**Chapter 43**

Zordo pressed a couple of buttons on his display. The bigger screen on the wall cooperated with the buttons he was pressing. Good, the two displays were synced. He took a quick glance at the room. The table was placed directly in the center, as he wanted. The four chairs were set across the table from him. Though the room was compact, there was plenty of space for people to walk around from their seat if they need to. All he needed now was…

“I’m just saying, we would’ve killed a Discrete by now if we were with Vatti.”

“All you’ve done since we’ve gotten here is whine about the Department of Defense. I didn’t get into what I wanted either, yet you don’t see me crying about it.”

“Guys, lets discuss this later. Henry, try to keep your attitude in check.”

They were here good. Zordo watched as the door opened, bringing in much more light into the room than he had made available. Ryan, Portia and Henry all walked in. Henry sat on the seat on the far end and faced away from everyone. Portia sat next to him and placed her display down. Ryan sat between Portia, and the empty chair meant for Zordo.

“Good morning team.” Zordo said. He pushed a few buttons on his display. “I’ve sent you a program to sync up your displays with each other and this big one. Go ahead and activate them.”

The three pushed buttons on their displays. After that, Zordo pressed a few more on his own. A map appeared on everyone’s display, including the big one on the wall.

“This is our target.” Zordo said. “The Discretes’ now use it as a base, but it was once a food management resource. We need to disconnect the power to a very specific room. Portia…”

Portia became more attentive.

“What do you recommend?”

The question had surprised Portia. She thought she would just be listening. As she stared at the map, she could feel her heart beating faster. What was she supposed to say? What were the answers? How was she supposed to know?

“Port.” Ryan chuckled as he spoke. “You nervous?”

“It’s Port.” Henry said. “When is she not nervous?”

“Well, let me take a crack at it.”

Ryan pushed some buttons on his Display. The map slowly shifted to show more colorful lines on it.

“This is the power grid right, if we disconnect that room from the source, we can easily accomplish the mission.”

“That won’t work.” Portia insisted.

“Why not?”

“Oh my goodness, look at the map, Ryan. It says it right there.”

Portia picked up her display and zoomed in on a section.

“This building has is connected to the overall Source grid, but it has it’s own backup generator. The only way we could cut it off is to do it from both the inside and the outside, and I don’t think we want to get inside of the building.”

“Some of us do.” Henry said.

Ryan ignored Henry and kept talking.

“Well, if we can’t get cut the power by cutting off the power, how are we supposed to disconnect it.”

“You two are so simple minded. There’s more than one way to stop power flow. For example, you can overload it.”

“Overload it?” Zordo said.

His voice almost stunned Portia. She had forgotten for a moment that he was in the room.

“Y..yes. Overload it. Maybe. I mean, I guess that’s the right answer.”

“So, we just turn the power up a lot!” Ryan said.

Portia slapped her palm to her face.

“Remember what Official D said. We don’t want to turn the power off to the whole building. Just that specific room. We’d have to access one of the power panels on the outside of the building.”

Zordo was tempted to speak again, but he recalled how his actions effected Portia and let her continue.

“There are components in the power panels that make sure rooms get regulated amounts of sync energy. Every building has them.”

Portia fiddeled with her display. The map on the screens zoomed in to one side of the building.

“These panels here. There’d be a component for every room. If you were to break the one belonging to the target room, then the power would be out.”

“But we can’t get close.” Ryan said.

“We don’t have to.” Portia said. “The panels measure sync energy. They only measure Sync 2 though. Almost any type of sync 0 near their general area would completely destroy them.”

“A grenade?” Henry asked.

Portia let out a loud sigh. She did not care, she wanted her teammates to see her frustration.

“A grenade would make all them go off. I repeat. We. Don’t. Want. That. We need a weapon with precision, that would be capable of targeting precisely one of the small components.”

“A sniper.” Zordo said. He zoomed out of the map. Those boxes are in clear sight of these buildings. If we set up sniper in one of these locations, we could easily take out the component and still safely watch the reaction.”

“We should take the ones in the south.” Ryan said. “They give us much better vision.”

“That’s dumb.” Henry said. “The one on the left has a longer building. It’d give us a much better escape route.”

“But what if we have to fight?” Portia said. “In all that confusion, it’d be difficult.”

“No, Henry’s right.” Ryan said. “Our missions is to get in, observe and get out. Better escape than to fight Discretes we’re not supposed to”

“Wait, no.” Henry said. “Maybe we should take the other route. Fighting might be worth it if we can see what’s happening.”

“No, you were right the first time, Henry.” Zordo said. “Fighting is not our priority here.”

Henry folded his arms in frustration. His words had been used to get exactly what he didn’t want.

“Okay team six. We will locate ourselves on the third floor of this building. You three will keep look out while I take the shot. Once the component is destroyed, we will observe their reaction. Portia, can you pinpoint the exact location of the component if I give you a detailed schematic.”

“Y-yes. Of course.”

“Okay then, if you need anything else, be sure to check storage for it. We’ll take off tomorrow morning. Meeting adjourned.”

**Chapter 43 End**