn’t know Hopper was so passionate for the people of this world. He really was a hero in his prime time. Now I regret



killing him even more. Some of what he said was relatable at times. This hero stuff is getting old for me.

“He was my best friend as well. I didn’t know he thought of us as equals. I thought he was always the stronger one. But it’s nice to know he recognizes me,” said Rocco.

“I’m sorry again,” I said.

“No, don’t be. He always wanted to go out in a heroic way. I feared it would happen but I’m happy he got his wish,” he said.

Solar made a small announcement to everyone.

“Guys, I’m tracking more guards coming to the prison. We got to find the intruder and get out,” she said.

“Alright then. Hopper said the third floor was pretty spacious. The cells must be there,” I said.

We followed Rocco up to the third floor of the building. Minus the prison renovations, their house really is cool. I should learn how to build better as well. When we reached the top floor, I was right. There were about 4 prison cells lined up. We walked up to the first one with a person and saw someone. It was the person we were after.

“Alright you, time to explain yourself,” said Solar.

They didn’t say anything at first, but then suddenly disconnected.

“Rats! I forgot they’re using a visor. We need to rift out of here at once,” I said.

“Agreed, but first I think we can help out Rocco,” said Alex.

“Help me in what way?” he asked.

“Well duh. We’re going to restore this place back into the home you know,” said Kailani.

“Really? You guys would do that for me?” he asked.

“Of course we will! Always happy to help a friend,” said Solar.

“Aw, thanks so much,” he said.

We were about to leave the cell rooms when I noticed there was a cell in the very back covered in slime. I broke it apart and saw someone in there locked up tight.

## **Chapter VII (Lunar’s POV): Prisoner X**

“Guys! There’s someone else in here,” I said.

Everyone came back and took a look.

“Uh, Rocco, do you know this person?” asked Kailani.

“I don’t, I’ve never met this person before,” he said.

Suddenly, the person woke up and saw us, and tried jumping towards us. We were safe since she was behind a cell door, but we still got into battle positions.

“AHA, people finally,” they said.

“Woah back up buddy. Who are you,” said Rocco.

“That’s not something you need to know,” she continued.

“Just calm down and we can help you out,” said Solar.

She didn’t say anything for a bit.

“Listen, just let us know who you are, and then maybe we’ll consider letting you out,” I said.

They thought about it for a bit, and then gave us an answer.

“Xara,” she said.

“Well it’s very nice to meet you Xara,” said Alex.

“I wish I could say the same,” she replied.

I grabbed my pickaxe and destroyed the obsidian trapping her in. The second she stepped on, I heard a redstone configuration happen. I looked from a window and saw more robots coming in.

“They know I’m out. We have to get out of here now,” she said.

She ran out the door and we swiftly followed. By the time we made it out, there were more guards waiting for us.

“Prisoner X escaped. Activate lethal procedures!” one of them said.

I didn’t know what that meant, but then every single one of them were equipped with bows. And not just normal bows. They were rapidly firing arrows like crazy. We all hid behind cover to try to think of a plan.

“Are you hated or something?” asked Orion.

“Look big guy. We either die or live so listen up. They are only going to go for me now. So I need cover when we leave this wall,” said Xara.

“And in return?” asked Rocco.

“Heh, in return you guys get out as well,” she said.

I didn’t know if we could trust this person, but we needed to get out either way. We all got out shields and safely brought Xara out of the prison and past the bots. Rocco opened another secret underground tunnel and brought us in safely. Everyone sat down to take a break.

“So, Xara, what were you doing in there?” I asked.

She was silent for a bit.

“You there?” I asked again.

She finally looked up to give me an answer.

“I’m not a player. I shouldn’t be here. Dimentio locked me up in there,” she said.

“Dimentio? Like the admin?” asked Solar.

“Yes, and it looks like you guys know who he is. Listen I don’t know what he told you but that man is no good,” said Xara.

“What are you talking about?” asked Alex.

Xara hesitated again.

“Believe me or don’t. There isn’t one admin in the Metaverse. If he said there was only one he’s wrong. They made the Metaverse with 2 admins. I’m the second one,” she said. That was a lot to take in. I didn’t know if she was lying or not.

“And do you have proof?” asked Solar.

“I don’t have anything. All I have is my experience. That prison over there was built by him. He was trying to find a place to imprison me and one day he got access to this game and built a prison over some old house,” she continued.

“Yeah, looks like he built over my house,” said Rocco.

“Anyways, Dimentio needed to keep me locked up somewhere where I couldn’t get access to the Metaverse again. He removed my powers and put me in here. I’ve been trapped ever since.

“That sounds horrible,” I said.

“Oh it was. He wasn’t always a bad guy. We had fun together moderating the Metaverse. And then he turned on me. I don’t know why exactly but I could tell he was jealous. He wanted to be the only one with powers in that world. He told me about it but I immediately disagreed. We both had sentience as AI’s, but one day he grew even more sentient about his feelings, and used his powers to get rid of mine,” said Xara. That was a lot to take in. I had no clue about the admin being like this.

“That sounds awful. Look we’d love to help but there’s someone out there in the real world that we need to chase down,” I said. She sighed.

“It’s ok. I’ll just sit here until they recapture me. Dimentio for sure will know that I broke out of his prison,” she said.

We sat there thinking of what to do, when a Warden busted through a wall. We were sitting and talking right next to a sensor.

“Uh oh,” said Alex.

Kailani tried throwing her tridents at it but it didn’t do anything.

“Uh oh is right. Run for it!” she yelled.

We all got up and ran down the tunnel.

“Rocco, is there any quick exit from the tunnel?” asked Solar.

“At the very end I should’ve built a staircase. We can use it to get out,” he said.

“Sounds like a plan,” said Orion.

The tunnel seemed to be getting wider which I thought was a good thing. I noticed that we were now in Deep Dark territory. I looked back and saw more Wardens spawning and coming after us. They were gaining on us slowly, and I had no clue how we could stop them.

“I think I can hold them off,” said Xara.

We all stopped for a bit. She pulled out a shulker box and started constructing a wither.

“Alright, we need to get out now,” she said.

We left the area in a hurry. I heard a loud explosion in the background, and then the sounds of punches and laser blasts.

“Where did you get that from?” asked Alex.

Xara chuckled.

“Always be prepared. I stole this from the guards who were carrying items,” she said. Soon, we made it to the end of the tunnel and up the stairs.

“Thanks for getting us out of there,” I said.

“It was nothing. Guess I should say the same to you guys,” said Xara.

“I really wish we were able to help you out more,” said Solar.

“Don’t worry about it. If he recaptures me I’ll get used to the jail again,” she said.

“Wait. We can watch over Xara and bring her back to the town and keep her safe. The rest of you can go chase after that person,” said Alex.

“Really? You guys would do that for me?” said Xara.

“Of course we will!” said Kailani.

“I suppose I’m included as well. So be it,” said Rocco.

“Alright, that will work. We’ll come back right after we sort out the issue in the real world, I promise,” I said.

I started constructing the rift portal for Solar and Orion and I to get out. We waved goodbye for now. It felt weird after a long trip but we made it back to the Mojang lab. Oona was there waiting for us.

“Oh my god you guys made it out. I got so worried. I lost your signal around halfway through for some reason,” she said.

“Oh that. It was probably because we were in the Minecraft world,” said Solar.

“Wait, you guys made it there? I thought the Metaverse blocked access to it,” said Oona.

“We had a crazy adventure there, but the guy we are after disconnected,” I said.

“Yes I heard. I told the staff to lock him up until you guys came back,” she said.

“Oh my that’s great! Where is he?” asked Solar.

“Inside the testing room still. We used a sleep dart,” said Oona.

“That’s perfect. Let’s go. I need a break,” said Orion.

We finally had access to this person. Unfortunately, our problems weren’t done after this. We had to help Xara out.

### **Chapter XIII (Solar’s POV): Lights Out**

We walked inside the testing room and met the person we were after. I thought it was strange at first. This wasn’t any of the assassins I remember that were out to get me, so that trinket we found being here was a mystery. Either way, the fact that he had it on him meant he had some relation to one of them.

“That’s strange. I don’t remember this being someone that chased after me,” I said.

“What do you mean?” asked Lunar.

“This isn’t someone who carried those trinkets around. He has some relation with one of them though. Otherwise the trinket wouldn’t be here,” I said.

He looked harmless on the ground sleeping, but I sensed something was going to happen. He immediately got up as the sleep dart effect wore off and made another run for it. This time I placed a rift portal back to the lab where Max had a secure trap in place. He fell for it and hopped through it.

“Sorry to cut our encounter short Oona but we gotta go! We’ll be back though trust me. We have news for you,” I said.

“Oh ok don’t you guys worry about it. I’ll be here waiting,” she replied.

The 3 of us hopped into the rift portal to finally get a chance to interrogate our little intruder. We made it through, and Max was there waiting for us, along with our little prisoner.

“Good to see you guys come back safe. Don’t worry, this cage is built to last,” he said.

“It is good to be back. But now, we have business to take care of,” said Lunar.

I walked up to the trap. He didn’t look like he wanted to talk.

“Hey buddy. Want to explain what you were doing breaking into private property?” I asked.

I got no response.

“Oh leave it to me. I know what to do,” said Lunar.

He started charging up his Super Merge to full power, but I had to stop him. I wasn’t going to turn this guy into dust just yet. We needed answers from him.

“Really Lunar,” I said.

“Oh come on it would’ve worked,” he said.

“I’ll handle this,” I said.

I walked back up to the intruder, hoping that I could at least get his name.

“Look, I don’t want trouble. You don’t want trouble. I just want to ask a few things and then we can let you go, to the nearest police station, that is. Would you rather be stuck here? I heard this cage lasts for at least 3 weeks,” I said.

It took a little while longer, but he finally caved in.

“Radar. That’s my name ok. Now can I just go. I never even meant to rift. I just want to go home now,” he said.

“You never meant to rift?” I asked.

“Being a slick guy comes with its disadvantages. My only purpose was to plant this virus here, before I accidentally walked through this portal of yours. Also, your security needs a little improvement. That, or I’m just too good,” he said.

“What are you talking about? What virus?” asked Max.

“Oh come on Max. Only the most powerful virus in our day and age. Cybugs,” said Radar.

I didn’t know what those were, but Max looked shocked.

“There’s no way you have it on you. The use of Cybugs has been prohibited globally for the past 20 years,” said Max.

“Yeah well, spending some time in the underground can teach you some things,” said Radar, “Now I do believe that I have said everything I planned to, so my freedom would be much appreciated,” he said.

“Are we really just going to let him go?” asked Orion.

I was thinking if we should let him free, when the lights in the room went out. Not only that, I was detecting a huge power outage in the city. I turned on my night vision to see what was going on. Lunar did the same. The cage’s power went out and I could tell Radar was gone.

“Jeez, this guy won’t give us a break,” I said, “Lunar follow me, I got his trail again,”

“Stay safe kids!” said Max.

We went through nearly all the floors in the lab to hunt Radar down. I was about to lose his trail when we finally pinned him down at the front doors. I made a leap for him, but I was blocked by something and fell down. Upon looking up, I felt fear crawling into me. This was really the one. I haven’t seen this guy since the day Lunar came. I didn’t know he was still out for blood.

“Nice seeing you again Solar,” he said.

“Can it bud. You shouldn’t have come here,” I said.

“Really? I wanted a rematch. I missed our battles together,” he said.

“Not the time. I got business to deal with,” I replied.

“Oh yeah, like you would know anything about business. Besides, Radar is coming home with me,” they said.

I charged up a blast with my own weapons, but nothing happened. They used to hurt him, but now there was no effect.

“What. What did you do!?” I asked.

“Time spent on innovation. Now I believe this is where the counter comes,” he said. This dude wasn’t kidding. He had a weapon of his own that inherited my own powers. I tried jumping out of the way but he managed to hit me.

“Solar!” Lunar rushed to my aid.

He gave me some cover and tried to deal with my killer. Lunar’s gear was new to him, and gave him a chance to stand on his own.

“Pfft, you’re tough too. No wonder your bounty was high,” he said.

“I suggest you leave now,” said Lunar.

“Oh alright. Fun’s over. But here, a token of my appreciation,” he said.

He tossed another of those trinkets on the ground next to me. Lunar turned to it and placed cover on it as well. I was confused at first, but then it exploded heavily. Even with Lunar’s shield, tons of smoke came out from it. It took a while to disappear, but the smoke went away. There was minor damage to the lobby area, but Radar and the killer were gone. I stood up again and went to pick up the trinket. There were some words on it. It read, “Top Assassin Award, Thunder”. I couldn’t believe it. That guy turned his awards into weapons.

“Solar, are you ok!?” he asked.

“Yes, I am ok. Thank you for helping,” I said.

Max and Orion rushed down.

“Oh my god. What happened here?!” asked Max.

“His friend came in, and saved him,” I said.

“That wasn’t just any person,” said Lunar.

“No, I’m afraid this is the person that has it out for me. I don’t know why he’s still after me. We destroyed Mr. Grizz already,” I said.

“I’m glad you’re ok Solar. You’ve never told me about this, this person before,” said Max.

“I didn’t really want to share it. I thought he was gone. I thought Thunder was gone, as I just learned his name,” I said.

“Hey it’s ok. We’re here for you. You can tell us anything,” said Lunar.

I could feel the sincerity in his voice. I suppose it was time to tell the experience I had with Thunder.

“Wait, did you say Thunder?” asked Orion.

“That’s what the trinket said,” I said.

I handed it to Orion to look out. He didn’t have any reaction at first, but then was shocked.

“I don’t believe it. He’s alive,” he said.

“Huh? What do you mean Orion?” asked Lunar.

“It’s a long story. When Mr. Grizz was launching his operation to get Solar, he had to pick between the two toughest people at the company. At the time, it was Thunder and I. In the end, he picked Thunder to scout her out, and had me be the full time security guard at the industry. That day he was taken down, the assassins were all freed of their duties and went off to do their own thing, but I never heard back from Thunder,” explained Orion.

“Wow... I had no clue. It makes sense, he was the only assassin I ever struggled fighting against,” I said.

“Yes, Thunder is a tough cookie. He’s probably even stronger than me. But that’s what happens when two brothers compete with one another,” he said.

“Woah, you’re related to him!?” asked Lunar.

“I sure am. We’re brothers. There was always some sibling rivalry going on. I would try to show Mr. Grizz that I was the stronger one, but it was clear I wasn’t,” he said. This was so strange to me. In the span of a few hours I’ve learned about two surprise brother relationships.

“Anyways, I’m just so surprised, and a little relieved to find out he’s alive, no offense Solar,” Orion continued.

“None taken haha. I have some bad experiences with him, but I’ve never taken a life, nor do I plan to,” I said, “Now about those experiences,”

The lab break in that day didn’t take too long. Once they realized I wasn’t there, they had a full group of people hunting me down. Despite the danger, I went back to the lab to see if Max or Lunar was there. To my surprise, they weren’t, and I first assumed they were dead. I noticed that the rift portal Max was working on was open. I prayed that they were still alive in there, and I made a USB help message to send through in case he was still alive. I didn’t wanna lose hope, so I left quickly to find a place to camp. I couldn’t even let the citizens see me, or the media would have been all over my ass, and I would’ve been an easy target. My new temporary home was fine. I put traps as you remember, but Thunder was always able to consistently get past them. He wasn’t anyone too special. He had his gear but my technology was just as good if not better. Still, his ability to tank damage and out run me was the main problem. I can really see now why his name is Thunder. He was terrifying at times. Once he tried attacking super late at night. He was talking about something but I don’t remember exactly, but he wanted to earn an award of some kind. I was able to beat him back, but I was super hurt that day. I just wanted to lay down for the rest of the day. For the first time I felt an emotion of some kind. It wasn’t a good one, but I also felt hope. I had to keep going, in the case that you guys were alive.

“Solar... I’m so sorry. I wish I was there for you,” said Max.

“Don’t worry about it Max, you suffered enough in that world,” I said.

“Hey if it makes you feel better, Thunder always had a weakness, his ego,” said Orion.

“Oh boy, I could tell,” I said.

“Don’t worry, we’re all here for you now. The question is, what do we do about him now?” asked Max.

“I want to say vengeance, but I think we need to explore something else first,” said Lunar.

“What do you mean?” asked Orion.

“We can deal with 2 problems at once, at the Velocity Ville in this world,” said Lunar.

## Chapter IX (Lunar's POV): The Future of Mojang

I didn't feel like using a rift again, and I could tell Max and Orion wouldn't want to either. We spent a good few hours working on making a version of the Lunar Storm here, with improved upgrades with the new technology.

"I didn't know you could drive Lunar," said Solar.

"Oh I thought I told you guys this already. I drove my friends to the Mojang event," I said.

"It's true. He did run a big rig truck into the corrupted clone of himself," said Max.

"So why are we going to this town again?" asked Orion.

"Well Orion, we don't have access right now, but if we visit the same exact Mojang building in this world, we'll be able to get documents on how Dimentio and Xara were created, as well as how to shut him down. Also, it's the closest city to us with a high enough altitude to directly track Thunder and Radar. We can use the trinket they gave us for that," I explained.

"Sounds good to me," said Max.

"Ugh, I'm so sorry. I basically brought him to you guys," said Solar.

"Aw don't be. We'll get through any problem together," I said.

The car was about ready to go. I was able to make it so much better with the technology gained in this world. The entire structure was more durable, and I added weapons and self defense systems. I couldn't wait to drive this thing.

"Alright everyone! Hop in," I said.

We all got in the car. I was proud of my creation. It almost felt like the original. It had quite the speed too. We got on the road and started making our way to Velocity Ville. The roads in this world weren't as busy as the ones back in the old Earth. On the way we decided to give code names for the Earths/Timelines to easily refer to them. The Earth with Max would be called 'Echo Earth', the one where I lived most of my life would be called 'Alpha Earth', and the new one we discovered will be the 'Delta Earth'. It didn't take long before we got to our destination. I had to give props to the people who lived here. It looked even more advanced than the one from the Delta Earth.

"This place looks amazing. I wish we could move the lab," said Max.

"Oh Max, you and your crazy ideas," said Solar.

We made it to the exact coordinates of the Mojang Lab, but for some reason, there was no activity. It looked like it was abandoned.

"What happened here?" asked Solar.

"I have no idea. The building isn't being used anymore by the looks of it," I said.

We got out of the car to investigate. There should still be information we could grab. The doors were blocked off, so I busted them open with my weapon. There was so much dust coming out of the place. Surprisingly, the structure inside didn't change too much from the Delta version. Even the plaque was still there. I ran up to check on it. It wasn't damaged, but it was very dirty.

"Look Max! It's us here. Remember this day?" I asked.



“Ah right, the day I helped take care of that monstrosity. I was quite proud of you,” said Max.

“Even so now?” I asked.

He laughed.

“Of course I still am,” he replied.

“Do you think Oona’s office is still here?” asked Solar.

“It should be, let’s just head there right now,” I said.

Solar and I built our own pathway with our own energy. The stairs in this building were not so structurally sound. I broke down the blocked door to her office. It was definitely vacated. I opened a few drawers and shelves and ended up collecting a bunch of papers.

“Perfect, this might help us,” I said, “Max, do you think you can decode this? You’ve probably studied past technology,”

“Of course I can, just one second,” he said.

I gave him the papers. At first, it didn’t seem like anything was interesting to him. He flipped to a special blue colored paper and he had this look of shock on his face. I wanted to know what he found out.

“Is there anything cool on that paper?” I asked.

“It’s... unbelievable. Is this the admin you guys were talking about earlier?” he asked. Max gave us the paper. I couldn’t believe it as well. We found the exact blueprint for how Dimentio was made. Everything looked so complicated. I did a quick analysis and found out Dimentio’s AI was based on a model that I was made of. It was just a more updated version of it.

“Max, you used the same thing to make me that they used to make their admins,” I said.

“That’s the first thing I noticed. When I was researching how to make you guys, this model came up. I just never knew that Mojang used it as well. But it seems that it was super efficient in its time,” said Max.

“That’s so cool. I could tell too. Dimentio was built pretty well for an earlier generation of AI,” said Solar.

“If that’s the case, then I know its weakness. This model doesn’t come with a super strong firewall. If even a single virus got into it, it would be rendered completely useless. You guys are safe of course, I custom built my own firewall,” said Max.

“Wow, that is much appreciated,” I said.

I shuffled through the papers some more and found a similar looking piece that was purple in color. Upon further inspection, I saw that it was the blueprint for Xara. This was so cool. It didn’t look much different then Dimentio’s except for one thing. Her blueprint had one extra piece to it. I read closer and it said it was a part to keep the admin from gaining too much sentience. It would definitely explain why Dimentio did what he did.

“Solar look, Xara was built with something to keep her in control. But Dimentio doesn’t have it,” I said.

“That makes more sense now, but how could that happen?” she asked.

“No idea why, but now we know how to stop him. But first, let’s go take care of Thunder and Radar,” I said, “Is the area still clear Orion?”

“Yep, no one is coming here to check in,” he said.

We climbed all the way to the roof of the building. I wasn't fully sure if the plan would work, but I had to give it a try either way. The roof itself was pretty empty, except for one unused satellite. I used the Super Merge on it with a large battery to create a powerful tracker. Solar handed me the trinket to use as a guide. After placing it on, I connected our own tracker to it. Nothing happened for a bit, but then I saw 2 dots somewhere back near the lab. It must be working.

"Perfect! We have their locations now," I said.

"Wow, that's awesome," said Solar.

"It sure is. Now we'll have an easier time to shut them down. But I think we'll need a plan first. Thunder won't go down so easily," said Orion.

I wanted to learn about why Mojang in the future got shut down, but we needed to form our plan first. Before we could even leave the roof, I got a message from Alpha Earth. It was from Sammi. The message was encrypted, but she needed help fast.

"Wait guys, Sammi needs me for some reason. It seems pretty urgent," I said.

"That's ok. Thunder is not a huge priority right now. We can deal with him later," said Max.

"I feel bad. The lab needs you guys to open soon," I said.

"It's ok. Orion and I will head back. You and Solar can go help your friend. Some sibling bonding time again," said Max.

"That sounds awesome! Be safe out there though. Don't let Thunder or Radar get to you," said Solar.

"We will be fine. Now you kids go have a blast," said Max.

Orion and Max took the Lunar Storm back home. I grabbed the rift portal and set it back to Sammi's laboratory coordinates. I hope that it wasn't anything too serious.

## **Chapter X (Lunar's POV): Hacking in Progress**

The rift time didn't take too long thankfully. It's been a while since I visited her lab, let alone this Earth. I should take more vacation days here. I led Solar to where Sammi's lab was. I hoped everything was ok, but I was wrong. The whole building looked like it was taken over. There were red pixels everywhere, and symbols that I didn't recognize at first.

"Lunar! There you are, about time you showed up," it was Sammi.

"Sorry about that. We were dealing with something else in our world," I said.

"Nah it's all good. Solar! I'm so happy to see you," said Sammi.

"Oh my god, same here! I missed you," said Solar.

Talk about a strong friendship.

"It's not just me here. I invited our friend to visit our world," she said.

I looked behind her and saw Clara as well. This was a huge surprise to me.

"Oh wow, you used the rift portal I gave you," I said.

"I sure did. But Clara needs our help first. You probably could tell but my lab was hijacked, and I know it's not anyone from this world," said Sammi.

"Don't worry Clara! We're coming," said Solar.

"Thanks!" she yelled back.

We all came up to take a closer look. She had something keeping her leg in place. Almost like a bear trap, but it was all pixelated. It was a series of roots sprouting from the ground.

Sammi's lab must be powering this source.

"Hold on, I think I can destroy this stuff," I said.

I grabbed my Super Merge and set it to tear apart stuff. It was a tough battle, the root wasn't budging. Solar added some of her own energy to help me out. Together, it was just enough to destroy it. Clara was free.

"Thank you guys!" she said.

"Of course. But I have no clue how we can do that for the entire building. It took a lot out of us," said Solar.

"Lunar, do you know who did this?" asked Sammi.

I tried seeing if there was any connection to the events from our world. This definitely wasn't something anyone could pull off in this world. Otherwise, it would've been way easier to shut it down with my weapon. I did an analysis to see if these symbols matched anything that I've seen before. I scrolled through tons of pictures, but one caught my attention. It was the exact same symbol, and it was on Dimentio's blueprint. This has to be his doing, but how did he know?

"This is going to sound crazy, but an admin from another timeline we visited not so long ago is behind this," I said.

"Huh? What are you talking about?" asked Clara.

"Long story. We were chasing down a guy, who is the friend of the person who was trying to kill me in the past. He made us rift to another Earth, one where Mojang at the time was making a Metaverse. It has 2 admins, and one of them is evil," explained Solar.

"Wow, that's a lot to take in. You guys will have to explain this more later on," said Sammi.

"No worries. All you need to know is that he must've checked my personal information when we first met him. We ruined a plan of his, and he must be out for revenge," I said.

"As long as we know whose butt I'm kicking, that's good enough," said Clara.

"Much appreciated you guys," I said, "Now, I remember Dimentio's weakness. We need to use some virus to get rid of this easily,"

"We don't have any on us sadly," said Sammi.

Solar came up with an idea.

"We can go to the Mojang in this world and try to see if they got anything. I mean maybe it might be strong enough to take down Dimentio," she said.

"I like that idea. We just need to get there now," I said.

"Don't you have a car here?" asked Solar.

"You're right! It's still in my garage. Come on, let's go," I said.

I showed everyone the way back to my home here. Things have changed quite a bit since I lived on this Earth. Everything was still way less developed than the Echo Earth, so it was nice to see some classic activity happening here. We made it to my home and I pulled out the Lunar Storm. It looked sad compared to the new one I had. Regardless, I did a few maintenance checks and told everyone to get in.

"You got a pretty sick car Lunar," said Clara.

“I wish you saw the latest one I built,” I said.

“Is it really that much better?” asked Sammi.

“Trust me Sammi. It’s way better,” I said.

It took a while to start up, but the car was still working. There wasn’t anything too interesting to report on the ride there. At least there were no rogue AI cars on the run this time. We were able to take the highway normally instead of using the car like a plane. Soon enough, we were in yet another Velocity Ville. It feels so weird seeing the same 3 towns in 3 different eras. Thankfully, the Mojang building here was just a normal office. Just like I remembered. I made a call in advance to let the people here know who was coming in. We were greeted by the manager themselves.

“Nice to see you again Ruby,” I said.

“Oh my. It’s been so long. You brought new friends,” she said.

“Yeah haha. This is Solar, my sister, and this is Clara, uh,” I didn’t know what to say.

“Oh! She’s basically my sister. From the future,” said Sammi.

“Really? You’re not from here?” asked Ruby.

“Nope, not at all. I come from 300 years into the future,” said Clara.

“Yeah all this rifting stuff is confusing. Don’t worry about it. Right now we need to deal with a problem back there, but we need your help. You don’t know now but 150 years into the future, Mojang made a Metaverse, and there’s a rogue admin they made with full control of Sammi’s lab right now. We need some way to neutralize it, and we’ll need to use the power here to rift into the Minecraft world,” I said.

“Hm, no worries at all. I think I can set it up. As long as you got all the rift related things. I have no clue what that is,” she replied.

“Haha, no problem,” I said.

We got to work setting up our own rift portal to the digital world from here. Ruby wasn’t sure if it was a good idea, but I reassured her that it wouldn’t do any harm. It’ll prevent us from suffering digital related hacks and attacks. Eventually, the portal frame and AI world was set up and ready for use.

“By the way Ruby, have you implemented any rules for the company recently?” I asked.

“Oh, I actually did. I banned further use of the AI world in any major projects. How come?” she asked.

“Oh nothing, just wondering,” I said with a smile.

With everything set up and good to go, we all hopped through the rift, leaving Ruby on Earth to watch over us. I made sure to set the rift portal to take us back to Axol’s town. When we got there, things were bad. Tons of things were destroyed, and there was no one in sight.

“What happened here?” asked Sammi.

“I don’t know. They should be here,” I said.

I was looking around until I saw Alex in the bar. We all quickly ran to her.

“Thank god you guys came. We got trouble here,” she said.

I saw that Rocco, Kailani, and Xara were here as well.

“Don’t worry we made it. What’s up?” I asked.

“Dimentio. He found out about the prison break out. He located the town and tried to imprison me again. Luckily he couldn’t spend much time here, but he left his creations to wreak havoc here,” said Xara.

“Other than that we’ve been holding the line. Xara’s safe with us,” said Kailani.

“We can seek further refuge at the village Hopper and I saved that one time, but getting out of here will be hard. The bots this admin makes are stronger than Zero’s,” said Rocco.

“Don’t worry, we can all go together,” I said.

“We came here looking for something to stop Dimentio on the surface world as well. He managed to hack into our friend’s lab, but we can help you all first,” said Solar.

“Oh yeah, introductions again. We can do that on the way, now let’s just get on the road,” I said.

## **Chapter XI (Lunar’s POV): Zero’s Revival**

We had to come up with a strategic plan to escape without anyone getting in too much harm. I figured an initial entry from Solar and I would be strong enough. We were to get out of the bar and make a run for the exit all while guarding Xara. She didn’t look like she needed guarding. Xara grabbed a weapon of her own and did some real nice work.

“Holy you’re good at fighting too. Perhaps you can teach me one day?” asked Clara.

“Heh, it’s nothing, kid. Maybe one day,” replied Xara.

Rocco led us out quite smoothly with another one of his tunnels. After exiting it, we made it to the edge of an ocean. The same one where Axol helped us get out last time.

“What do we do now? My boat is at the other end of town,” asked Rocco.

“Thank goodness for that too,” said Kailani.

“Wait I know I know. We can use nether travel. That village is so far away I tell you,” said Rocco.

“Are you sure?” asked Alex.

“Trust me, I’m sure. Hopper and I only used nether travel for a week once for a challenge,” said Rocco.

Xara sighed.

“Of course you guys have,” said Sammi.

Rocco built us a nether portal quickly. We got in before any of Dimentio’s robots were able to come through and follow us. I forgot how hostile this environment was. There were so many lava pits and ghasts everywhere. Rocco took out his compass and began to lead the way. I was impressed that this man was able to survive before auto respawn was added to this world.

“So what’s your idea to stop Dimentio anyways?” asked Xara.

“We found out that your AI model is super vulnerable to viruses. We just need to get one and use it against Dimentio,” I said.

“Really, is it that simple? Dimentio knows his weakness, and he’ll make sure you don’t let one near him,” said Xara.

“We came here because my lab was disabled. There has to be a lurking virus here,” said Sammi.

“There were none back in the Metaverse at the time. None strong enough to fully disable the admins. Even if they got him, the scientists would take care of it quite quickly,” said Xara.

She was right, it would be hard to properly take down Dimentio.

“And what about your end goal? I just want to stop living as a powerless being. But do you guys really want to kill him?” asked Xara.

“Well we just wanted to do what was best for you. So what is best for you?” asked Solar.

“Heh, well I don’t know yet. I don’t know how the developers who made him would feel if he was suddenly deleted. It took over 15 years to fully develop Dimentio and I. He used to be my friend as well, but I guess that ship has sailed,” said Xara.

“Don’t worry, when the time comes, we’ll know how to deal with him,” I said.

“Thanks,” she replied.

“Everyone, we’re approaching the coordinates soon,” said Rocco.

Rocco began putting in some flooring to build the nether portal. I thought we were in the clear, but somehow Dimentio’s robot followed us all the way in here.

“Jeez, they built their own portal here,” said Clara.

“We’ll hold the line Rocco, you can make that portal,” I said.

“I have to smelt some stuff to make it. It won’t be too long,” he said.

The robots weren’t too strong, but they were smart. It turned into a game of spleef at some point. I saw that Xara was being overwhelmed at one point, so I went over to help her.

“You ok?” I asked.

“Uh yeah. Sorry, I still have some trust issues,” she said.

“I get it. But we’re all friends here. Everyone here is amazing, and so are you,” I said.

She smiled after that, and got back into the fight.

Rocco was able to finish the portal soon after, and everyone went through. We landed into oak plains, but the village we were at wasn’t just any old village. It was modern, had walls, and looked so advanced. That’s when I saw someone at the front gate that I recognized immediately.

“Rocco, come in come in. It’s nice to see you again,” it was the Chief.

“Thanks sir. I brought some friends. We need to hide somewhere just for a bit,” said Rocco.

“Yes of course. Oh my. Lunar?” he said.

“Oh wow Chief. It’s been so long. I haven’t made a visit here since Zero was here,” I said.

“It is good to see you again. You have plenty of new friends I see. Everyone is welcome here,” he said.

We walked in. I felt so safe in this village. It was even more advanced than the last time I was here.

“You sure made a lot of improvements,” said Rocco.

“Yes, the village has been hard at work ever since we last met,” said the Chief, “It was nice to see that you took care of that virus we suffered from so long ago,”

“Thank you, but that was Lunar’s doing. He took him down, but sadly my brother at the same time,” said Rocco.

“Ah I see. I’m sorry for your loss Rocco. Perhaps we can talk about it over dinner, and other stuff if you need anything,” said the Chief.

He was right, I was kinda hungry. The Chief took us to a large building. We all sat down and had fresh game food served. None of the humans could properly eat it, but we still appreciated it.

“I heard that there’s a new threat in this world,” he said.

“Yes there is. There’s a rogue admin from the Metaverse hunting our friend here, and we need to stop him,” I said.

“Oh. I see. What is he like?” asked the Chief.

“He’s tough. He has all the power he ever needs to delete every one of us. Being an admin comes with great power and responsibility. I didn’t plan far ahead enough, and he sabotaged me,” said Xara.

“It’s ok Xara, we’ll get your admin back. We know his weakness. Some sort of virus, but we don’t have any strong enough to take him out,” I said.

“Hm, there may be something here that we can offer. One moment please,” said the Chief.

He left the room. After a while, he came back with someone else from the village. They looked pretty smart.

“This is Archer, a member of our village. He’s been collecting samples of Zero ever since the incident to study. Perhaps he can help,” said the Chief.

“Pleased to meet you all,” said Archer.

“And very nice to see you,” said Solar.

“I heard you guys need a virus. Follow me,” he said.

We all got up and followed him through the building. There was a whole basement area. Archer sure had a busy work station.

“This is where I do my work. Zero was quite a fascinating virus. He had the ability to model a character here, and create minions of his own to do his work. His main goal was to eat up this world and steal data,” said Archer.

“Sounds like the Zero we know,” said Sammi.

“When Zero was defeated, he wasn’t ever fully gone. I scavenged a few pieces of him throughout the world, and started to work on a counter virus to enhance the village’s security. I reached a point where we could bring him back, in a slightly weaker form. Not enough to harm any of us, but with his powers on our side,” said Archer.

“Hmph, is that such a good idea,” said Rocco.

“Rocco, this could be what we need to take down Dimentio,” I said.

“Well, if you say so. Although I won’t forgive him for what he did to Hopper,” said Rocco.

“The process won’t take long. I can do it right now. It seems like you guys are in a hurry,” said Archer.

“It’s ok. We aren’t in too much of a rush, but Dimentio could very well be on his way here,” said Solar.

“Alright then, here we go,” he said.

Archer flipped some switches and started doing some work. It was amazing to see how these AI minecraft characters think just as well as some humans can. It was no wonder this village

was becoming so advanced. In just a few minutes, Archer had something to show to us, it was a fully player model, exactly how Zero looked. We all got ready to fight just in case. Soon after, they finally woke up.

“Ugh. What is this place? Wait, you,” he said.

“Wow he can talk as well? I thought he was just a virus,” I said.

“Uh, some modifications were made to keep him alive for long enough. I can’t keep him like this forever,” said Archer.

“Why do I need to speak to any of you guys? You couldn’t have brought me back in like some sort of program even?” said Zero.

“Listen Zero, we need to use your virus powers to stop an admin. He’s strong, and you’re all we got quite frankly,” said Sammi.

“Really huh. Well how the tables turn. I see you’ve all met Rocco. Your brother was great to use. I’ll have you all know,” said Zero.

“I’m not forgiving you ever for that,” said Rocco.

“So be it. I didn’t wanna see you again either,” said Zero.

“Hey, let’s be nice to each other. Zero, you’re gonna have to pay for what you’ve done. And for bringing you back here, you should know better,” said Archer.

“Beat it,” he said.

Solar went in to give her a piece of her mind

“Listen bro. You’re here whether you like it or not. You don’t know me but I know everything you’ve done. Now either join us, or we’ll bring you back to the grave,” she said. The room was silent for a bit.

“So I guess everyone related to Lunar does have some balls. So be it. What could you morons possibly want me to do?” asked Zero.

## **Chapter XII (Lunar’s POV): Dimentio Arrives**

“Your virus powers are needed right now. You have the ability to easily take out or disable the powers of an admin we are trying to take down,” I said.

“Ah the classic admin. You know it was nice having powers, flight, commands,” said Zero.

“I have a feeling he’s coming so we have to be quick. We can split up into 2 groups to take him down when he gets here,” I said.

“Well I am not going to be in Zero’s group that’s for sure,” said Rocco.

“Hmph, works for me,” said Zero.

“Oh oh I wanna be with Sammi,” said Clara.

I sighed.

“Alright alright here’s what we are going to do. Alex, Kailani, Zero, and Solar, you’re all coming with me to confront Dimentio directly. Sammi, Clara, Rocco and Xara, you guys go with Archer to protect the village while we are dealing with him. And make sure Dimentio doesn’t get to Xara. Sounds good?” I asked.

“Sounds like a plan,” said Solar eagerly.

“Hell yeah,” said Clara.



“Very fun stuff,” said Kailani.

“So be it,” said Zero.

“Kicking ass with you just like the good old days,” said Alex.

“Works for me,” said Archer.

“Let’s do this,” said Sammi.

“We can do it, I suppose,” said Xara.

It was exactly what I wanted to hear. Xara took out a small device that she never showed us before.

“I still have a read on Dimentio’s location at all times. He’s already back in the Minecraft world and heading this way. We should leave now,” she said.

“Alright then. Good luck everyone!” said Solar.

We all left the small research room and back out to the village. Xara was right, we could all see Dimentio’s robots coming up fast.

“What is happening?” asked the Chief.

“The admin from the Metaverse is coming. We’ll defend the village, don’t worry,” said Archer.

“I trust you Archer. If you guys need anything, let me know. I will be hiding in my office until this is all over,” he said.

We all took turns keeping the robots away from the village. Archer even built a few golems to help.

“He’s here,” said Xara.

“Alright alright. You guys come with me. The rest of you, stay safe!” I said.

Dimentio hovered and flew right to the entrance. He even created his own player model to fit in. Our group stood in front, not letting our guard down.

“Ah Lunar, we could’ve been such nice friends. But my old friend here had to spill the beans,” he said.

“These games you’re playing aren’t good Dimentio. You kept Xara trapped for ages, it’s time you pay,” I said.

“Yes yes the whole hero thing. I get you. I know what you’ve done in the past. Such a strong AI model has gone to waste. We could’ve ruled this Metaverse potentially,” said Dimentio.

“I would never want to do that with you. You should’ve just left Xara alone and done it with her,” I said.

“I didn’t want to do this but, it seems I have no choice,” he said.

He charged out a blast seemingly out of thin air and fired it at us. Thankfully, we were all able to dodge it.

“Solar, we need a diversion,” I said.

“Coming right up!” she said.

Solar went in with brute force to distract him. I know he can’t delete the humans or anyone from Earth because we rifted, but I had to make sure nothing happened to Alex or Kailani. I made a small plan with them to get Dimentio stunned long enough for Zero to make his move.

“So what do I do now?” he asked.

“Oh come on. You just need to load your virus to your fist and punch him. It should mess up his systems to disable the hacks he’s done,” I said.

“Right. I’ll see what I can do then,” said Zero.

Despite not normally having access to this world, Dimentio sure knows a lot about the game. He can just spawn whatever he wants. It was just like fighting Zero.

“Now you know how it feels huh,” I said.

“Yeah, kinda. Almost,” said Zero.

I thought we were in the clear, but Dimentio suddenly ran a scan on Zero and took more defensive actions.

“How did you get a virus here?! I cleared them all out!” said Dimentio.

“HA, not all of them it seems,” said Archer.

“We will see about that,” said Dimentio.

He flew back a bit, leaving Solar back with us. We thought he just straight up retreated, but then I heard the sound of an Ender Dragon coming straight to us. He spawned one in, and it was looking like a tough one.

“Wow, that’s just cheating,” said Kailani.

“Tell me about it,” said Alex.

We all backed up to take shelter. I saw that Xara and the rest were starting to get overwhelmed, so I thought of an idea.

“Zero, come with me,” I said.

We both went out to the open and waited for the dragon to spot us. Like I predicted, it made a full dive for us.

“Uh Lunar?” said Zero.

“Lunar!” said Solar.

“Punch it Zero, now!” I said.

The dragon got close to us, but after Zero punched it, it laid on the ground.

“Wow, I forgot I could do that,” he said.

“See? Not too bad yourself. Now want to use it?” I asked.

Zero got the dragon to get up and made it fight for us. We used it to help clear the robots Xara were fighting. At least my prediction was right. Zero really could take down Dimentio. I thought we were in the clear, but Dimentio came back, and this time he pounced towards Zero and brought him up to the sky.

“Woah woah chill!” he said.

“Not until you’re deleted,” said Dimentio.

“Shoot, we have to help Zero,” I said.

Kailani readied her tridents and threw both at the same time. I also fired a blast of my own. Luckily, they all hit Dimentio, and he was knocked out for a bit. Zero took the opportunity to give him a nice punch in the face. Suddenly, Dimentio lost his flight for a bit, and the two of them came crashing down to the ground. I went to check in on Zero.

“Dude are you ok?” I asked.

“Wow, that was surprisingly... fun,” he said.

“Haha, that’s what it’s like being a good guy,” I said.

“Oh whatever, you heard nothing,” he replied.

Dimentio got up slowly, but he looked pretty weak.

“You may have disabled my hacks, but only a small portion of them. You’ll find a nice surprise waiting at home Lunar. I swear you’ll regret it!” he said.

After saying his goodbye speech, he ran off and made his way back to the Metaverse. His robots were also gone. Everyone grouped up together.

“Way to go guys,” said Clara.

“Yeah we really showed him. Zero gave him the old one two punch!” said Kailani.

“Yeah yeah whatever. I got rid of him like you guys asked. Now, can I please not exist anymore,” said Zero.

“Sure thing. Thanks for doing what you did anyways,” said Archer.

Archer turned off his player model, and suddenly Zero was lifeless again. It was a little creepy.

“I hope we won’t have to use him again,” said Rocco.

“I’m getting a read that my lab is back to normal. We did it!” said Sammi.

“That’s awesome! We did it all didn’t we,” said Solar.

“Yeah we sure did fix that,” I looked at Xara, “We just have one more thing to take care of,”

“Oh you’re all too sweet. What you did already is enough,” said Xara.

“Nah don’t worry. We’ll shut down his reign once and for all,” said Rocco.

I thought we were in the clear to just follow Dimentio back into the Metaverse, but I got a message from Max and Orion. And from just the first sentence, things weren’t good.

### **Chapter XIII (Lunar’s POV): Chasing Thunder**

“They got to them. Thunder and Radar got Orion and Max,” I said.

“No! We have to go back for them now,” said Solar.

“Wait what’s going on?” asked Alex.

“The people we were chasing on Earth. They prisoned Max and Orion during our time in this world. We need to go after them,” I said.

“That’s ok, we can deal with Dimentio later, I doubt he’ll come back for a while,” said Xara.

“Yeah... but Thunder is tough. We could barely take him on,” said Solar.

“Wait, we can come with you,” said Sammi.

“You mean it?” asked Solar.

“Of course! That’s what friends do. Plus, anyone who hurts a friend of a friend is my enemy,” said Clara.

“Thanks, that means so much guys,” I said.

“Well sounds like you guys should go. But before you do, take this,” Archer handed me a small device, “This contains power for Zero. Should you ever need to summon him again, just use the device,”

“Thank you Archer. Thanks for helping us take down Dimentio even if Zero wasn’t so friendly,” I said.

“It’s no problem. I like research,” he said.

“Alright, we’ll be on our way, but we’ll also be back to take out Dimentio for good, just sit tight guys!” said Solar.

We said our goodbyes for now and made our way back to Earth. Ruby was there waiting for us as well.

“Looks like a lot happened just now. Is everything ok?” she asked.

“We disabled Dimentio’s hacks, but now Max and Orion back home are in trouble. We need to get there now,” I said.

“Oh I see. Don’t worry you guys can still use the portal here to get back, in fact, I’ll join you guys,” said Ruby.

“Really? You’re gonna come with us?” asked Sammi.

“Well heck yeah. I miss adventuring with you guys,” she said.

“That sounds epic! Welcome to the party again,” said Solar.

I set the rift portal back to the Echo Earth, close by to the coordinates Max gave me in the message. I made sure we were all ready to fight in case Thunder was waiting for us. Luckily, Max gave us a safe spot, and we just landed hidden behind some trees.

“I have a read on them, now let’s go!” said Solar.

“She’s energetic isn’t she,” said Ruby.

“Yeah, she’s awesome,” I said.

We followed Solar past the trees and onto some flat ground. Their base was probably just a little past a city. I didn’t know which one it was though. The path eventually landed us at the edge of a sea.

“Don’t worry, I made a call before we started moving,” said Solar.

“Huh?” asked Ruby.

We waited a bit, but then I saw a familiar ship coming to our location. It docked and let us on board.

“Hello friends again!” It was Augie.

“Yo what’s up Augie,” said Clara.

“Nothing much, I heard that you guys needed a lift now,” he said.

“We sure do, thanks for coming,” I said.

We got on board and started zooming across the sea. It was nice to be on the sea with fresh air. And even better than the one Rocco had. This ship actually looked like it worked.

“So what’s going on?” asked Augie.

“Two of our friends were kidnapped. They are tough, but I think we can rescue them,” said Solar.

“You got it, we are going on turbo mode right now,” he said.

“We’re getting close, it should be that island over there,” said Solar.

Augie slowed down the ship a bit. I went to the front to see what there was. I didn’t see much at first, but then noticed we were being attacked again.

“They’re lobbing explosives at us!” I said.

“Uh oh,” said Clara.

“Fear not. I made some upgrades,” said Augie.

He dodged a few explosives at first, but then activated a full on energy barrier around the entire ship.

“Oh my god. When did you make this?” asked Sammi.

“Just something the Spark Researchers helped me install,” he said.  
The ship was able to tank anything the island was throwing at us, and we made it to the dock in no time.

“Thanks again for the ride! We’ll be out as soon as possible,” I said.

“No worries. I’ll be waiting here until you guys are out,” he said.

We got off the ship and continued following Solar. It looked like she knew where the entrance was to this place. She charged up a blast and shot down a random part of a hill. I thought she was trying to make space, but the smoke cleared and revealed a hallway.

“I knew it was here,” she said.

“Have you been here before?” I asked.

“Uh... no,” she said.

I was a little skeptical on what that meant. We didn’t have a lot of time so I just forgot about it and went down the hallway. Everything looked so dark, but Solar lit the way up for us. I wasn’t sure what we were about to face, but I told everyone to be ready just in case. Solar was starting to look more and more nervous with every step we took.

“Hey, are you doing ok?” I asked.

“Yeah, I’m just. Scared. For the first time in forever I don’t feel so almighty,” she said.

I put my hand on her back.

“It’ll be ok. I’m with you. We’re all with you,” I said.

She smiled and gave me a hug.

“Thank you,” said Solar.

The hallway was coming to an end, and there was just one more door in the way.

“Is this it? It looks so complicated,” said Ruby.

“300 years into the future will do that to you,” said Sammi.

“I’m going to blast it down, get ready guys,” said Solar.

She charged up her weapon and broke down the door clean. We all jumped inside and waited for the smoke to disappear.

“Huh, where are the people?” asked Clara.

I turned to a wall and saw a bunch of computer screens, it must be the surveillance room. To my horror, a screen displayed showing Max and Orion stuck in an energy cage, right above a pit of acid.

## **Chapter XIV (Solar’s POV): The Great Escape**

I wanted to believe it was a dream, and that I wasn’t here again. Sadly, that wasn’t the case.

“Guys, they are trapped above a pit of death. We need to move fast!” said Lunar.

I looked up to the screen to see what he was talking about. Lunar was right, they were in the killing area. How do I remember this stuff? I have to keep it together, the team is counting on me. I started looking for a way back to that room. I swore I’d never go back but I had no choice. We have to save Max and Orion. I can’t let them go through what I did.

“How do we get there? We don’t know this place,” said Sammi.

“Maybe we could just brute force through some walls?” suggested Clara.

I knew that no one here would know how to actually get to that room. I couldn’t keep hiding forever, so I decided to tell them the way.

“I know how to get there. It’s just behind that wall and a drop down,” I said.

“What drop down, there’s just a wall here,” said Lunar.

I took out my weapon once again and charged a full blast. Like I predicted, the wall was a decoy, and there was a huge hole to jump down safely.

“Wow, you know your stuff,” said Lunar.

I led everyone down and right towards the room where Orion and Max were. I just wished this whole thing was over. They were still in the cage thankfully, but we needed to make sure the floor was safe before freeing them.

“You guys made it!” said Max.

“Thank god, I’m hungry,” said Orion.

“Don’t worry, we’ll have you guys out soon!” I said.

I started freezing the acid pool, but we had uninvited guests come in.

“Good to see you again Solar and friends,” said Thunder.

“The jig is up, we found your base,” said Lunar.

“Yeah but, your friends are still stuck. And one misstep will lead them to your doom,” said Thunder.

“Come on Thunder. Can’t we talk this out? We’re brothers!” said Orion.

“Ah Orion, this is a competition after all. Without need, perhaps my fulfillment of being the strongest in the staff team will truly be complete,” he said.

“You’re crazy!” said Clara.

“It’s just continuing the legacy. It’s what Mr. Grizz would’ve wanted,” said Thunder.

I didn’t notice, but Radar was there too, and he was going to make the cage snap and fall down. I quickly ran up to him and gave him a big old punch.

“You guys, free them, I’ll handle these guys,” I said.

I had a full duel with Radar. He was fast, but I was definitely stronger than him. He retreated back a bit onto a higher platform, and I decided to chase him. That wasn’t the best move, because Thunder was there to back him up.

“Just like the good old days huh?” he said.

I ignored his comment and tried to just beat him back. It was almost pointless. His gear was better, and he had more brute strength. He eventually punched me hard and I landed on the ground. I knew I couldn’t take him on alone. Luckily, Clara and Sammi had my back, and took him on before they could get to me.

“Thanks,” I said.

“Of course!” said Clara.

They were strong working together, but I know that Thunder will eventually tire them out as well. Lunar and Ruby were almost done getting rid of the acid pool, so I got to work on getting the cage down. With a blast of my weapon, the chain broke and landed safely onto the ground. I broke open the door.

“Thank you Solar,” said Max.

“I’m so happy you’re ok. It would’ve been a second time that I thought that... you died,” I said.

“With you guys here, I know that I’m safe,” said Max.

“Alright sweet talk over, I’m going to show my bro who’s the better one,” said Orion. He went in to join the fight with Sammi and Clara. A 3v2 was much better to handle.

“We need to get out of here now. I did a scan and this place is going to blow up any minute now,” said Lunar.

“Uh oh,” said Ruby.

At this exact time, Orion, Sammi and Clara came to group up with us. Thunder and Radar were retreating as well.

“Yeah... he’s still stronger than me,” said Orion.

“We need to get out now!” I said.

“How are we going to do that?” asked Clara.

“Leave it to me,” said Max.

He pulled up another rift portal that he had saved up. Lunar activated it and set it to get us right by the dock. Everyone got in. Augie was still there waiting on his ship.

“Back so soon guys,” he said.

“Augie, step on it!” I said.

He got the message, and had the boat move out at full speed. I looked back and saw the island blowing up into flames and eventually disintegrating. I was happy to see that place finally burn down.

“Solar,” it was Lunar.

I turned around to see what he wanted.

“You looked stressed there. That’s not the Solar I know. Have you been to this place before?” he asked.

I hesitated a bit, but I decided to tell everyone the full story.

I was always on the run from Thunder, but one day I had enough of his shit. After a tough battle we had, I decided to follow him back and see if I could figure out where his base was. My plan was to take control, and prevent him from ever coming out to hunt me down. After that battle, I followed him and snuck onto his ship. I saw the wall he took down, that’s how I got us inside the place. After I was inside, I immediately tried to pounce and catch him off guard. It worked for a bit, but eventually he pinned me down and trapped me inside this energy. At the time, I didn’t have enough of my own energy to break it. He ended up taking the cage and placed it over the same acid pit Max and Orion were in just now. I thought I was dead at that moment, but something inside my systems that I shouldn’t give up. Thunder was just watching me as the cage lowered, but with some motivation to get out, I somehow still charged up a blast of some kind. It completely knocked the power out of the cage and disintegrated the acid. I did some sort of super hot fiery blast. It was so hot that even Thunder ran out of the room as fast as he could. I was able to get out and steal a boat to get back to my own base. It was such a scary encounter. I was lucky to have gotten out. And after that day, I swore to always play it defensively, and to not risk my life.

Lunar and Max came to give me a hug.

“I knew I built you well,” said Max.

“I’m just so glad you’re ok, and I’m sorry you had to go through that,” said Lunar.

“Thank you guys. I was just so scared going back there, but I regained most of my confidence now, knowing that I have you guys now,” I said.

“We’ll always have your back,” said Sammi.

“Yeah, it was nice to get some revenge on Thunder,” said Orion.

“Ah it’s nice to meet you again Ruby. We never officially met,” said Max.

“It is nice to see you as well. You created some smart ass AI’s,” she said.

“Where are we headed now folks?” asked Augie.

I remembered that Dimentio said there was something waiting for us at the lab. I looked at the tracker we had on Thunder and he was making his way to the lab with Radar.

“Augie, to the lab!” I said.

## **Chapter XV (Lunar’s POV): The Break In**

I wasn’t exactly sure what was happening, but I know that Dimentio and Thunder are both attacking the lab right now.

“What could they be doing there? We just chased them out,” said Solar.

“I don’t know, but I have a feeling something fishy is up. We just have to get to the lab first and make sure everything is ok,” said Max.

“Don’t worry, we’ll be getting there in about 20 minutes,” said Augie.

Augie picked up the pace and soon the boat was zooming across the sea. We had no time to waste. We all caught up with each other while waiting.

“I didn’t know what Mojang became in this world. It’s tragic to hear,” said Ruby.

“I agree. One day we’ll find out what happened to Mojang for it to shut down. But in Delta Earth, Mojang was thriving,” I said.

“It’s great to hear that they are following the rule I put in place, even if a rogue admin took advantage of it,” said Ruby.

“Shit’s wild. But glad to see the AI world is still being taken care of,” said Solar.

“We made it everyone!” said Augie.

The boat approached the dock. We got off and thanked Augie for the ride. I called the Lunar Storm to come pick us up.

“I call shotgun!” said Solar.

“Of course you do,” I said.

We all got in, and I drove us back to the lab. Hopefully we weren’t too late. I thought we were ok, but when we got there, something was wrong. I could tell Dimentio hacked through our lab as well. There were the same symbols that we saw from Sammi’s lab.

“How could he have done this, we disabled his previous hacks,” I said.

“I was tracking the status of our security, the virus Radar put in severely weakened it. He must’ve had enough power to get through,” said Max.

“Well how are we going to take care of him now?” asked Sammi.

“We’re going to have to get in and rift to Delta Earth and deal with him directly. Let’s go!” said Solar.

“Solar wait!” I said.



She didn't wait for the rest of us. As she approached the front doors, a few of the robots from the lab security came out to greet us. It seems Dimentio hacked into our own security system and took control of everything. Solar freaked out a bit and backed up.

"Oh boy. I do not want to mess with our own guards. We made them tough," she said.

"It's gonna be hard to break back in. Our security system is strong. We don't have a chance against it," said Max.

"We need an edge, but what?" asked Ruby.

Clara looked like she cooked an idea.

"Leave it to me guys," she said.

She made a call, and left us to wait a bit. She soon came back with Sparks and other upgrades. Most importantly, she brought backup. Bedrock was here.

"Oh my god it's you again," I said.

He nodded and gestured.

"He agreed to help break us in. He also says to thank Midnite for the fresh new gear and Sparks. They are stronger than ever," said Clara.

"He does look strong. I approve. But I'm not sure if it'll be enough to take on Thunder," said Orion.

Bedrock did a punching motion.

"He's ready for anyone," said Clara.

"Alright, now we can do this," I said.

We all powered our weapons with the Sparks, and I could tell there was a noticeable difference. Without waiting anymore, we all charged in at once and broke past the initial robots standing in our way. I felt bad breaking our own gear, but I realized it was an easy fix we could do later on. We had to be careful with the drones, cages, and tripwires being thrown in at us.

"I didn't know our security was this good. Radar must be agile," said Orion.

"I did think it was a little overkill," said Max.

We made it past all the floors and started making our way to the portal room. We needed to repower it and set it to Delta Earth. The walls of the lab were still hacked, so I knew Dimentio was going to try to prevent us from using the portal. I was thinking of a solution, but out of nowhere, Thunder and Radar appeared.

"We meet again," said Radar.

"How are you guys here!? We have another problem to deal with," said Solar.

"We know, that's why we're here," said Thunder.

They began tampering with the portal. I had no clue what their plan was, but I did know we had to deal with it. Solar went after Radar, and Orion, Sammi, and Clara went to take on Thunder again. Max and Ruby took the chance to reconfigure the portal and disable the hack Dimentio had on it.

"Wait, I can help," I said.

I still had a little bit of Zero on me even on Earth. It was just stored on a small USB. I plugged it in, and sure enough, his virus was enough to bypass Dimentio's hacks.

"Perfect. Well done Lunar!" said Max.

I looked behind me and saw Orion fall on the ground.

"Are you ok!" I asked.

He looked ok, but I knew they needed backup. Bedrock took the hint, and went in to help take down Thunder. The two exchanged fists. Bedrock was strong, and he proved so a long time ago. But even now, I could see that Thunder's strength and the gear he had was slightly stronger. I needed to help Bedrock out. I grabbed my Super Merge and used it with one of our rogue robots and some Sparks. It went in to help out Bedrock, now I was sure they could stall him for long enough.

"Portal is good to go," said Max.

"Let's go!" I said.

Thunder noticed and immediately went for it. We tried to stop him, but Radar cleared a path for them with smoke bombs. When the smoke cleared, they were already gone.

"Why are they going through it?" asked Solar.

I wasn't sure, but I had a hunch that Radar and Dimentio interacted, and they were up to no good.

"I'm not sure, but I think they are working with Dimentio. The hacks here didn't affect them. I mean they got into the lab somehow. We need to stop whatever they are trying to do," I said.

"I'm all for it," said Sammi.

"Same here," said Ruby.

"I think Bedrock and I will have to sit this one out. That fight with that Thunder guy took a lot out of us," said Clara.

Bedrock wiped some sweat and nodded as well.

"That's ok. You guys did a lot for us! Take a good rest," said Solar.

"I will be coming too. I need to ensure the safety of the lab and you guys," said Max.

"Oh my god no way. Quest with Max again!" said Solar.

He sighed.

"Yes, just this once," said Max.

"We'll see you guys later but good luck!" said Clara.

We thanked her and Bedrock, and got ready to go through. I had a feeling a tough battle was waiting for us on the other side.

## **Chapter XVI (Lunar's POV): Cybug Infestation**

The portal still brought us to the same forest near Velocity Ville. Everything looked normal, but I saw a clear path that Thunder and Radar brute forced through. I knew they were headed for the Mojang Lab here.

"Wow, so this is what the city looks like in the future," said Ruby.

"We have to go after them now," said Solar.

We picked up the pace and followed the path that they made. I could tell that they were in a rush. I had no clue what their plan was, but we had to stop them before they got to the lab. When we got there, it was clear they weren't messing around. The front doors were completely busted down, and all the guards and scientists were hiding or running out. Oona was still there to meet us again.

“Oh my god it’s you guys. That guy you were after earlier brought back a friend of his, and none of our security were able to stop him,” said Oona.

“We know. We’re going to try to stop them. Can you help us?” I asked.

“Of course I can! Wait, there’s no way. Is that the one and only Ruby?!” she asked.

“Yep. I’m Ruby, manager of Mojang,” said Ruby.

“No way. I thought I’d never get a chance to meet you. I’m your biggest fan! I’m Oona, an innovator at Mojang. Oh and who are your new friends here?” asked Oona.

“I’m Max, owner of Galactical Laboratories,” he said.

“And I’m Sammi, owner of my own lab,” she said.

“That was some great introduction, but Thunder and Radar are still in there,” said Orion.

“Sorry right right. I will have to catch up with you later on though! I’ll show you where those guys went,” said Oona.

We followed her through the building. On our way, I noticed some of the same robots the Alpha Earth Mojang had. Could that have been the reason for its downfall in the Echo Earth? After some travel time, we made it to the same area where the Metaverse was being tested. There was a portal frame that was leading to the Metaverse, the same one we used to get in earlier.

“No way, how did they make their own rift portal?” asked Solar.

“They must have stolen some frames and a rift creator in the lab. We need to chase after them at once,” I said.

“Alright. I will stay here to monitor you guys again. As long as you use the rift portal, you’ll be safe from any form of deletion,” said Oona.

“I’ll stay here in the lab as well. Oona could need some help,” said Ruby.

“Oh my god you’re staying!? This is so hype!” said Oona.

“Yes yes,” replied Ruby.

“Uh, I will be monitoring you guys as well. I don’t know if I want to enter the online world yet. I’m getting too old for this,” said Max.

“Ha ha don’t worry. We’ll take care of it,” said Solar.

The rest of us got ready to roll. I reassured Sammi that nothing bad was going to happen in the Metaverse. After jumping through the portal, we followed the same tracker Solar had on her. This time, we knew where to go. The signal was pointing to the terminal where we first met Dimentio. My systems were sensing danger all around for some reason, but I couldn’t find anything sketchy happening right now. I decided to ignore it and focus on the current mission in hand. Solar looked a little nervous again, so I reassured her everything will be ok. Once we got into the terminal, we readied all our weapons for another fight. Thunder and Radar were there and turned around. Solar tried engaging in battle first, but her blasts were completely locked by a shield of some kind. I recognized it, it was the same one Dimentio had on him before.

“Ok Dimentio, come on out,” I said.

He revealed himself, and stood with Thunder and Radar.

“Alright you three, what’s going on. We know something is up,” said Solar.

“Well, our plan went pretty well, didn’t it?” said Dimentio.

“It sure did. Little did you guys know, Dimentio purposefully told you guys to follow me all the way to the Minecraft world. We were trying to imprison you,” said Radar.

“Yes but I thought my prison guards could handle you guys. Not only that, you let out Xara at the same time. Oh how mad I was. Luckily, Radar was able to distract you guys long enough for me to send a hack to your little friend’s lab,” said Dimentio.

“Hey that wasn’t cool at all,” said Sammi.

“Yes, and his time there bought Thunder and I time to take Max and Orion to our hideout,” said Radar.

“Finally, with those two gone, I was able to hack in through that old fool’s lab while they were gone,” said Dimentio.

“All of this, and for what? You guys have clear different goals,” I said.

“Mostly different. We share one in common, and that’s taking you guys out. I refuse to let Xara return, I must be the only admin here,” he said.

“As for you guys, getting revenge for Mr. Grizz, and finishing what I was assigned to do,” said Thunder.

“We won’t let you all get away with it!” said Solar.

“Pfft, well, you may try,” said Dimentio.

We got ready to fight. Thunder and Radar were still tough to handle, but even more so with Dimentio aiding them in the fight. We needed a better strategy. Suddenly, the roof to the terminal broke open, and tons of large bug-like creatures with large fangs broke in. Everyone stopped what they were doing. Nobody had a clue what happened.

“No, this can’t be! How did a virus of this strength get in here?!” said Dimento. The bug-like creatures began tearing up the place and consuming whatever it could find. Other metaverse users quickly logged off.

“The Cybugs, I must’ve spread them here by accident. They were only meant for Max’s lab,” said Radar.

“Radar you fool!” said Thunder.

Dimentio looked nervous. I knew he was weak to viruses, especially one that is so much more advanced.

“Alright Radar, we must act now,” said Dimentio.

Radar made a leap for me and tackled me to the ground. I didn’t know what was happening, but he was able to grab my Super Merge. Dimentio scanned it and made a copy of his own. I managed to grab my copy back, but Dimentio was already using it on him and Radar. The two were infused into one now.

“Radar?” said Thunder.

“Your friend Radar here didn’t tell you the secret part of the plan. In exchange for helping me lure the heroes here, and prevent myself from dying to these viruses with his merged body, he has demanded that I eliminate you as well,” said Dimentio.

“What?! How could that be? Radar would never,” said Thunder.

“Yes well, he’s grown tired of being bossed around. It’s time for the tables to turn,” said Dimentio.

Dimentio opened up an opening which led to the Minecraft world to retreat from the Cybugs, leaving the rest of us to defend ourselves from them. We all grouped up and hid from them in

another building. Now I know why my systems were freaking out, there were Cybugs everywhere eating the surrounding area. This was bad.

“Guys what do we do now? There are Cybugs everywhere,” said Sammi.

“We can’t get rid of the Cybugs here, only an admin of the Metaverse could do that. Luckily, we know a friendly former admin that could help us out. We take out Dimentio/Radar, and then restore Xara’s powers for her to take care of the viruses,” I said.

“What about my brother?” asked Orion.

“I didn’t see Thunder leave the building. My guess is that he’s still there,” I said. Orion got up to leave our hiding spot.

“You guys go get Dimentio, I’m going to save my brother,” he said. Before we could stop him, Orion took off. We had to just hope for the best for him.

“Alright then, I can open up a gateway to the Minecraft world, everyone just sit tight,” I said.

## Chapter XVII (Lunar’s POV): Admin Abuse

I was worried that Dimentio was heading for our friends. We had to get to him before he could get to Xara. He was stronger with Radar on his side now too. The getaway put us right in the Chief’s village. I looked around for where our friends could be, but they found us.

“Lunar! There you are,” said Alex.

“Thank god you’re all ok. Dimentio made his way here, and he has an ally now, which was originally the person we were chasing,” I said.

“I can sense he’s going to find the village, we need to move fast,” said Xara.

“Xara, do you know how we can restore your admin powers back?” I asked.

“We’ll need to steal them from Dimentio somehow. It’ll be hard but it’s our only choice!” she said.

We were about to make our next move, when I felt a heavy thud happen from underneath our feet. Nobody knew what was happening, we just stood in silence. All of a sudden, these huge blocky creatures that I’ve never seen before came crashing out of the ground, leaving holes everywhere. I took a closer look and saw that they were Cybugs, but more blocky, and still huge. They must’ve been brought here by Radar when he was here before.

“Oh my god what the hell are these things!?” asked Alex.

“Another virus from our future Earth. They devour everything. We need to hide now,” I said.

We all hid inside a building in the village. The Chief came to join us.

“What is going on?” he asked.

“There are huge scary creatures in the form of a virus here. Not like Zero, these ones only know to consume and reproduce,” I said.

“That’s not good. I don’t know what I can do for now. There is an underground tunnel that you guys can use as shelter. Archer can lead you guys there, and I will tell our villagers to stay inside and hidden,” said the Chief.

“Sounds like a plan,” I said.

“Alright, this way guys,” said Archer.

He brought us down the building and broke a few blocks, revealing a much larger tunnel. Archer closed to the entrance behind us.

“We should be safe here. Ugh, I can still hear all of them up there,” said Solar.

“On the bright side, at least Dimentio has to deal with the Cybugs too,” said Sammi.

“Yeah but, we’re gonna have a harder time getting to him now too,” said Solar.

“Guys don’t worry, we just camp in here and think of a plan,” said Rocco.

“The tunnel goes on for some time, so we can try to bust out where there are less Cybugs,” said Archer.

“Sounds good.” I said.

We started to walk, but we heard another scary noise through a wall.

“Uh oh?” said Kailani.

She was right, a warden suddenly broke through the wall. We didn’t know what to do at first. It tried going for us, but something pulled it back into the wall. All we could hear was the dying sound of a warden.

“Who saved us? Thank you stranger!” said Solar.

I was still worried. I wanted to take a closer look, but suddenly, a much larger creature came out. It was a Cybug, and it consumed the warden that tried to attack us.

“This one looks special,” said Sammi.

The Cybug charged up a blast similar to the warden’s and started going for us.

“It inherited its traits! We have to go now,” I said.

Everyone made a run for it down the tunnel. I felt like we were reliving a dream. The Cybug was way more deadly though. It was slightly faster and was eating everything we tried throwing at it. When we got near the end of the tunnel, Archer broke a hole to the surface and quickly blocked the Cybug in before it could get it. It was going to escape, but we had time to run away from it to lose it.

“I still have Dimentio’s trail. Once we get to him, I think all we need to do is use Zero to extract his admin powers and transfer them to me. Then I can resolve this whole mess,” said Xara.

“That works with us. Let’s go!” said Solar.

We began our last hunt for Dimentio. We couldn’t just wait for him to come to us every time. He was far away, but we couldn’t give up. Luckily, the Cybugs were grouped up mainly in one area for now. We had time before they spread across the world. Along the way, we talked about an escape plan with Ruby, Oona, and Max. If we need to all get out, they will have a command ready to take our AI friends back to a safe spot. Max will be able to spawn a rift portal at us that will return us back home. Max also said he was going to try to deal with the Cybug problem since no one else there knows about them. He needed to make sure they didn’t get out and breach into the lab, or else the systems would start failing. We eventually made it to a large snow biome. It’s been a while since we traveled through one of these.

“He’s here,” said Xara.

Everyone began looking around. All of a sudden, he popped up right in front of us and tried to attack Xara. The rest of us were there to follow up.

“Just when I thought I was in the clear you guys showed up,” said Dimentio.

“There’s nowhere left to go, Dimentio. And just so you know, the Cybugs are here. I need my admin back so I can fix everything,” said Xara.

“I never thought I had to see you again. Where has the time gone Xara,” said Dimentio.

“I’ve had it with you, Dimentio. You didn’t have to do this to me. To us even. We were such good friends and you ruined it,”

“It’s not my fault. I could see a better world with just me in charge,”

“I saw and still see so much potential in you. But you just had to ruin it,” said Xara.

“Maybe, but times have changed. I need to get rid of you once and for all,” he said. Dimentio summoned more of his robots to help him out. We needed to get Zero close to him and get the powers. Everyone held the line for me while I brought out Zero. Archer lended out a hand too. Soon, we had him back in action and woke him up.

“Hm? Why am I here again?” he asked.

“Listen! We need your help again,” I said.

“Oh great, it’s you guys,” said Zero.

“Come on just one more time. We need you to get Dimentio’s admin power for us. Please?” I asked.

He hesitated, but got up and joined our party once again. We waited for a good time for Zero to strike, but Dimentio countered every attempt we had.

“Cute virus you got there,” he said.

“Hey, you should’ve seen the stuff I’ve done before,” said Zero.

“Really, then take this!” said Dimentio.

He spawned more of his robots to swarm us. I was nervous for a second, but Zero punched one, and reconfigured them to fight for us.

“Woah, didn’t know you could do that,” said Kailani.

“Heh, old trick,” said Zero.

With all of the robots fighting with us now, we had the upper hand against Dimentio. Each of us took turns taking a swing at him. When everyone was through, Zero went in to deliver a punch to his face. Dimentio fell down, but then got back up.

“Ugh, that hurt,” he said.

“Hmph, to you it did,” said Zero.

We were about to finish him off for good, but a huge Cybug came out of the ground. This one was the strongest one we’ve seen so far. It looks like it was eating all of the tough minerals from underground.

“I think we have to leave this one now,” said Sammi.

“Yeah, I think so too. I called in the escape. It should be here soon,” I said.

I was right. The portal was made, and our AI friends were being teleported away.

“Stay safe guys!” said Alex.

“We’ll see you later,” said Rocco.

“Bye!” said Kailani.

“Good luck!” said Archer.

“Wait, why am I going back? I just wanna rest!” said Zero.

After I made sure everyone got out, the rest of us made it for the portal. I was waiting for Solar to catch up and get in, but to my horror Dimentio managed to grab a hold of her.

“Lunar!” she yelled.

“Solar!” I yelled back.

Dimentio typed some command and sent Solar out of here. I assume he's keeping her somewhere hostage. I was sad, but I had to get out before the Cybug got to me. I took one last look. Dimentio was about to go after me, but he didn't realize the Cybug was after him too.

"Wait, WAIT!" he yelled.

Before I knew it, the Cybug consumed Dimentio. I didn't want to be next, so I rushed out of there. I made it back to the lab with everyone else, but I had to break the news. Solar was still stuck in there with a bunch of scary creatures, and I didn't know how long she would be able to last.

## **Chapter XVIII (Lunar's POV): A Roar of Thunder**

I managed to get back safe, but Solar was in deep trouble.

"Lunar! There you are. I was getting worried," said Max.

"Solar, she's still in there. We need to save her!" I said.

"Oh no," said Oona.

"Don't worry, we'll save her, I promise," said Sammi.

I looked around, and saw Orion in the room too.

"Orion, did you find him?" I asked.

"I did, he's right there by the way," he said.

I turned around and was spooked. Thunder was there.

"Oh uh, hey," I said.

He didn't respond.

"We talked over it. For now, he won't harm us anymore," said Orion.

"Yeah, I guess it's the least I could do to redeem myself," said Thunder.

"But what happened?" I asked.

"Well I made him see that, sometimes, your family and friends are worth more than whatever pride you're chasing," said Orion.

"I'm sorry. I was so tunnel visioned. Let alone letting Radar trick me into thinking this would all lead to a good plan. I know I bossed him around a lot but, I thought we were still good friends. That's an error on my part," said Thunder.

"You best know that was wrong. Do you know the damage you've done helping Radar. Now he's teamed up with the very admin that might soon have control over Mojang if these Cybugs aren't cleaned up," I said.

"I know," he said.

"And even more so. Solar is gone now. My sister...", I said.

"Alright alright I get it. I'll leave her alone," he said.

"That's not the problem anymore. Now we have to get her back, but I have no clue how to do so in a Cybug infested world," I said.

"Hey, we're right by your side Lunar. We'll do this together," said Orion.

"Thank you," I said.

"We were able to track down where Dimentio sent Solar through our systems. We can send you and your AI friends back there," said Ruby.

"Thank you Ruby. Sammi and Orion?" I asked.



“Of course I’m coming,” she said.

“I’m gonna lend a hand too,” he said, “Brother?”

Thunder didn’t say anything at first.

“Only for revenge, I’ll come too,” he said.

“Let’s go!” I said.

I was way more motivated now that we had the gang together. We had to save Solar no matter what. We all hopped through the rift one last time. I was not coming out without Solar by my side. We were spawned right next to our AI friends.

“Thank god you guys got back,” said Kailani.

“Where’s Solar?” asked Alex.

“Missing...for now. We will get her back,” I said.

“Oh cool. Who’s the new guy?” asked Rocco.

“Oh! You guys have never met Thunder yet. He’s my little bro. He tried to kill me but you know brother things!” said Orion.

“Yes... thanks for introducing me. All I know is that we both share a common enemy now, and I won’t stop until he, well they, are destroyed,” said Thunder.

“Wait, little bro?” asked Sammi.

He sighed.

“Yes, I’m younger despite my strength, but not a lot of difference!” he said.

“Well it’s sweet that you brought in some family,” said Xara.

I looked and saw Zero standing by himself in the corner.

“Hey! Are you not going to join our reunion?” I asked.

“I’m just calming down. What is it?” he asked.

“Well you know, did you get anything?” I asked.

“What, you mean the admin powers? I got some but not all. Dimentio still has them, I couldn’t break through his firewall that was hiding most of them. His merge with that Radar dude must’ve blocked my hacking attempt,” said Zero.

“Wait, Xara?” asked Sammi.

Xara showed off what she could do. It wasn’t a lot, but I could tell she had some powers back.

“No way! You got them!” I said.

“Haha, I sure did, thanks to all of you. I did some scans with the powers I got back. It is really nice to see your relationships. And especially Zero, to be working with you. I saw the damage you’ve done in the past,” said Xara.

“Oh well, it wasn’t my fault I developed a personality. I was only supposed to steal data, not gain consciousness,” said Zero.

“And what an exciting personality you turned out with. Joking of course,” said Xara, “Anyways, now I know how we can fix the Cybug problem. We have to find where they first came from,”

“That’s perfect. Ruby’s coordinates said that Solar is somewhere in the Metaverse now,” I said.

“What about us? We can’t come,” said Alex.

“Don’t worry, we can defend the village from the Cybugs while they are out and about,” said Archer.

“Are you sure? There’s a lot of them right now,” said Rocco.

“We’ll help too! I’m sure they can get Solar out safely,” said Sammi.

“I’ll stay too. I don’t really want to travel through more gateways today. Thunder, you go with Lunar,” he said.

“I suppose if I have to,” said Thunder.

“We’ll still need your power Zero. You’re coming with us,” said Xara.

“Fine, but put me out of my misery after,” he said.

Xara opened a direct gateway to the Metaverse, and the 4 of us took off. When we got there, things were chaotic. There were Cybugs roaming and flying everywhere now. There also was not a single user online.

“So that’s why they are called Cybugs,” said Thunder.

“Quickly, this way,” said Xara.

We followed her through some more paths she created. I wasn’t sure where she was taking us, but soon we were underground, and there was a huge nest shaped object in front of us.

“What is this?” asked Zero.

“The very source of the Cybugs. They planted themselves right in the root of the Metaverse. It’ll be a little harder to delete them now. I didn’t expect them to have a nest of this size,” she said.

“We can do it. Now let’s go,” said Thunder.

He jumped down and ran for the nest, slamming any Cybugs out of the way. I’ll just say that I was glad he was fighting on our side now. I thought he was going to solo his way there, but one Cybug came out to stop him in his tracks. Thunder immediately ran back for us. It must’ve been the first one to come here.

“As I suspected, the very first one to establish presence here. And it’s huge!” said Xara.

She wasn’t kidding. It was the largest Cybug we’ve encountered. Not even Thunder could take it on. Zero tried using his own hacks against it, but they were immune.

“This is some tough virus. Who even made it?” asked Zero.

“Not Mason or anyone from that Earth. I didn’t know they were so powerful in the future either,” I said.

“I don’t have my admin powers up to delete things yet, but I think we can counter it. If I can get up close I can directly mess with its systems. But I risk dying since I’m still just an AI. And there’s no way for me to hack in,” said Xara.

That gave me an idea. Just like Dimentio merged with Radar, we could do the same here to keep Xara safe, and give her Thunder’s strength and size. We could even throw in Zero for the mix. I told them about the idea I had.

“Well, I think it has a chance at working,” said Xara.

“Not sure how I feel about it, but sure,” said Zero.

“Hmph, that bug thinks we’re just gonna roll over because it puffed up, got all big and weird looking. I’ve had it with these bugs. It’s GO time!” said Thunder.

I gathered them into place, then used the Super Merge on them. I was a little scared to see what I made after, but it was actually not that bad.

“Wow, this is what it feels like to be this physical,” said Xara.

“Yeah you know it. I’ll unmerge you guys after, but for now, go get them guys,” I said.

“With pleasure,” she said.

My theory ended up being correct. Xara, now immune to the Cybugs digital effects, was able to crush them up and delete them with brute strength. She confronted the large one and had a short battle with it. I was a little nervous, but I saw her using some of Zero’s hacks to get into it and destroy it for good. With it out of the way, she was able to completely destroy the nest as well. I unmerged them afterwards.

“Oh boy, that was rough,” said Zero.

“My head hurts. Did we win?” asked Thunder.

“OH my god that felt so good. I forgot what it was like to have fun,” said Xara.

“Glad you guys, mostly enjoyed it,” I said.

Xara brought us all back to the surface. There weren’t more bugs spawning, but there were a bunch to kill.

“You guys, take care of the rest. I still need to save Solar,” I said.

“I can send you there directly. Be careful, she seems to be in an unknown area of the Metaverse,” said Xara.

I thanked her and the others, then stepped into the gateway. I had to just hope for the best now.

## **Chapter XIX (Lunar’s POV): EMP Blast Activated**

Xara sure was right, this area of the Metaverse wasn’t even developed yet. I’m not even sure how Solar got sent here. I made sure to be aware of my surroundings as I walked closer and closer to Solar, the tracker was reacting loudly now. There were still no signs of her, so I climbed on this little hill to take a look. It was like made of bytes or something, which was kinda cool. When I got to the top, I saw a familiar energy cage from before. It looked like the one at Thunder’s base, except the energy was different. More importantly, Solar was inside. I immediately rushed down and went to it. I yelled her name, but I got no response which was strange. Before I could get close, something huge from above came down and knocked me far back. It hurt pretty bad, but I didn’t even know what it was.

“Welcome to the boss level!” they said.

I couldn’t believe it, it was Dimentio. Or so I thought. I remembered that Cybugs inherit the traits of whatever they eat, it must’ve merged even further when it ate Dimentio and Radar. This Cybug was way bigger than the one at the nest, and it had Dimentio’s mind.

“Dimentio...,” I said.

“Because of you Lunar, and your friends’ attempt to stop me, I’m now the most powerful virus in the digital world!” he said menacingly.

“What do you want with Solar? I’m here for her, not you,” I said.

“What? The little one you mean?. She contains a power I have never seen before. Even more than I have right now. With it extracted, there’s nothing stopping me from taking over other online systems,” he said.

“You can’t do that! She’s done nothing wrong, and already suffered from people wanting her power,” I said.

“Well if she didn’t want to be chased, then maybe it should’ve been you who was built with all of the power, don’t you think? I mean just look at her and you. She’s obviously the stronger one,” he said.

Dimentio was right about that one. Solar’s energy is far better than mine, even if I’ve never talked about it a lot.

“You’ve never wanted anything with her. Why won’t you just leave her alone Radar?” I asked.

I realized that I could talk to the two at the same time like this.

“Thunder never gave up chasing her, and whatever teamwork we had before, I really just wanted her power for myself. It’s the closest I’ve ever been, and I won’t let you get in the way,” he said.

They were done talking after that, and charged right for me. I knew I couldn’t take him on alone, so I tried to dodge his attacks until I could think of something. It was hard, his bug legs kept getting in my way, and he was able to just toss me around like a pebble.

“Come back here little guy!” he said.

I tried using my Super Merge to create something for me to use, but he was able to immediately delete and shut it down. I thought I had a good opportunity, so I ran towards Solar. Unfortunately, I didn’t get very far.

“Where do you think you’re going?! We’re going up now, Lunar!” said Dimentio. He quite literally picked me up, and started flying to a very high height.

“Well, why don’t we watch her die together!” he said.

I was stuck in his grasp, but I still kept thinking. I noticed that the top of the cage had a weaker side to it. If I fell all the way down and tanked the energy, I would be able to get in.

“Ha ha! It’s game over for the both of you,” he said.

“No, just me,” I said.

After that, I broke out of his grasp and started falling all the way back down. I was nervous, and I had no clue if the idea would work. I got closer and closer to the ground, wondering if I would be able to even survive a fall from here. After steering closer to the cage, I landed, and got in. That surprised me. I rushed over to Solar only to see she was unconscious. There were a bunch of wires attached to her, collecting her energy and data. I broke them all and managed to wake her up.

“Solar! Are you there?!?” I asked.

She eventually responded.

“Oh my god, you’re here,” she said.

“Of course I am. I wasn’t just going to leave you,” I said.

“Where’s Dimentio?” she asked.

I pointed to the sky, he was up there, and coming down fast.

“We need to get out of here somehow, but I have no more rifts out,” I said.

We both broke our way out of the cage using our combined strength. I really had no clue how we were going to deal with Dimentio now. He seemed unstoppable.

“What are we going to do?” asked Solar.

I wasn't sure myself. I was still trying to think of something, when something out of thin air popped out from the sky. I picked up the item. It was an EMP bomb, with a note attached from Max. It read "Use it well". I knew what had to be done now. An EMP bomb of this size would completely destroy Dimentio and any digital land nearby. Before I got to use it, Dimentio caught up with us and grabbed Solar again.

"Ahh!" she yelled.

"Hey, hand her back!" I said.

"Really? Come and get her then." said Dimentio.

He started running off with her again, leaving me to chase him down. Solar wasn't able to get out of his grasp. I started scanning the land ahead to see where we were going. To my surprise, there was natural terrain in the Metaverse, and we were approaching a deep cliff of some kind. I was slowly falling behind, but I didn't know how I could catch up in time. Luckily, some miracle happened, and all of a sudden, Dimentio was knocked back by some unknown force. He landed not too far back from me, but Solar was sent flying in the air because of it. I tried to catch her, but someone already got her.

"Stupid bug," it was Thunder.

"Thunder!?" said Solar.

"Hey don't worry, this rescue is free of charge," he said.

For once, I was happy that Thunder had Solar.

"Don't worry, he's not gonna harm us," I said.

She looked afraid, but soon calmed down.

"Well, you can put me down," said Solar.

"Oh right. Sorry force of habit," said Thunder.

"Why are you here?" I asked.

"Xara sensed you needed help, so she opened a gateway for me to come. How was dealing with Dimentio?" he asked.

"He's too strong. I can't use any of my normal weapons against him. And we can't straight up delete him because of Radar," I said.

"The cage! It was extracting my power, but luckily it didn't finish. If we use it on him, we can drain the life out of him," said Solar.

"Wow, that's dark. Even for me," said Thunder.

Dimentio noticed Thunder and came back for him now. I could tell the Radar part of him wanted his revenge.

"I'll stall for now, think of something," he said.

He went to fight off them, leaving Solar and I to grab the cage, and remodify it for our own purpose.

"You're not too hurt right?" I asked.

"Of course not, I just couldn't hear anything from inside. It does hurt a little bit though," she said.

"Glad you're safe," I said.

With the EMP bomb, we turned the cage into the bomb itself. After setting a timer and letting it count down, we had our weapon ready for use. Right in time too, Thunder wasn't doing so well. We rushed next to him to lend a hand. With some coordination and teamwork, we

fought him and started trapping him in the cage. It was hard, but soon he was stuck in there for good.

“Hey! Let me out!” he said.

We knew we had to get out soon since the bomb was ticking. Thunder and I got out of the radius, but Dimentio got a grip onto Solar again.

“Ahh!” she yelled.

By this time, the bomb was near ready to detonate, and the energy around us was starting to act weird. I was scared so to speak.

“If I go down, so will you!” said Dimentio.

I didn’t know what to do. All I knew was that I was going to protect Solar before myself. I quickly rushed in, despite the bomb making it hard to do so.

“Where are you going?!” asked Thunder.

I hopped in the cage, and fought Dimentio myself until he let go of Solar. I quickly threw her out and back to Thunder. I knew I didn’t have time to escape now.

“Get out!” I said.

“What about you!?” asked Solar.

“I’ll see you later,” I said with a smile.

Solar didn’t want to go, but Thunder picked her up and took a gateway out. Dimentio was still mad, but he soon realized what was gonna happen.

“Wait, WAIT!” he said.

I braced for impact as the bomb went off, and a huge energy surge came out, messing up anything digital in a wide radius. It hurt a lot, and I didn’t even know what was happening. All I know is that when I opened my eyes again, I couldn’t access my computer anymore.

## **Chapter XX (Lunar’s POV): Life will Change**

I got up and looked around, everything was disabled. The area was completely blacked out and powerless. Dimentio sure was gone, as well as his Cybug form. Everything was deleted. Next to me on the ground was Radar. He must’ve unmerged during the explosion since he was still a human. I could tell that now, I was no longer an AI. I couldn’t use any of my original powers. At least I still had my weapons. A gateway opened up, and a bunch of my friends came in. Xara, Thunder, Zero, Solar, Sammi, Orion, almost everyone was there. The first thing Solar did was run up and gave me a hug, and started crying. I did the same.

“How come... you did that for me? Look at you. All bruised up and stuff. You’re not an AI anymore,” said Solar.

I chuckled.

“Solar, there’s a lot more important things in my life than having my AI abilities. I was pretty excited when I realized I had them but, I think my family matters more to me,” I said.

She started bawling again. The others came up to take a look as well.

“Well, it looks like you took care of the old admin yourself. I was hoping to get some revenge,” said Xara.

“No worries! He’s gone for good. You’re the sole admin here now,” I said.

“Heh, thanks to all you guys. I owe you all one,” she said.

“Thunder here was a big help!” I said.

“Yeah, whatever. Only did it for my brother of course. It was worth putting my pride behind,” he said.

“I’m glad you did too,” said Orion.

“And Zero! You did great. I’m happy we got to work together,” I said.

“Meh, don’t count on doing more stuff with me. When we get back, I’m gonna ask to be powered off again. But sure, I did have some fun I suppose,” he said.

“I’m glad you aren’t dead. Good to see you alive,” said Sammi.

“Thanks, I’m glad we were able to fix your lab,” I said.

Radar also slowly woke up. We all turned to him.

“Oh, oh hey guys,” he said.

He tried to take off, but Thunder was one step ahead of him, and stopped him in his tracks.

“I don’t think so buddy. It’s time for you to explain what you did,” he said.

A rift back to Earth opened up, and they left first.

“I think we’ll all go back, but we’ll visit again Xara!” said Solar.

“No worries, take care. I have to fix stuff here,” she said.

We rifted back to Earth. Thunder was already throwing Radar into a police car.

“Oh my god Lunar. You’ve changed,” said Max.

“Yeah, so it turns out the EMP bomb removed my abilities. I think I’m just human,” I said.

He smiled.

“It’s ok. You did a good thing. For what it’s worth, I think you’re just as awesome this way too,” he said.

I gave him a hug.

“Oona, there was a whole deal about the admin in your Metaverse. He was corrupt. Luckily, we managed to find a second admin and give her back her powers. I think you should upgrade her systems,” I said.

“Really? I had no clue. I thought Dimentio was doing a great job, until he failed to keep the Cybugs in check,” she said.

“Yeah, Xara got it all covered, don’t worry. Just keep an eye out for her,” I said.

“Thanks! Thanks for all your help to fix our systems. Feel free to visit the Metaverse anytime you want,” said Oona.

After some talking with the police, everyone went back to their respective Earth’s. I talked with Max, but apparently the energy I was generating for the world was more than enough to last to future generations, so my lack of producing it now won’t matter. In fact, we talked about my future, and how I could choose to live a life back in the Alpha Earth with my old friends.

“You’re a bright kid Lunar, AI or not. I know this is your home, but if you want to live a life outside the lab, feel free to do so anytime. We’ll always be here for you,” said Max.

“Thanks. You’re great too. I’ll think about it,” I said.

With my powers gone, the lab needed to get some enhanced security. Luckily, we recruited a new staff member for the lab. Our second security guard, Thunder. Needless to say, there was more competition than ever before between the two brothers, but at least it was more friendly. I didn't know what happened to Radar exactly, but I think Thunder made sure he was going to be locked up in a proper jail for a long time. I also took the time to go back to the Minecraft world to tell everyone there what happened, Solar came for the ride too.

"So there I was, stuck in the cage with Dimentio. The EMP bomb went off, and I lost my powers. I'm just here as a normal guy. But I still have my gear of course," I said.

"Wow, that sounds stressful," said Kailani.

"Now I have the upper hand now haha. But humans are still cool, don't worry Lunar," said Alex.

"It sounded like the adventure of a lifetime. Hopper would approve," said Rocco.

"It was very cool, and I'm so glad you guys were all part of it. I heard Xara is now officially running the Metaverse again, and things are going good for her," I said.

"She sure is thriving," said Solar.

"I chose to move back to this village officially too. It's got great things. Protecting it from the Cybugs brought me back to the good old days," said Rocco.

"We appreciate your support too Rocco. I'm gonna do more research with Zero. He doesn't seem to want to be woken up anymore, but who knows, I might surprise him with some testing one day," said Archer.

After some more catching up, Solar and I walked out of the village and said our goodbyes.

"So what are you going to do?" she asked.

"Well, I thought long and hard. I kinda miss some of the things I did back in Alpha Earth. Solar, I think I might go live there for a bit. But I'll still visit!" I said.

She looked sad, but then came to give me one last hug.

"I couldn't have asked for a better bro," she said.

"I could say the same," I said.

"When you come back, we are going to get some food alright?" she said.

"Heh, you bet," I said.

We opened our own separate rifts, and took off. I was sad to leave Solar and Max for now, but I was also excited to see what I could do without my AI abilities anymore. There were a lot of friends I had to catch up with. Finley sent me a message saying he wanted to do something one day. Whatever happened, I knew it was going to be just as fun as the adventures I've already had. But maybe I'll take a break from crashing through rifts.