

The Avatars: Frie's Book (Book 1)  
By M. W. Emrys

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2010 A.D.

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August 24  
16:00

Somewhere  
Planet Earth / System Sol / Galaxy Milky Way  
Group Andromeda / Supercluster Virgo / Universe

"For the better, right?" I asked.

"What?" She'd spaced out.

"You said, 'It s changed.' I was asking if it was for the better."

"Yes, it is for the better except for..." Her voice trailed. She did not want to finish the sentence.

I did not want to finish it either, so I just agreed with what she was clearly thinking. "Yeah, it's sad. I wish we could have stopped it."

"There is nothing we could have done. If we had stopped it no one would be here now."

Switching the subject, as we were both uncomfortable, I asked about her plans for next month. "Are you going to stay and finish school or are you going to explore?"

"I think I found what I was looking for, so I have decided to stay on Earth for now. What about you?"

"That s excellent! I got a call for a job at the D.o.E.C. I think I m going to take it."

With a smile, she said, "That s great! I always..." And with a pause I had become used to, she chose her next word with care. "... forget, remind me what that stands for again."

"Department of Extraterrestrial Cooperation."

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A few months ago my friends and I saved the universe. There were six of us:  
Akrd Arulnte, a Galthion;

Igthl Utralen, a Karlinon;  
Rai Runalte, a Hatriln;  
Ehtra Ertlanu, a Riathling;  
Teraw Tarlenu, a Weraln;  
and me Frie Nuterla; an Earthling. This is our story.