Chapter 12:

“Three hours of work” Henry said. “Let’s see how it pays off.”

“Two and a half hours, actually.” Ryan corrected.

“Details, details.”

After Henry, Ryan and Portia finished building their weapon, they headed to another room on the same floor to test it out, as everyone else was doing as well.

Henry pointed the gun at the goal on the opposite side of the room. Usually, it was used for games like Synchronize for point scoring, but for now it was a target.

“First thing’s first, Henry. Shoot it normally. Make sure we didn’t break it and it blows up in our faces.”

“We didn’t break anything.” Portia said. “I triple checked everything. It’s going to work fine. And even if it didn’t work, it would take some serious messing around to get a sync energy gun to explode.”

“Blah blah blah, let’s do this thing!”

Henry pulled back on the trigger and watched as the light exited from the barrel of the gun. One at a time, he pulled then released.

“Works fine. We are geniuses.”

“Taking credit for something you didn’t do, again?” Tsudo’s voice chimed in.

The group turned to see her and her group standing at the entrance of the training room.

“Of course… Big O.” Henry said rolling his eyes.

“And company.” Napp said. “No one ever seems to announce my name when I enter a room.”

“What are you doing here, Tsudo?” Ryan growled. “I thought you guys were done with your weapon.”

“Of course we’re done.” Tsudo said. “When everyone on your team contributes, you get the job done much more easily. We’re just checking on the competition.”

“It’s not a contest.” Ryan said.

“Oh Ryan… has the Garbage’s influence finally gotten to you? The General of the Technological Department is here, and only months before we all become soldiers. He’s not here for the fun of it. Clearly Zordo brought him here to scout for potential recruits.”

“You honestly expect us to believe that you’re here to make sure you get into Savvi’s department? That’s going to be hard, especially considering you’ve been bragging about how team three will get into the Department of Defense ever since we first started training.”

“And we’re going to. Just like General Savvi is here, the other generals will be showing up as well. When General Vatti comes, she won’t know what to do with us. Until then, we don’t need to overly impress the other generals, but getting them talking will keep us in Vatti’s mind. So I’ve got to make sure we do better than the rest, including the lowest garbage.”

Ryan began to speak, but before he could say anything, Henry fired another shot. The sharp noise stopped Ryan from saying anything, and instead let Henry speak.

“You don’t spy on someone who isn’t a threat, Big O. The fact that you guys are here means that you think we stand a chance at showing you up. You think we’re a threat.”

“How dare you!” Carol screamed. Her voice squeaking as she reached the higher parts of her sentence. “You think your lousy skills can even compare to Big O’s?! She’d destroy you in any prfrbrfasasd.”

Carol found her mouth being covered up by Napp’s hand. After a couple of seconds of more yelling, he finally let her go.

“Why did you do that!?”

“Because your voice gets annoying when you scream that loud.” Napp stuck his pinkie in his ear. “Man, I thought my ears were gonna bleed.”

“Ew! Bleh! Gross! If you’re going to put your fingers in your ears, don’t cover my mouth with them.”

“Whatever. Big O, can we go?” Napp pleaded. “They’re about to call us back to demonstrate our weapons and I’m seriously bored here.”

Tsudo smirked as she headed to the exit of the room.

“Don’t mess up on your demonstration, Trash.” She called back to Henry. “It could really hurt your chances of getting into the Department of Technology, or any department for that matter.”

With that, Tsudo’s group departed..

“Finally.” Henry said. “Now let’s finish testing this thing.” He hugged the trigger, this time without letting go. The stream continually shot out beams of energy with only a split second pause between each.

“It works!” Portia smiled. “Department of Technology, here I come!”

“Well, I don’t know about all that.” Henry said. “But we’ll definitely pass this portion of the class.”

Portia realized Henry was once again implying that he did not want to go to that department, but she was too happy to care. Her invention was working perfectly.

“Just think of what we can do with this?” She said excitedly. “This will help immensely with aiming. Shoot a line of sync energy at level 1 constantly, and you can aim before firing the actual shot. Since Sync energy doesn’t leave any sign unless water’s involved, this could make a big leap.”

“Hey, Ryan.” Henry noticed. “You want to get happy? We just finished making an awesome weapon.”

“It’s just Tsudo.”

“Man, you have got to relax with that. It’s me she has the problem with.”

“I can’t help it. There’s no point to what she’s doing.”

“You’re right, there isn’t. But there’s no point in you getting mad about it either.”

Henry gave the gun to Portia and began heading towards the exit. The others could tell from his walk he was frustrated. “Let me fight my own battles. I don’t need your help for everything, especially Tsudo.”

Henry left before Ryan could retort. Ryan didn’t mean to upset Henry but he couldn’t think of anything he could say to him to make it right. Instead, he just let out a sigh.

“Another day in the life of Green.”

He headed out of the room, back towards the way they came. And now that the other two had left, Portia hugged the weapon in her hands. She hadn’t been afraid to do it in front of her teammates, but the knowledge that she was alone forced her emotions to act. She had theories left and right about technology, but this time Savvi was going to see one of them. Incredibly proud of herself, Portia built up saliva in her mouth and spit on the floor. She knew just how to clean it up. She pointed the Handheld at the spot and let it fire. The stream white energy hit the spot of the saliva. Once it was over, the saliva was gone. Yes! She didn’t need a modified pistol to clean up saliva, all sync weapons effected water and any used for offensive purposes would evaporate. Celebrating her success, the Green did a twirl. She held out the weapon and gazed at it’s glory. It looked just like any other…

What was that? Portia pulled the weapon closer to her face. The energy dial was set level one. That shouldn’t have been a surprise to Portia. Ryan specifically made sure Henry had set the gun to one, to make sure no one got hurt. Anything higher than level four could be dangerous, and anything higher than level six was deadly. But it was the saliva. She shot the saliva realizing that the weapon would evaporate it, but sync weapons should only evaporate water at level three or higher, since the saliva had completely vanished, that meant the weapon was at least on level nine. This wasn’t right. Portia quickly grabbed her kit kept at the right side of her waist. She quickly disassembled the gun and looked at the components. There could only be one thing causing this. The capsule that held the sync energy hadn’t been calibrated correctly. It was releasing more energy than it was supposed to. But… but the group hadn’t even messed with the calibration of the capsule. They had never been taught how to calibrate capsules. The weapon worked, but it was dangerous to use. If it actually hit someone, it could…

Portia pushed that thought out of her mind and immediately set out to work. There was still time left. Surely she could fix it in time for the demonstration.

Chapter 12 End