

Indigo hands her card to the man in front of her, careful to keep her expression neutral and her body language relaxed, trying to present herself in a confident natural manner. The man looks between the card and her a few times, squinting. Indigo wait patiently, but after sixty seconds go by with him still studying the card, she feels the need to speed things up.

"Is there a problem?" She asks. Again, the man looks between her and the card.

"You do realize that the ships we have are limited, right?" He asks, looking down at her, finally putting the card at his side. Indigo lets her composure fall for just a moment before pulling herself back together.

"Yes, I'm aware. That is why I'm here," she answers calmly.

"Is it?" The man prods, and Indigo knows hes figured at least part of her act out. "Are you going to stand here and tell me this is you?" He asks, showing her the image on her ID card. Indigo just blinks at it, nodding. "So... you're going to expect me to believe that you showed up here in the same suit, same hair, same glasses, and even the same scrunchie?" Uh-oh.

"Ohhh," Indigo laughs, her quick thinking driving her response. "I had to renew my ID before I came here. I took the picture a few hours ago," she explains. "While planning my trip I realized it was expired, it was a whole ordeal just to get here," she laughs, hoping her sloppy plan b doesn't backfire on her.

"You said you got this a few hours ago?" The man asks, returning to his darting between her and the card. Indigo practically holds her breath as she desperately waits for him to make the final call. At this point, they would be here hours after the ship had already taken off. "Alright," he gives in, handing it back to her, and Indigo practically skips

past him out of fear and excitement. *Thank you, Clover,* Indigo thinks to herself, looking down at her older sister's ID from a few years prior. At this moment, she's extremely grateful for the nearly identical genes they share.

Now, where to go on the ship? Her sister's role for the crew includes attending to the files of the navigation section, but all Indigo knows about that is bits and pieces of what she's heard Clover talk about. Still, if she's going to successfully pose as her sister, that's where she needs to go. She flips open one of the laptops in the room as she arrives, logging on through her sister's account. She has to search and reference a few things, but manages to complete her tasks pretty discreetly as the ship docks at a restocking station. She slips off, grateful she managed to avoid the rest of the crew.

*I did it!* She thinks to herself. Now all she has to do is find the other ship. It will be so good to see Clover again. And travel among the stars with her. A nice change of pace and place for the dying planet Indigo has just left. *Clover is going to be so excited to see me. Now she won't have left her entire family behind and I'm helping Mom and Dad by giving them more time and money to spend on the rest of our family.* Those things are scarce when a planet is midway through self destruction. Needless to say, Indigo is incredibly pleased with herself.

Now, just to hope that the rest of her plan goes, well, according to plan. If her calculations are right, Clover's ship, the *Flower*, will be docking to restock at any moment. Indigo is bubbling with excitement, and her eyes light up when she locates the blinking sign with the illuminated "F-L-O-W-E-R" on it. She dives behind one of the walls and peaks around, excitedly waiting to catch her sister and surprise her.

Unfortunately for Indigo, the first few people to ocome into the storage facility are Clover's crew mates. They set down and pick up boxes, returning to the ship. Just as Indigo is about to lose hope, a familiar girl in a green suit omes off the ship with a clipboard, counting up the boxes in front of her as she scribbles down some notes. *She must've switched jobs in the few years she's been away. I'm lucky to have gotten away with performing her old one.*

Though Indigo has been planning this for months, just seeing her sister after so long makes it hard to move. But she knows if she doesn't, she'll lose her only chance to go with her. Clover works for a very secretive ship, and it took so much investigation to get to this point. But how exactly to surprise her?

Turns out, Indigo doesn't have to ochoose because she accidentally knocks something over. Clover's head snaps up and she looks around, eventually calling out,

"Who's there?! Show yourself or I'll report to the owners of this facility that they have a trespasser on their property." Indigo steps out and holds her breath as her sister looks at her. Clover squints, muttering something about a holographic mirror, before taking her glasses out of her pockets. "*Indigo?!*" She gasps.

"Surprise!" with her sister speechless, Indigo runs over and wraps her in a hug. "I've come to join your crew!"

"What?" Clover says, pulling away. "Indie, you have to go back home." Indigo blinks at her, positive she must've misheard.

"What? I came all this way to see you."

"You shouldn't have!" Clover snaps. "You need to go back. Now."

"But why? I'm here to join!" Clover shakes her head.

"You're not ready, sis. And I left so Mom and Dad could still have at

least *two* of their daughters. They're going to be so heartbroken when they realize you've vanished!"

"Oh, don't worry, I left a note. And things haave been getting progressively worse. I can help you locate another liveable planet! We can go back when we know how to save them."

"A *note*?" Clover scoffs. "Indie," she shakes her head. "You are absolutely not coming with me. I don't know how you goot here, but you need to go back. I'll see what ship is heading to our home planet."

"No!" Indigo swipes the screen from Clover. "I'm not going *anywhere*. And I am ready. I posed on a ship as you and everything went smoothly. I'm definitely apt enough to join!"

"It doesn't matter. You're going back home." Clover tugs the screen back and types a few things in, flipping it so Indigo can see. "You take the *Font* back, alright? You're not boarding my ship, so you need to get on that one, understood? I'm notifying the captain right now."

"Clover, this is crazy! Why aren't you letting me come with you?"

"It'll be here in ten," Clover answers instead. "Goodbye. And *Don't* try to track me. You won't be able to figure out where I'm headed this time." With that, Clover marches back onto her ship and closes the connector gate before Indigo can rush after.

She stares, dumbfounded, at where her sister was just standing. Of all reactions, this one definitely wasn't what she was expecting. *Go home? To a dying planet?* Clover has gone mad. Not only that, but Indigo barely even recognizes her anymore. She thought Clover would be excited. Instead, she's off on another secretive mission that Indigo *won't be able to track*.

Wait... Indigo smiles to herself, her mind filling with an idea. Patterns of Clover's ship routes swim through her mind as she

remembers Clover's old login still works. Indigo only used it for the tasks, but she could access Clover's old drive. If she can analyze one or more routes, she may be able to finally cross reference Clover's course. Unfortunately, that will take time. But what Indigo has also figured out is going to make up for that. The *only* place around the storage unit that faces interference is the nearby asteroid field. Clover has to be going toward it to be so confident about Indigo's inability to find her. And... just like Indigo doesn't recognize Clover anymore, Clover is also about to realize she doesn't know her younger sister at all. And that underestimating is going to cost her. Now, all Indigo needs is a ship of her own. If Clover isn't going to help her, well, then she'll have to do it all on her own.

*I've got a planet to save.* Now, which next docking is going toward the asteroid belt? Indigo goes up to the hub computer and tracks a few down, setting her sights on the *Questrial*.