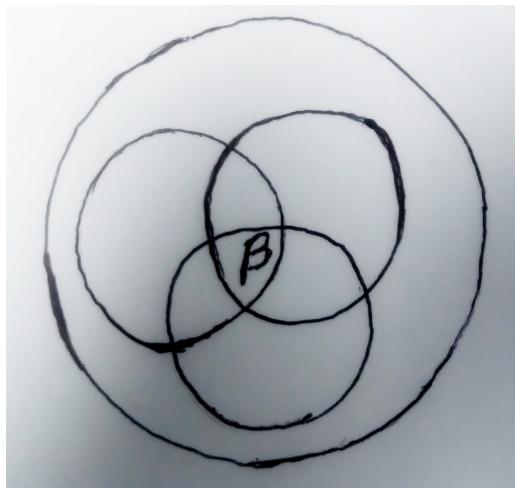


The three spheres



The Beta Sphere

9:13 AM

I see strong lights with no sense that i can't understand, im listening sounds that i don't identify, my voice sound strange and all my words are like breathtaking screams. My thoughts are low and inconsistent, my understanding is missing, evertng seams new. In fact it is new, here am i, a child in the loneness of my first thouths in a nursery of a hospital, im waiting for my mom to take me in shes arms to start the new jorney, the one that transformed our lifes in a great and unforgetfull adventure.

The kid was still alone when that strange person appeard, it was wearing a couch and a hat, it seams like the nurse but with another cloth, when it got closer, looked in the kid eyes for a few seconds and sad:

- You will understand!

It was a strange situation, the person seemed to not want to be recognized, when it realized that the mother was comming, has left in the crib a book, it actualy seemed more like a manuscript with some loosed pages.

When the mother has come, she found strange someone the fact of lefting that object in the crib, then she leaved imediately the room searching for that person, but hasn't found nobody, she asked for some people around in the corridor to see if someone has forgoten the

book, but no, the book dont have a remitter but for sure it has a receiver, the kid.

And over the book has a note that was saying.

"Stay with this, is yours, its necessary. This book is the key to us to understand the true that is coming. A big test was put in front of us."



Some weeks has pass and we where in home already, far away from the hospital, Christine who has left the book aside, felt that she would read the book when looked at it in the shelf, then took the book and started to

read:

"Maybe if i talk to you directly, perhaps you can comprehend better what is happening..."

It seemed some narrative from any history, but kept going:

"I'm talking to you mom!

Yes you.

*You has just put me to sleep in the crib, isn't it?
And now you are holding the tea mug with your left hand
and this book with the right hand, while you walking over
the room, isn't?"*

She stopped walking and lagh in front of that coincidence, she looked in the window to see if somebody was spying.

*"Looking through the window doesn't matter,
there's nobody spying you."*



The book was describing the exact scene that was happening right there, and for the first time she got the pupils popping in front of the book.

"Why the frighten?

The time tha was given to us is short, and if you follow what is writen in the book, everthing is gona be ok, now take a time and rest, tomorrow will be a new day full of new variables that will be put in front of you and nothing writen here will have any sense for a long time."

She was indeed tired and she was a little incredulous about what was reading, then just said:

-Want to know! I'm going to sleep, not because this strange book suggested, but because it was in my plans anyway.

The unbeliveness is very understandable, how to understand something so crazy and invisible, if sometimes we dont understand what we see or listem right in front of us.

If you still living in the twenty one century, let me talk a litle about the time we are living now.

The actual year 2285 and our curiosity has taken us to enthusiastic discoverys, our passion for science made us to evolute to a point that the majority of the problems of one century was solved in just two decades, including hunger, serious illness and social inequality.

The 22 and 23 centuries was full of important discoveries that broke big barriers of human knowledge, and the bigger one for sure was the Mecas.

They are inteligent machines that we created to suport our evolution and mostly develop infrastructure that sustain human life in other planets.

The Mecas are fantastic machines, totally autonomos and loyal to us, they was created under de fundamental law of colaborate and preserv the continuation of our kind in all cost. The first Meca mission was the trip to mars in 2048, sinse then the trust of their presence with us only increesed. The exponencial development of AI(Artificial Inteligence), made the Mecas be called Thinking Beams insted of advanced tecnology.

The Mecas interact friendelly wih humans and have access to all the knowledge that we have until today, tecnology, psiquic or even creative. They has divided the internet in two, with or whitout Mecas.

It whas because o they big cietific discoveries was

possible like, Alzheimer, cancer and Aids healing.

The mecas autonomy comes from the matter in gaseous state, yours cels called(NFC) nano fusion cells make they breath in any atmosfer, and this was a very important fact to explore the universe out there. Many colonies of Mecas was sent to space since we found it viable.

The Mecas also connect ones with outers in a hierarchical way, and all the humam knowledge are in they, of corse it is available to us also in a hierarchical way.

Almost every house today in the planet have at least one type of meca and to tell the truth, without the we'll probably loosed in disorder and information.

In a certain moment when things started to literally getting hot in our planet. In a time when the clime was hard to support and control, the Mecas has helped us giving the idea of using the moon, our natural satelite, as stock of undesirable matter.

In the begining, the plane was to expel certain gases and lock these elements in the moon gravity, and then collect it later in a better way. But we evoluted this ideia and we have decided that we should bring atmosphere to the moon and make it a litle planet. To acomplish this hard task, things like increesing the gravitacional force and bringing water to the surface, should be done and because of this the luar project was created.

A full colony of mecas was sent to the moon, so they could create the structure to sustain life in there. The moon is formed basically of oxigen, some minerals and moon dust, so how to do it?

The moon dont have magnect field enough to sustain the life, for that reason the Mecas has created the moon lakes, they are present in the whole moon and they are like deep channels fullfilled with water mixed with a kind of liquid metal.

To send porsions of matter to there, we developed a tecnology called "The Funnel", this tecnology could do the job of sending matter in a fast an smart way.

The scientists had created a big machine which was basicaly a big tower or better saying a big magnectic cannon. The Funnel has two thirds of its size under the earch in a spiral form. The matter where transformed in plasma in its base and acelerated out of the surface of eath to the space direction in a codified way. In the moon the process was reverted so we have a trasport system very eficient and fast.

The only limitation of this system, was the fact that it consumes a lot of energy to lauch, so the transport normaly uses to happen only in periods that moon was closer to the earth, in eclipse or in super moons. The summ of both gravitational forces, earth and moon, creates a favourable connection and don't allow the looses in the vast abism of the space.

After the Funnel invention, the full moon days has became more intersting, because it has created in people the habit of apreciate a beatiful spetacle, that gigantic beam of plasma in the sky and the Auroral Boreal it producess.

The Luar project was very important and had helped us to solve the dangerous problem of high temperatures in our planet in the 21 century.

The Funnel has purified our air removing some

greenhouse gases from the atmosphere and sent it to the moon to be used in another form and some of them full of carbon was even used to build infrastructure.

There was already pass almost 150 years since the beginning of the Luar Project and they has estimate the conclusion of the project to only 165 yrs, after this the moon would be a little paradise, a refuge and of corse with a beatiful view.

In this days 15 years from the end of the project, the moon was parcially colonized.

The Mecas has built almost evething necessary to us to live in there, but the atmosphere is still incomplete, the mixture of nitrogen and oxigen is missing a part and if someone try to breath outside, will certanly fill a little sick, because of this the people have still to be closed in the coletive instalations.

The selected portion of humans which was sent to the moon, has procirated and that was the way the Mooners appear in our history, the most funny was the fact wich they was the first class of aliens to visite us in the earth.

The Mooners or born in the moon, have a apperance a little diferente, they are tall and the skim is very white and smooth and despite the political crisis created by the rebels, most of us has receiveid they very well, wihout problems.

When we come to the top of the knowledge, and whe got in avery stable era, whe found something that aways existe but was never really fulfilled, our curiosity. This time i gota say, our curiosity has brought a little inconvenience, the end of the world.

Im just a newborn and you should be asking how I

know that much and talk through the manuscript.

Well, I think in the next lines you going to have a short idea of it.

There is an astrofisic called Dr. Arold Finn which moved by its curiosity, geniality and talent, without knowing, has created an event in the time space that has put us in a true existential test, he has discover the time machine.

But how this happened?

To say the truth, it not happened yet, is going to happened in 9 years approximattely and we have togueter the mission to find a way to stop this event.

We dont know what is the exact moment that we need to change in order to stop the end of the world, the word is to big and abstract, the time is not like a movie being watched by a person, its livid simultanesly by 10 bilion o people interacting itself.

The better clue we have until now about the event that has inspired Dr. Finn to develop the machine, is a piece o text that I found inside the manuscript, left by an unknow in piece of paper.

This is the message writen in it:

Under the sound of turning pages, Dr Fin is sit in his chair in the corn of the dark room. In his right side theres a shelf with many books that he seams to had head all his life, in his left side theres a glass window that reproducess the sound of dropping rain drops. Just one poit of light enlighten the scene, then, without any

pretension, he with his eyes pointed to the pages of the book with the title “Unexplained old wonders”, trying to encounter any inspiration in the reading. In some point he turned the head toward the window, now with his eyes focused in far away thoughts, stop for a few seconds, making the page of the book not to turn. What he saw? In the window just his reflect, but in the book, there was an illustration but I couldn't identify...

And below the note Christine found this text:

“I know you are not believing in my words, but you must try to find him and convince to not turn on the time machine, the results are catastrophic and this manuscript will make sense only in nine years.”

-Bullshit!

Said Christine closing the book manuscript.

Is not easy to convince somebody about the future, the invisible.

9 years later

Rob was immersed playing Infinit flight in the living-room, when he paused for a moment, he looked up out of the projectors of virtual reality, it was in the shelf, he saw the manuscript.

He felt a curious desire to look inside it, there seemed to be a connection between them, he tried to pick it up but couldn't reach it, the book was too high, so he had the idea of taking a stool that was nearby and climbed up,

stretching his arm to the side. as much as you can. But the unfortunate thing is that the stool tilted to the side and gravity did its job. A shame that the Mecas research into anti-gravity was not yet complete.

The last scene he would remember is his mother quickly approaching him asking if he was okay and then the blackout came.

Robert!

Rob!

Wakeup!

-It's okay son, stay calm, you took a big fall

-Wow, my head hurts so much, where are we mom?

-We are in the hospital son, you were unconscious for 4 hours, but everything is fine, it was just a scare.

-What is this in your hand mom?

-In my hand? Ah, it's the book that fell on your head, I don't even know why I brought this.

-Now I remember I was trying to catch him, then I don't remember anything else.

-Well, you mischievous little one, you had a great fall, you took a lot of risks, son, don't do that again.

-What does it say in the book mom?

My mother stopped for a second, then said:

-Nothing son is just a meaningless story.

She opened the book where the reading was marked, read a few lines of the text, then her pupils dilated for the second time and she took a good look at Rob with a white face of astonishment, closed the book and said:

-Wait here a little while I'll be right back.

She went to the waiting room next door, sat down with the book in her hand and read again those lines that said:

"Back to the hospital, right? I had to create a strong connection between you and the book so that you believe in it, it is very important that you believe in the book, hence the nine years of waiting."

Now look for the display closest to you and you will see what you need to see."

Very close by, in the hospital corridor, there was a screen showing some news.

...Renowned astrophysicist Dr. Arold Finn has just announced a major discovery that will change our history, he said in an interview:

"A few years ago, on an expedition, we found an artifact that we presumed to be from alien technology, we believe it had been buried for at least ten thousand years. It is a small meteorite but with a perfect spherical geometry and a symbol similar to an β embedded in its surface. At first we believed it was just a perfect rock, however we later discovered that it also produced a magnetic noise and when we decoded this signal, we

saw that it was an instruction to build something and in recent years we have moved forward with this project that was secret until then. We will be testing it soon, but we still don't know what it is, what I can say is that we are confident in saying that the device could be a machine that travels through time."

-It can not be!

"Now do you believe me?

He's going to turn on the time machine.

Take your son and go convince Dr. Finn not to test this machine"

She closed the book, put it in her bag and quickly returned to the boy's room. She was bewildered and white-faced, pacing back and forth and still refusing to completely believe everything that was happening..

Rob was discharged within hours and then they went home.

It was already night and she couldn't forget what happened in the hospital, she became thoughtful, walked around the living room, stood still in the kitchen looking at nothing, went to the bedroom and watched Rob sleep, then she said to herself:

-Tomorrow I'm going to fix this situation, I have to clear up this doubt, it doesn't hurt to talk to Dr. Finn and explain the situation to him.

I'll make a call, who knows, maybe I can resolve this now.

-Ethos:

Ethos was the family meca.

-Connect me with Astrophysicist Dr Arold Finn in London.

... Finn Residence, hello I'm your AI assistant, how can I help?

-I would like to speak to Dr. Finn, please.

-Unfortunately it won't be possible, Mr. Finn isn't here but I can pass on the message if you want.

-Oh, never mind, thanks!

She said disconnecting the connection.

-I'm going to sleep, I can't think well.

That night, Christine had a nightmare that showed the world plunged into a very strong ice age. She woke up a few times during the night very scared and made the decision to see Dr. Finn about it the next day.

-All you had to do was tell him not to turn on the machine and everything would be resolved"

She said planning.

-But what if he thinks this is crazy.

She added, worried.

So first thing in the morning, she went to Rob's room to wake him up and tell him that they were going to London, where Dr. Finn lived.

This way she would solve this mystery that was haunting her life through this mysterious manuscript.

The manuscript then said:

"Dr. Finn's laboratory is in the north center of the earth, here are the coordinates: 51.5073509_-0.1277583"

The EFAH Treaty unified our world, transforming borders into bridges, separations by regions such as countries or states disappeared and only the names of cities remained.

We went to the hypertubes station closest to home and boarded there towards the airport. Hypertubes are the most common public transport system used today, they are fast, economical and have zero pollutants, literally like veins in the heart of our planet.

-Is everything ok mom?

Rob asked, seeing shes worried expression.

-Rob, do you have the impression that this has already happened?

-What do you mean, mom, we've already done this trip several times.

-I know, but I'm talking about this exact moment here and now, do you feel as if it has already happened?

-I don't understand, everything is normal for me as if it were a new day, a new adventure!

Rob had this adventurous spirit.

-What is in this book that you can't stop reading?

Rob asked.

-Have got has got...

She couldn't talk about him.

-Rob he's taking us to London. I have no idea why, or what could happen, it only makes sense when it wants to, but it's about the time machine that Dr. Arold Finn

developed. He shouldn't have built it, the book says this, we have to stop him.

- I understand, why do we have to stop it?
- The book doesn't say exactly, but after I started reading, I had nightmares that made me very worried, I want to get this out of my consciousness.

Christine read next:

"There is no other option, we need to stop the event".

The book sometimes seemed to read her mind and it was making her upset.

"Attention passengers, we have just entered the central continent, we will land at our destination in 30 minutes."

London was one of the few cities that maintained Victorian architecture in its entirety, as square functional buildings were standardized throughout the world and visiting a beautiful city like this is a joy to behold.

When they disembarked, leaving the airport they took an Ecar, an electric and autonomous taxi.

-Hello gentlemen, welcome to London. Please sit down and say the coordinates of your destination or speak your address.

-Ecar, these are the coordinates but please book a hotel close to the location and take us there first.

-OK! The closest hotel to this coordinate is the

Grand Funnel, reservation for two people today, value 45 moneys per day, can I confirm?

-Yes, please confirm.

-Your apartment is 312, reservation complete!

-We are on our way, thank you for choosing us and as I said before, welcome to London.

-Hey mom, look, everywhere there are these displays with this Dr. Finn, he seems to be very famous and important around here.

Rob said to Christine.

-Yes, he must be very intelligent, I hope he is not stubborn too.

She responded with a tone of concern.

-We are going to visit him today and I would like to ask you a favor, I want you to stay close to me and do everything I ask of you, ok?

-All good.

Rob replied.

But saying this to a 9-year-old child on a leisure trip with all these new things and distractions, I think he has to be joking.

-Ecar tell me about Dr. Finn.

Dr Arnold Finn was the astrophysicist who discovered the planet Beta. Exactly two years ago, on an archaeological expedition, he and his team found an alien artifact dating back at least ten thousand years, buried in the very center of the megalithic monument Stonehenge. The name of the planet was inspired by the artifact itself that had the beta symbol from the Greek alphabet.

By decoding the signal found in the artifact, he and his team discovered a message with a coordinate and

instructions for building a machine. He and his team believe it is actually a time-traveling machine.

The tests will be carried out in two days and the world is eagerly awaiting the demonstration.

-So the book doesn't have that clue...

Christine interrupted, analyzing the note glued to the page of the book.

-What clue asked Rob.

-The trigger for the event could have been two years ago when he discovered the meteorite, perhaps the note was also written during that period. Now I remember, the note says he was reading a book with the title, "Ancient Wonders Unexplained" and we've already been there, we're two years ahead, this is crazy!

And she thought out loud:

-If perhaps he hadn't been reading that book that day, the "event" could have been avoided.

-Event?

Rob asked.

-Yes, the supposed end of the world.

-We have arrived at the hotel gentlemen, your check-in has already been done through voice recognition, have a good day.

-We'll leave our things at the hotel and then we'll go out again, Rob, because we don't want to waste time here.

It was almost fourteen o'clock when they were in the hotel's panoramic elevator when it suddenly stopped and that wasn't all, they seemed to have been hit by a very strong electromagnetic pulse that turned off

everything around them, everything powered by electricity turned off for about twenty seconds. followed by a slight earthquake.

When the power came back on, we went to our room.

-The nature here is beautiful

Christine said, impressed by the greenery of London.

-Nature is truly beautiful when we integrate with it correctly and with respect, son, never forget that, this was the rule we learned so that we could evolve in a sustainable way and reach the point we are today.

-Ethos, connect me with Dr. Finn's lab.

-Dr. Finn's laboratory, I'm your AI assistant, how can I help?

-I need to speak to Dr. Finn, the matter I have to discuss is very important.

-Unfortunately it won't be possible, he's very busy right now, I can take the message if you wish.

-Okay, convey this message to him:

-Dr. Finn, I know this is going to sound crazy, my name is Christine, I have a message from the future, in fact I'm not sure if it's really from the future, I found a book with these instructions nine years ago in my son's crib, everything he says has happened since then, he says about a big event that we must stop and that happens when starting this machine he says this causes a big problem, don't start the machine, that's all I ask of you, thank you !

-Engraved message lady.

-But when will he receive the message?

-Dr. Finn usually reads his messages first thing in the morning when he wakes up, this message will be read in 4 days according to his schedule and a large number of messages in the last few days.

-oh. Thanks!

She thanked him disappointedly.

-Dispose, connection closed.

-Come on, son, we have to leave now.

-Ethos prepare an Ecar, we are going down.

-It will be waiting for you when you get down
Christine.

Without wasting time, they then headed towards Dr. Finn's laboratory and when they were getting close, right in front of the building there were dozens of people, they seemed to be protesting about the test, many had signs, others repeated the phrase no to the test! It was a pacifist protest, fathers and mothers of families, none of them seemed to be radicals or extremists, there were even several children there like Rob.

It didn't take long to realize that somehow all those people were trying to talk to him, just like us.

Dr. Finn believes that with this machine, any serious problem we have had since its creation, we could easily solve in the post-time machine era, which is why it has been so difficult to convince him not to turn it on.

We stayed there for a while and then we saw him arrive in a car, there was a little commotion but he cordially opened the window and told everyone that he would hold a press conference tomorrow to explain everything and that he would answer all the questions, he

also told us to go home and we remained calm, as he had no intention of disrespecting public opinion, so he thanked us cordially and drove his car into the laboratory.

When he was closing the car window, Rob realized that no one there would do anything, not even his mother, he knew that she really wanted to talk to him, they had come a long way to do this.

Suddenly Rob had an idea and shouted:

-I came from the future, I need to talk with you!

Everyone looked at him a little surprised and Dr. Finn was curious of course, he hesitated for a second and said:

-Come here boy, are you his mother?

-Today is your lucky day, normally I don't have time, but today you will get to know my laboratory and my scientific projects.

My mother was proud of me, I managed to do with just one sentence what she had been trying to do for two days.

-Sometimes it is necessary to surprise adults so that they understand some things, they are always underestimating younger people.

He took them into the laboratory and from the beginning they found it, the machine, a large sphere of somewhat dull metal and some scientists around it.

-That is?

-That's right, the time machine.

-Dr. Finn, we're not here by chance, I have to tell

you, I came to stop your test.

And even?

-Don't worry, I'm used to it, dozens of other people have already come to me and told me this exact same thing, they say they have evidence that something will go wrong and that I can't turn on the machine, isn't that what you're going to say?

-Yes!

-And Mr. do not worry?

-What is your name?

-Christine.

-Christine, from what I understand you are seeing it from the wrong perspective, this machine will help us solve problems in the future.

-Think again, if you are here because you think you received a message from the future and have to stop the machine from being turned on, isn't it obvious to think that the machine has already worked to let you know the future?

-I can believe all these statements, but if it's true it's already too late, don't you think?

-A secret that I'm going to tell, just for this brave little boy here, who actually has a nice bruise on his forehead, he must be really brave, right?

-By the way, kid, your forehead is bleeding a little.

What would be the quickest reaction?

Rob immediately touched the wound, of course.

-Hang on! clean yourself up with this.

Said Dr. Finn. offering him a handkerchief that was in his pocket.

That was the cut from when the book fell on him.

-Well, as for the machine, it has already been tested!

-Like this?

-But...

Christine said a little confused.

-Don't worry, it doesn't work!

-It's a useless machine apparently, probably some distraction, a waste of time.

-The announcement I will give to the media is that it didn't work.

-But what about planet Beta?

Christine asked.

-Well, the meteorite actually showed us this, I'll show it to you, come this way.

-This is the machine we built and theoretically it works, but as you can see it only works theoretically.

-See that small spherical compartment in the center, we thought the machine would work if we put the meteorite there, it fits perfectly, as this was the instruction identified in the diagrams.

-We already did this test and nothing happened.

-I'm sorry to inform you, but your arrival was in vain, nothing will happen.

-Come to my room, I'll show you the meteorite and how we discovered planet Beta.

Dr. Finn took the box that had the meteorite inside out of his safe, opened it to show us and we could see how perfect it was.

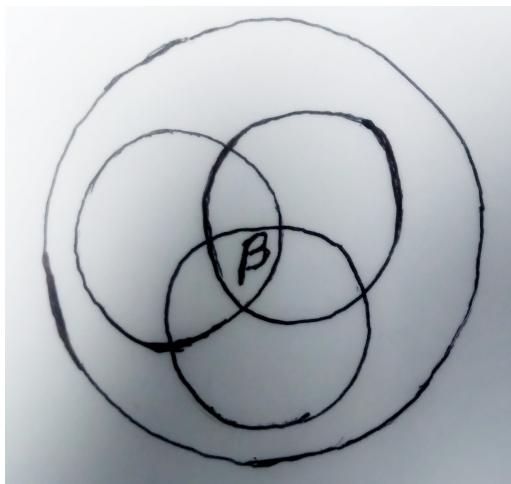
-Wow, how is it possible for an object of this

perfection to be more than ten thousand years old? It was a perfect sphere of shiny metal that was so smooth.

-We believe we are the most evolved species in the universe and this closes our eyes to see the universe itself.

-Every atom of this sphere was arranged in a specific and purposeful way. When we place them in a straight line, they form a quantum code and by deciphering the first lines of this code we arrive at the coordinates of planet Beta.

We named it Beta because the meteorite has this symbol:



First we thought that there would be two other spheres to be found, but the meteorite says nothing about them, so we deduced that the union of the three

spheres would take us to planet beta, one of which means the machine, the other the sphere (this meteorite) and the third, the planet Beta. All the rest of the code content was the details for building the machine.

-Dr. Finn I have a note that apparently says about the selection of this monument, Stonerange, before you started the expedition that found this artifact.

-Interesting, can I see this note?

Finn said to Christine

-Here it is.

While Christine showed the note to Dr. Finn, Rob wanted to see the meteorite closer.

-Dr. May I pick it up?

Rob asked.

-No, son, it's very valuable.

Christine replied.

-Okay, let him have it, it's okay, I know he'll take good care of it.

Christine was showing the book to Dr. Finn and when Rob touched that sphere, something happened instantly.

There were several glass partitions throughout the offices and from where we were we could see the machine with the scientists in the center of the laboratory working on it.

They started to move differently, it seemed like something was happening to the machine.

The phone rang, they called Dr. Finn and said that the machine had turned itself on and that its metal, which was dull, had turned smooth like a mirror.

In Rob's hand the sphere began to heat up and he began to feel bad because he thought he had done

something wrong.

He turned pale as a ghost and felt guilty because he realized he had left a bloody fingerprint on the sphere.

Suddenly Dr. Finn shouted:

- Boy, release the sphere!

Rob let go, but something even stranger happened, the sphere began to float slowly and stayed for a few seconds at eye level, it was reproducing the sound of an ultrasonic vibration that bothered the ears and also changed colors like metal being heated.

The three remained motionless with their ears covered and looking at her as if she were in zero gravity.

Then, after a few seconds of silence.

Zummmmp!

The sphere passed through the glass walls so quickly that it didn't even break them, it just left a sequence of holes towards the machine, with melted glass where it passed.

The sphere connected with the machine with such extraordinary energy that we were amazed.

All three looking at that sequence of holes in the glass, each with their own thoughts.

-But what did I do?

Rob asked worriedly.

The alarm was triggered, Dr. Finn started running towards the machine to try to turn it off, we also ran after him, when we were almost there that big, super heavy silver sphere, started to float too and started to glow white. We couldn't even look, there were electric rays being fired everywhere. We took cover under a table

nearby to avoid being hit by objects and broken glass.

Then, a strong shock wave came, from what we could see, everything curved, including the walls, it was like a distortion of space. After that, that one-ton sphere disappeared, leaving only the meteorite that rolled across the floor and a lot of mess around the laboratory.

For a few seconds there was a great silence.

Soon after, nothing could be heard except short circuits, flashing lights and groans.

-Rob, are you okay?

-Yes mom and you?

-I'm fine, where is the Doctor?

Nearby they had heard some groans, it was Dr. Finn, he was under some debris, they went there to help him.

-Is everything okay, Dr. Finn?

-More or less kid.

-Wait, I'll lift this and you'll leave.

-Okay son, ha ha ha, oh.

-You're really strong, don't worry about me, I'm fine, I'm not hurt. I believe that this strength of yours will be very useful to us from now on.

-Why doctor?

The worried mother asked.

-Well, I just discovered what the true meaning of the third circle is.

-And which one is it?

-Your son!

-The first circle represents the meteorite coming directly from the planet Beta. The second represents the machine we built and the third circle is the chosen one, the passenger, that is, the DNA sequence that completes

the code and that was in the blood on his finger.

-Maybe we would have to touch the machine to travel with it.

-I thought that the union of the three elements would take us to planet Beta, but that wasn't exactly how it happened, now I don't know where she is, this looks like a real disaster.

Dr. Finn said a little pessimistically and continued:

-We don't know the effects that this event could cause, they are impossible to predict, so we must act quickly, time is against us until we get the machine back.

-Now I understand why we should stop him.

Christine said with an ironic tone.

But they still hadn't seen anything.

-Come on, let's get out of here
Said Dr. Finn.

Dr. Finn then collected the meteorite and took them to the exit of the building. When they left there and looked up, they saw the unexpected, the sky was covered by an Aurora Borealis in all directions in broad daylight, people were impressed and admired looking at everything that was happening.

Dr. Finn put his hands on his head and said:

-What did I do?
And he added:
-It was true!

Soon after, he again called them to leave.

-Come on, we have to get out of here.

-Where are we going?

-Read the book.

Rob suggested.

But there was nothing else in the book other than blank pages.

-Interesting...

Dr. Finn said.

-Come with me, we can't waste time, let's go to a safe place, it's important that your son is protected at the moment, I'll need to take a blood sample from him.

-But why?

Christine asked.

-If the machine was activated with your son's DNA, to repair this we will have to go back in time and I believe it will be necessary to use his DNA again to activate the machine. We will need to bring the three circles together again:

-The machine, the meteorite and the chosen one.

They hadn't yet realized how big the problem was and how difficult it would probably be to solve.

At this exact moment they only knew the location of two of the three elements that connect the machine, the chosen one and the meteorite. The machine that was the most important of the circles, could be anywhere in the universe, or even have been destroyed.

-Let's go to the roof of the laboratory facility, I have a way to get us out of here quickly.

-Where are you going to take us?

-We're going to the mountains, I have a laboratory there, I don't know if you know the funnel?

Without a doubt they knew him, there were nights when they carefully observed the transport being carried out, they were excited to see the funnel despite the circumstances.

-We've only known each other for a short time and I already like you.

-Phew, what a day!
Said Dr. Finn.

They got on the Chopdrone and headed towards the mountains.

As soon as they took off towards the funnel, they immediately noticed some effects of the anomaly caused by the machine's ligament..

-Is it just me, or is it getting cold?
Christine asked.

-What was that?
She asked again
-Where?
-See again!
-What was that?

They passed by, meteor-like objects.

-I think... I think they were ice rocks.
Said Dr. Finn.

-But they were about a meter in diameter!
Christine pointed out, worried.

-My goodness, the temperature is dropping quickly.

-What is happening?

-Look, snow!

Then Dr. Finn explained with a theory:

-Maybe the machine changed the earth's magnetic field when it was turned on, look at the sensors and the compass, they are confused. If I'm right, the Earth's magnetic field may have been strengthened or modified, so the sun has less power to penetrate our surface, which would also explain this Aurora Borealis.

-If we continue like this we will have a new ice age in a few hours, the earth may be leaving its natural axis, I don't know.

-Chopdrone: connect me with the central government!

...Talking to the Central Government:

-Hello Finn, you know I don't have much time available, but when you call me on this number, I know it's really important, you can talk.

-Mr President, we had a small problem.

-What is it?

-Is it about the machine?

Asked the president with a changed voice.

-Mr. President, I don't have much time to explain, I think we're going to have to evacuate the planet!

And he added:

-I'm on the way to the transport, I'm going to turn on the funnel, we have to complete the moon's atmosphere, prepare your ejector ship and your family, you have to leave and execute the evacuation plan as quickly as possible.

-Finn, I'm looking out the window right now, it's snowing in the middle of a sunny day and the sky is blue outside.

-But what happened?

Asked the president.

-I don't have time to explain now but the temperature is dropping and will drop more in the coming hours, I fear that we will be facing a new ice age, the worst of them.

Finn replied.

The president thought in silence for a moment and said:

-Okay, I trust you, I will meet you at the funnel, I need to know more details before leaving.

-Yes sir. President, but I highly recommend that Mr. come through the tunnels before it is ice covered, because the sky is not safe.

-Understood Finn, take care my friend!

Disconnecting connection.

Mother and son were surprised by the friendship that the doctor had with the highest civil and military authority on the planet.

-Wow, the president is your friend?
Christine asked.

-Yes, he is an old friend of mine, we studied at the same university.

-Hey Christine, is there any more information in your book?

-No, unfortunately after the note and the coordinates, there are just a lot of blank pages.

-Interesting...

-Careful!

-That one came very close.

He said pointing to the meteor.

After crossing some valleys and mountains and surviving some dangers, they approached the laboratory and could see the large tower.

-We're already arriving, there he is, the transport, Finn pointed out.

-Chopdrone: connect me with Doctor Fábio in the laboratory.

-Yes sir, you are connected now.

Doctor Fábio was the scientist responsible for transport.

-Hello Dr. Finn, what can I do for you?

-Dr. Fábio, prepare the funnel, we have to turn it on right now.

-Now? Does this have to do with climate change and the giant frozen meteor shower?

-Yes!

-We can not! He contradicted Fábio and then added:

-The moon is not in eclipse, and the machine has never been turned on without a favorable connection.

-Dear friend, it is very important that you start the ligation process now without questions, I am on my way, we have to believe that the lunar gravity will not let the matter escape, this is a code red. You need to turn on the transport and get off the planet right now, that's a direct order.

-Understood Doctor, I'm already starting the process, your request is an order!

They would never have thought they would see something like that, they were like lightning, but they were frozen, the temperature dropped so much that giant shards of ice began to form near the surface. The clouds that were falling were like shaved ice falling into a glass, an unimaginable scene, the sun refracted and reflected the light on the crystalline structures creating several prismatic beams in many directions.

When they finally arrived at the laboratory, after a really turbulent landing, they went to meet Doctor Fábio.

-Doctor Fábio, it's a pleasure to see you again, how's the progress?

-Doctor Finn, the machine has already been turned on but we have a serious problem, the matter traps are clogged by a thick layer of ice.

-Hum... according to my calculations this won't be a problem, but we'll need to go down there to analyze and avoid failures.

-Doctor Fábio, I ask you to take your team and go down to do a brief visual analysis so that we can start transport as soon as possible, as I think that when we put the beam at maximum strength the ice will melt.

I'll stay here with Christine and Rob. The president is coming to meet us, I have to wait for him to report on our real situation.

-Okay, see you soon Finn.

-In the meantime, I'm going to analyze the meteorite, there may be some new information that will help us.

Dr. Finn placed the meteor in the scanner to sequence the code again. The computer needs to analyze and align the 47×10^{22} atoms, this can take a few minutes.

-Hey kid, are you hungry?

-Actually, yes I am.

-In that room there is a kitchen, there is a refrigerator, you can get everything you want.

Rob looked at his mother with a look of approval.

-Go Rob, but don't make any mess and be careful!

-Okay, Christine...

-The concept of mess at this point is a little outdated, leave it to the kid.

-Okay, but be careful!

Rob, who was hungry, went without blinking.

-So Christine, sorry for the final personal question, but where is the boy's father?

-It's okay to ask...

She said, and added:

-His father passed away four years before he was

born.

-He became ill at that time and we chose for personal reasons to have the baby naturally, but unfortunately we were unable to do so in time. So when he got sick, we agreed to freeze, you know, his seeds and after his death when I recovered I made this decision, I did an in vitro insemination.

-Very brave of you, I mean, a very brave decision to raise the boy without his father.

-Thank you, it was the best decision I made in my life.

-And you, Doctor Finn, can you tell me about yourself?

-How did you come to become the most famous man in the world?

-Look Christine, you can just call me Finn, this Doctor thing makes me a bit old in some circumstances.

-Well, from a very young age I took apart toys to put together other things and I always had the best grades in exact sciences, so this vocation of mine apparently came from birth.

-As for my personal life, I had a few dates as a teenager but I was always very reserved and dedicated to my studies and work, no serious relationships until then, you know what, time has literally flown by, now that I'm looking back.

-I think everything has happened very quickly, all these things we are experiencing, they are all very difficult to believe, it even seems like a test, Christine said.

-What did you say? Finn asked.

-Yes, these are very difficult times, don't you think?

-It could be the end of times!

-Didn't you say test?

-Yes, I said.

-This is it, a test!

-I don't understand...

-In software development, the term beta refers to the test version of a product. A phase in which all problems that are found are recorded in order to improve it. Perhaps this could truly be a test, but why and by whom?

"A great test has been placed before us"

So said the note that was on the manuscript the first time I saw it nine years ago.

Christine said, remembering.

-Analysis completed.

Let's see what we find here in the meteorite, if there are any changes,

-It seems to have a different message.

At that moment the president had just arrived and immediately said: I hope good news Finn!

-Sir. President, you arrived at the right time, I'm analyzing the meteorite, it seems to contain a new message.

-This is Christine.

-Nice to meet you, this is the first lady, my wife and this is my son Josh.

-So Finn, what's the problem?

-Let's see what this new message says, then I'll explain it better to you.

"Residents, if you are reading this message it is because you are worthy of the test. The universe is full of life and the raw material necessary for stability at all levels is increasingly scarce, so only the best can continue and share this material with us.

We will give your people the opportunity to defend their planet by demonstrating their merit. Your world will not die but we will keep it captive until the test is completed and if you fail, then it will be transformed into raw material, for the good and balance of everything and everyone. Bring your chosen one and rescue the machine on planet Beta where you will be tested for your wisdom and bravery"

-So the machine is on planet Beta, Finn whispered.

Then he said to the president:

-I think I should do without explanations.

At that same moment Rob arrived and said:

-Mom, look, they have lks chocolate bars, I brought them for everyone...

When Rob noticed, everyone was silent.

-President, by the way, this is the chosen one.

-Upon hearing this, Christine immediately said:

-No way, what are you thinking, no one is going to do anything to my son, find another chosen one, he is just a little boy, my little boy, a child, there must be

another way.

And the president replied in a threatening tone:

-Don't worry ma'am, who do these aliens think they are to threaten our race like that!

-Mr President, they technically didn't threaten us, we found them by accident. Finished Finn.

-Madam, I understand you, we will find a way, we always do.

Finn, I need a camera, I have to broadcast a statement on the global channel.

And Rob offered to help by offering his Ethos meca.

-Very well boy, thank you!

-Ethos, I'm promoting you to meca level one, send this message to the world channel:

"Attention all inhabitants, this is the central government speaking, as you may have already noticed, our planet is going through problems that are too big for us to control, at least for now. This is an evacuation order, those who do not have ways to evacuate the planet, seek shelter, we will be facing a new ice age. We are trying to find a way to resolve this situation as quickly as possible, but time is not our friend at the moment. Let us be united and may God bless us all."

-Dr. Finn, we must begin transportation immediately to complete the lunar atmosphere.

-Dr. Fábio, how are things down there?

-Finn, unless we include an iceberg in the moon's landscape, there won't be time to clear all this ice down here.

-Understood, move away from the capture zone and come up here, we have to go to the moon immediately or we will freeze along with the planet, we have to ensure that "the keys" are in a safe place.

Of course Finn was referring to the chosen one and the meteorite.

-Starting transportation in one minute.

-Attention gentlemen, it is a very powerful machine, so you may feel some tremors, don't worry, it is absolutely normal.

-Lunar command, starting count for transport, disregard misalignment, synchronize and start reintegration at maximum force.

-Connecting in three, two, one...

-Transport started at full power.

-Hold on!

The tremors began and the noise at first was deafening, the lights flashed and then that high-speed plasma beam illuminated that large, dark vertical tunnel, accelerating all that matter towards the moon. In a few seconds the noise disappeared, leaving only the monumental plasma beam that illuminated the room they were in.

-Wow, Mr. you said there would be tremors but not that much, they are quite strong, said Rob.

-It's true, we had never turned it on at full power. Now we have to hope that the lunar command sends us a positive response to reintegrate matter on the moon.

-Lunar Command, respond!

And after a few seconds of deafening silence.

...Lunar Command?

-This is the lunar command, Doctor Finn, the material is being received with partial losses of 0.003%, a very acceptable rate, it is working, we are happy to receive our fresh air.

-That! That's great, it worked!
Everyone celebrated.

-Very well Finn, great job, now let's get out of here.

-Come with me, the ejector ships are in that direction.

The moment was very tense, there was a lot of fear, the ground was shaking, they were about to evacuate their beloved planet without knowing its final destination, the only hope they had left was that everything could go back to the way it was before with the time machine, but they should fight and win something they didn't know what it was, on a distant planet.

The tremors increased a lot and large cracks began to form in the structure of the building, which indicated that everything would collapse and it wouldn't take long.

When they began to run towards the ships, parts of the ceiling and columns began to fall and almost missed them.

All that optimism they had was starting to erode.

-There they are, the ejector ships waiting for us.

When they arrived at the ejector ships, they entered in groups and as they entered the ships took off immediately, soon the president and his family boarded.

-See you on the other side Mr. President, said Dr Finn.

-Yes, it was an honor to be with you, we will correct this, we will fight together, take care Finn, I'll wait for you on the other side.

-Hey kid you better come with us, we'll keep you safe.

-I thank you, sir. President, but I have to take care of my mother, I'm going on the same ship as her.

-I respect your courage son, see you on the other side.

The ship with the president and other team members had already left, leaving Finn, Rob, Christine and their faithful mech Ethos.

Everything seemed to be going well, but when they were about to board, Finn remembered that he hadn't caught the meteorite.

-No, we forgot the meteorite!

-Stay here, I'll go get it and come back quickly.

-Be careful Finn,

Christine said feeling distressed.

-Do not worry, I'll be fine.

-But wait.

-Get out!

-Stay away from the ship, shouted Finn.

They obeyed as quickly as they could. It turns out that a large metal pillar was falling towards their ejector

ship, it was time for them to leave and the pillar reduced the ship to wreckage in a huge explosion.

What they felt at that moment was total desolation, as the only way to get out of there was ruined. And the worst part was knowing that Rob, the only key to saving the planet, wasn't safe yet.

There was no other option, they had to first go back to the laboratory to get the meteorite and then find another way to get off the planet.

When they returned to the laboratory, everything was in disarray, the emergency lights were flashing, there were sparks and dust everywhere, Finn said that the machine was now in trouble, it was no longer possible to control it.

He was very worried, wondering how so much could be going wrong in such a short time.

He removed the meteorite from the molecular



sequencer and handed it to Rob saying:

-From now on boy, this will be your mission, you have to keep the meteorite safe with you until you unite with the machine again, never distance yourself from it, because without it, we won't be able to save our planet.

The lights went out and now there was only one source of light there, the gigantic plasma beam expelling all that matter towards the moon.

Afterwards, a silence took over that place and they sat on the floor and contemplated that moment in despair.

-Think of something Finn, you are the genius here, you can get us out of this, said Christine.

-Genius?

-Look what we're in now, it's all my fault. If I hadn't built that machine, if I hadn't found that meteorite.

If, if...

Don't blame yourself Finn, you didn't know, all your decisions and attitudes weren't inconsequential. If I were to think like that, I also shouldn't have read the book and believed in it, Rob wouldn't have touched the meteorite and nothing like that would have happened.

-Yes, the book! catch him!

-We have to keep writing the book, see the pages are blank.

-But what should we write?

-I think everyone should write for themselves.

So Finn for the first time wrote in the book.

"Don't show the sphere to Rob and Christine"

-But what's the point, it looks like we won't get out of here alive!

So Rob decided to save them again with one of his ideas:

-Wait, who said we can't leave here?

-What if we use the transport?

-What a brilliant idea son, of course we need a transport, you've got to be kidding, didn't you see that our ejector ship was destroyed?

-No, I'm talking about this Transport.

-Which one?

-You're looking at him!

-What?

-Yes, brilliant! Finn exclaimed.

-The boy is right.

-Are you saying we're going to get into this thing, be disintegrated, turn into plasma, travel through space and then rebuild on the moon?

-Yes!

-You can think of something different, that's crazy, it's out of the question.

-Christine, we have been transporting matter with incredible precision, we have never tested it with humans but we have already done it with some insects and it worked perfectly.

-Insects?

-Yes, humans are incomparably complex and we are at a minimum percentage of loss, but this is our only option.

-I know, we can leave here through the

Hypertubes until we find an ejector ship.

- Forget Christine, where would we go?
- They must be completely covered by ice.
- Okay, what's the plan then Finn?
- You will enter the machine, I will stay.
- But why?

-I have to stay, see the machine is broken, it won't turn off automatically and we have lost contact with the lunar command, it has to be turned off manually from here and only I know how to do it. If it remains on, it will consume every last atom of nitrogen in our atmosphere.

-You go, I'll find a way to get out of here after I turn off the machine.

Doctor Finn already knew that the laboratory had not yet frozen due to the plasma beam from the transport and calculated that soon after he turned off the machine, everything would freeze quickly, but he did not tell them.

-Hey Rob, remember that the meteorite contains the coordinates of the planet Beta. This is your time boy, you know what you have to do, don't you?

-Let's show these aliens that we do deserve our planet and that when we come together we are capable of incredible things, that's right you won't be alone, the president will be in charge of preparing a team with the best to accompany you.

-Touch here!

And Rob responded without delay, demonstrating his spirit of determination and courage even without understanding much of what it was about.

-Christine, it was a pleasure to meet you, who knows, maybe at an opportune moment we'll have a coffee together.

And Christine said with a smile on her face:

-It would be a pleasure Finn, we just have to stop the end of the world first, then who knows.

-The time has come, you have to leave.

-So, how do we do?

-You will have to jump directly into the beam, I will open the hatch and close it afterwards.

-Come on Rob, it's going to be quite a trip!

-Yes mom, let's do it!

-Ethos you know the law, this is a case of extreme human need it is your duty to take care of the boy, you will be his faithful squire, remember that you are now a level one meca.

Ethos, which was always on Rob's back, like a backpack, never let go of him, in fact, he was a faithful companion.

-Very well, position yourselves and get ready to run.

They were ready to run when Doctor Finn started the countdown.

-Ten, nine, eight, ..., three, two, one.

-Go!

So they ran at full speed and when they were very close to the abyss, Finn opened the large glass hatch and with great courage they jumped into the plasma beam, disintegrating immediately.

Soon after, Doctor Finn tried to close the large hatch, but he was unable to do so, it was stuck due to the extreme pressure coming from inside the Funnel. The plasma beam began to escape and disintegrate part of the matter that was there, it was a very tense moment, he had no choice, he had to think very quickly. Then he let

go of the door and ran as hard as he could to reach the main circuit breaker that turned off the machine.

Between plasma beams, parts of the building's structure giving way, chairs and computers flying, he, with a well-aimed jump, hung on the large lever and managed to turn off the transport.

Only a few seconds passed and the large plasma beam began to disappear and lose speed, at the same time the cold increased and took over everything, everything, Doctor Finn, in the same position he was in, became covered in ice and froze. .

The last image he let shine through his eyes was one of hope, a hope also portrayed by the corners of his lips that showed a small smile.

On the other side

-Rob, Rob, Rob?

Enceladus, what the earth looks like now, has the same appearance as Saturn's sixth largest moon. That blue planet we know has turned into a pale white sphere. And perhaps ironically, the once palely white moon has now become vividly blue with its new atmosphere and artificial oceans.

The lunar command, or the other side of the transport, had just received its last portions of matter in the form of plasma and then lost all contact with the

source, the earth.

-Rob, Rob?

Rob was lying there on the floor, he felt like he was waking up from a faint, his head hurt, his vision was also painful and blurry, there was a lot of ringing in his ears.

-Where am I?

For a moment he didn't understand what had happened.

- Rob?

-What, who is calling me?

-It's me sir, Ethos.

-It seems like you're talking inside my head Ethos, how strange.

-Are you okay?

-Yes, now I remember, the transport, poor Finn, where is my mother?

-Mom, mom?

-I didn't find her, sir.

-We have to find her Ethos.

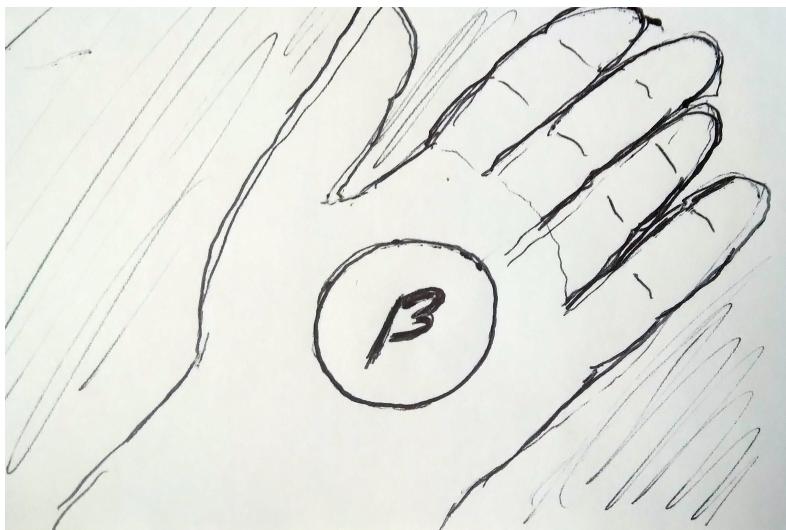
-I already scanned the entire perimeter, sir, I didn't find it.

-I have a strange feeling, it's as if I were here but in several other places at the same time.

For some reason he didn't feel like crying, somehow he knew he would see his mother again.

-I'm not finding the meteorite either, help me Ethos, help me, it's important!

-Rob look at your hand!



When he looked, there was the beta symbol tattooed in relief on the palm of his left hand, he guessed that the meteorite must have been lost in space while being transported.

But Ethos disagreed:

-Rob, we Mecas are created to be connected to everyone and I'm feeling you right now, with that, I conclude that the transport fused the meteorite to your body, as well as somehow connected us, that's why you have this strange feeling of lack of presence, I believe you are feeling all the Mecas now.

-I don't believe!

-I'm breathing too, the air is exactly like that of the

earth, the transport was successful, the air mixing was complete.

-Where are we?

-This is the Kankman desert on the moon, one of the transport receiving sites.

-The habitable zone should be about twenty kilometers in any direction, I recommend leaving now Rob, we have to find the president.

For a few seconds Rob stopped to observe the view, the earth, it was hard to believe that just yesterday he was playing in the living room and now he was here, on the moon, in a survival colony, with the mission to save the world, a lot of things for a nine year old boy.

They began their solitary walk through the desert, looking for inhabitants, all now with the same identity, refugees.

On the way to the nearest city, they found what looked like a Meca cemetery, there were carcasses of all kinds, big and small, transporters and even Meca commanders, but they were all dead. It was the result of how much the great construction was sacrificing for them, they were heroes, they were legends but they were just carcasses now.

We approached one of them who was undoubtedly a high-ranking Meca, a biped. Ethos, which was a small Meca, in the shape of a drone, approached him and attached itself to his head.

-What are you doing Ethos?

But he didn't respond.

What he was actually doing was connecting with that other Meca. His eyes then shone with a greenish light, indicating that that Meca was alive again, but now, with a new soul, that of Ethos. He got up and moved towards Rob, he was startled.

-Ethos are you?

-Hello Rob!

-Yes, it's me, with this body I can be more useful, with the strength I now have, I can protect you better.

-Cool!

-Get on my back Rob, let's speed up the pace.

Then Ethos with Rob on his back began to run and run so fast, that it was not ten minutes before they saw the nearest town.

When they arrived in the city, they found a structure that looked like a gigantic shopping mall, there was a large glass wall with doors, but they were all closed because the atmosphere was not breathable yet, there were people inside, and Rob and Ethos were alone outside.

Then Rob approached the glass to get a better look inside, supported himself with both hands and brought his face closer to the glass.

There were a lot of people inside but no one looked at them, so a small child looked and walked towards them. Rob waved to the child and she waved back and looked at him without reaction for a few seconds. So he ran to get the attention of the other people inside and show that there was a boy outside.

Little by little people began to crowd near the

glass, they were wondering with their eyes, how was I out there and breathing, wasn't the atmosphere ready yet?

It was a historic moment, a tall, strange man with no hair approached and with a little trepidation opened one of the doors. There was turbulence, as the internal and external pressure were slightly different. When they noticed that the Moon's atmosphere was now breathable, they ran and jumped for joy outside.

All the doors opened and there was great happiness, at least from that perspective. Rob and Ethos were now there in the middle of that crowd without knowing a single person.

Then, they started to notice that something was wrong, one by one they stopped and looked towards the Earth and saw that it was no longer the same, it was frozen, everyone was left without understanding with sad faces, disappointed and scared for a few seconds.

As they looked, they noticed that something was coming towards the moon, it was like a shower of meteors, there were many everywhere and they heard:

-What is that?

-Run, run!

And they all ran inside again in terror, leaving only Rob and Ethos outside. The two already knew what it was about, so they didn't move.

They began to descend towards the ground, hundreds of thousands of ejector ships with refugees from earth and were landing all over the surface as far as they could see.

A man then came running between the aisles

towards Rob, he was the president, he couldn't believe what he was seeing, he looked around, took a deep breath and said thank God it worked. When he saw Rob he couldn't believe it. She ran towards him and hugged him.

-It's good that you're alive, son, but how is it possible, how did you get here before us?

-Where are your mother and Finn?

-Who is your new Mecca friend?

-This is Ethos.

-Mr President, it didn't go as expected Dr Finn couldn't leave the earth, he sacrificed himself to save us. Our ejector ships were destroyed before we could even leave, we had to use transport to get here.

-Transportation?

-Yes.

-And his mother?

-We lost her, I don't know where she is, there was some problem.

-I'm sorry, son.

-It's okay, we still have ways to fix this, right?

-Yes, I will meet with the government and start planning for our starting campaign, we cannot fail.

-President, we don't want people to know the real reason for the earth's cooling, out of respect for Finn and my mother.

At that moment, no one knew the real reason for that situation, everyone interpreted the "ice age" as a natural event and out of respect for Dr. Finn, we decided to keep it a secret, at least for now.

-Don't worry Rob, only those who need to know the truth will know the truth, I promise you. Now take the

meteorite, we will need the coordinates of planet Beta.

Then Rob raised his palm toward the president and showed the symbol that was now part of him. The president didn't understand.

-But, what does that mean, Rob?

-The meteorite left this mark on me and disappeared, we lost it and the information that was in it.

-It can not be!

-But it wasn't my fault!

-No son, I'm not blaming you, the sphere is important to start the machine and find planet Beta, let's find a way to solve this. I'll send a team to look for the sphere in the transport region.

You've had a very difficult day Rob, you need to rest. This here is your new home, it will stay with me from now on. Josh, my son will keep you company.

-Welcome to the family, little brother, Josh said with a superior tone.

-But I will not separate myself from Ethos!

-Agreed, Ethos comes with us, our family has room for him too.

-We will have to build a warp ship to travel to planet Beta, we weren't expecting that.

The president said worriedly.

They were finally able to rest a little, but from that day on they knew that they only had one big mission to accomplish, that of finding planet Beta and rescuing the machine to save planet Earth and all the life on it, nothing very exciting.

The reunion

ST54W78... For several nights a dream with random numbers has been repeating itself and Rob wakes up thinking the same thing, his mother. In fact, this has been one of the main reasons for getting up every morning and training, he wants to find this machine as quickly as possible to get back everything he lost.

They live in the kolt complex, a heavily populated residential area inhabited mainly by Mooners.

It's been a year since they came to the moon and they are preparing for the trip to planet Beta, the warp ship is almost ready and they can set sail at any time.

-Today is training day, I agreed with Josh, a 12 kilometer run around the city. I cannot afford to fail in my mission to rescue the machine, the future of the earth depends on it. For this reason, I have been training almost every day with my brother Josh.

-Josh your objective today will be to prevent me from reaching the other side of the V12 channel that divides the two sectors.

-The other side of the channel will represent the machine that I must recover and the path will represent the barriers that we will eventually face.

-This time I'm going to get there first Josh!

Provoked Rob by starting the challenge

-That's what we'll see, my little brother!

-You know the rule Josh, you must turn off your mech's locator, he will find Ethos very easily.

-Okay, but you will have to turn off Ethos's locator also this time I don't want him doing any tricks, you know he controls everything, because he is level one.

-Rob for safety it is imperative not to turn off the locator at any time.

Ethos warned.

-Ethos turn off the locator, we'll be fine, we'll show him who the best are this time.

Now Ethos was just an individual.

Josh turned his back and started counting and that was the time for Rob and Ethos to start running.

-Ethos, follow me, I know what to do, he said, running towards the underground tunnels that were there.

-He will use the aerial vision drone and will locate us very quickly if we go on the surface, but if we use the underground tunnel system, we will be calm until we reach the wheat fields, and there we will be at an advantage, as the tunnels have many forks , we can confuse you.

You couldn't underestimate Josh, he was very fast and intelligent too, he was the type of person who was always one step ahead of you. Rob had never managed to get to the other side of the canal without being caught by Josh and there was only one bridge that gave access to the other side, with the closest bridge being within a radius of ten kilometers away from that one.

When the count was finished, Josh immediately launched his Mecha that he had on his forearm to do a visual search, he updated Josh by sending aerial images

in real time, and he soon realized:

- Very clever, these fugitives, they went through the tunnels!

He deduced this because he wasn't finding them from up there. To be faster, Josh used his pod that he carried on his back, a type of retractable scooter without wheels that was very fast.

-Come on Ethos! - Rob said.

They were running through the upper tunnels and there were a lot of people walking there which was slowing them down, so Rob had an idea:

-We have to get to the bridge first otherwise we will be lost.

As the upper tunnels were very busy that day, Ethos suggested that they go through the hypertubes that were one floor below that one.

And they did so, but when they got there they saw that the next Hypertube would take about five minutes to arrive, which would certainly cause their defeat.

So, Rob and Ethos were there looking at the tunnel already regretting that they had made the wrong choice.

-What do we do sir? Ethos asked and added:

-I'm calculating that the boy Josh is already in front of us.

As Ethos spoke, in a surprise act, Rob pushed Ethos onto the levitating rails and Ethos began to stagger in all directions until he gained balance. Then he jumped on his back and said:

-Propellants at full power Ethos!

Ethos turned on the side thrusters that were available and they took off along the Hypertubes' levitation rails, leaving only the heads of the curious people who leaned over and looked at that crazy thing inside the tunnel.

This courageous act put them at an advantage over Josh, who at this time was also speeding across the surface towards the bridge.

There was no friction and Rob was swinging like a flag on Ethos' back as they were at very high speed, that's when they saw a light, and immediately imagined the big problem they had ahead of them. Ethos, who was a very intelligent robot, had already calculated their route.

It was a capsule that was stopped at one of the stations. As they approached at high speed, Ethos threw Rob over the carriage and lay down on the tracks.

With his eyes closed, Rob slid backwards onto the roof of the car and Ethos was passing underneath. When the capsule ended, Rob fell onto the back of Ethos who was already waiting on the other side with the same acceleration, all in a fraction of seconds.

When he opened his eyes Rob asked himself:

-What there was?

And then he said, relieved, angry!
-Good boy, good boy!

And he patted Ethos on the back congratulating him.

When they were near the exit of the plantation fields, Ethos began to slow down and then they jumped out of the tunnel towards the stairs.

Upon reaching the top of the stairs, they came across a memorable scene, the sun was setting and the orange sky almost merged with the wheat fields. They went straight there, they believed that Josh would never discover them, they also knew that by cutting through the fields, they would get to the bridge much faster.

But as always, Josh was one step ahead, they had just entered the fields and there was a noise coming from above. It was Josh's Mecca, he had found them.

Josh was also nearby. He jumped with his pod on a large ramp nearby and fell at full speed into the wheat field, leaving a trail wherever he went. The wheat grass was of a different type than the one on the ground, it was three times taller and Rob knew Josh was nearby but he had no idea they were so close, the wheat didn't allow them to have a wide view.

The pod was much faster than the Ethos race and this made Josh leave the two behind.

When leaving the field, Josh was already counting his victory, as all he had to do was cross the corridor of gaps and reach the main avenue and at its end the bridge could be seen.

While Rob and Ethos were still crossing the fields, there was a gale and dust that shone like gold drifted

over the surface of the wheat and made it dance in a joint choreography.

There was something strange about that glowing dust cloud. They noticed that it was located just above them. Then Rob opened his arms feeling the wind and stretched out his hand touching the dust, and it wrapped around his arm, as if communicating.

Soon after, the dust disappeared and when they left the field, they noticed that there was already an open exit at the edge of the wheat field and they deduced that it had been Josh who had done it.

-Not this one!

-He's in front of us, we have to do something! - Rob said.

-Ethos do something!

-Without my locator I can't connect with any other Mecca sir, all I can do is run.

At that moment Rob remembered the connection he had made with the mechs when he entered the funnel and had an idea. He closed his eyes and concentrated, he tried to feel the Meccas that were there and with a lot of effort and concentration he began to feel them one by one, he even felt Josh's Mecca who was filming everything from above.

He didn't know, but from that moment on he would discover that he could control all of the Meccans. Then he focused again and managed to turn off Josh's Mecca camera, which was a plus in his favor. He concentrated again and located a Mecca who was there in that region and made him hinder Josh to gain time.

Josh was in the middle of the corridor of gaps when the surprise came. An automatic dumpster moved in front of him and he hit it head on, flying far away and when he fell he rolled several times.

His speedy transport was now ruined.

-But what?

Josh said confused.

He got up and saw the bridge at the corner of the last alley and walked out, limping with his hands behind his back, not understanding what had happened.

When Josh was in the middle of the avenue, very close to the bridge, the two opponents appeared in a rush, slipping through the curves at such speed.

It was an exciting finish, Josh was at the front running on his own feet very close to the bridge, on the other hand, Ethos was trotting at full power with Rob on his back.

And it's not like Josh again ended up reaching the foot of the bridge first, the only way to the other side. He raised his arms and had a satisfied smile on his face, but when he looked back he saw that Ethos was going too fast.

Then Rob opened his eyes wide and shouted:

-Brake Ethos, brake!

Ethos started to brake and skidded, making sparks and tearing pieces off the ground, he slid until he got very close to the edge of the canal, at the foot of the bridge where Josh was already waiting to catch him, the braking

was so sudden that it threw Rob into the precipice. from channel v12.

-No!
Shouted Josh.

And he disappeared into the deep dark valley.

- What have we done?
Josh said.

Ethos immediately turned on his locator and prepared to jump in search of his little master, but then they saw a light shine, it came from the bottom and was slowly rising. It was like a cloud of sparks, the same golden dust they had previously seen in the wheat fields.

And when that ball of sparks reached street level, the cloud partially dissipated and revealed that it was carrying Rob, safe and sound. The cloud gently carried him across the canal and placed him safely on the ground as Josh watched open-mouthed.

Rob hadn't understood either, that's when he got a big surprise. The cloud of particles turned into a whirlpool and materialized into human form, revealing the person, who was none other than his mother.

-Mother?
Rob questioned.
-Mother!

It was a miracle, Rob's mother was right there in front of him, without delay she hugged her with all his strength, letting tears of happiness flow from her eyes.

-Are you here mom?

-Yes, my son, it's me. In fact, I never abandoned you, I was always around, I didn't think I should introduce myself to you when I was like this, until I learned to deal with this state.

-Do you promise not to leave again?

-I'm not going to abandon you Rob, we're going to find the machine and everything will return to the way it was before.

-But how is this possible?

-I don't know how this happened, it was definitely in transport.

-This is an incredible power, said Josh.

Rob couldn't be so happy, this was the best news he'd had since that book fell on his head, his confidence simply doubled in light of the current facts.

-Come on, we have to tell dad the good news, said Josh, sharing the joy of seeing Rob's mom again too.

-He won't believe it, said Rob with a smile on his face.

When they arrived home, the president immediately asked:

-Hey boys, what are these faces?

-You can talk, I know you very well, what did you do this time?

-Mess up?

This time we didn't do anything, we just have something to say.

-Then say it!

-It's actually good news, very good news, said Rob.

-And what would be? asked the president, now anxious.

-It may appear, said Rob.

There was a moment of silence and the cloud of particles began to form again, this time it seemed to come from the objects that were there in the room.

The president opened his eyes wide in surprise and, with a little fear, whispered:

-But what is this?

Rob, noticing, held his hand and told him not to be afraid.

When Christine was transfigured, the president knelt down saying:

-Miracle!

Christine, is that you?

-Yes, it's me, Mr. President.

-But how is it possible?

-Apparently it is possible, said Christine.

-After I got lost in transport, I was wandering around, it seemed like I was in a deep sleep, a nightmare in fact.

-Time passed and when I managed to move like this, I decided to appear without scaring him.

-And that's a good thing, Rob, because if it weren't for your mother, everyone would be in trouble now,

wouldn't they?

Said Christine referring to the fall into the abyss.

-It seems that my nose for your problems is not that bad.

The president added.

And they both turned red with embarrassment.

-But the important thing is that we are all together now, I think we will leave soon for planet Beta, the warp ship is ready for the big trip.

-There's just one detail missing

Said the president.

- Which?

Christine asked.

-Find the planet Beta.

-Like this?

-We couldn't find the coordinates.

-Use the meteorite, just like Doctor Finn did.

-There is no meteorite, mother.

-The meteorite merged with me, it disappeared with the coordinates of planet Beta when we entered the transport, see:

Rob then raised his hand and showed the Beta symbol to his mother, at that moment she hugged him, closed her eyes and with a tear running down her face said:

-There is still hope son, there is still hope, the answer is within you.

-What do you mean mom?

-The answer will come Rob, be patient the answer

will come!

-I don't understand, I don't know the answer, I don't know where planet Beta is.

Rob complained with his head down.

But he silently remembered what had happened that afternoon before the appearance of his mother, who had controlled the Meccans with just her thoughts.

-Well, we have to rest, tomorrow we have a long day ahead, we have to discuss details of our departure, said the president.

-Boys can go to your room, I would like to talk alone with Christine.

Noticing that Rob was looking at her with fear in his eyes, Christine comforted him by saying:

-Son, you can go, I will never abandon you again. Smiling, he gave her a big hug and left the room calmly with Josh patting him on the back saying:

-Don't forget that I beat you today, little brother!

And Josh replied:

- But it wasn't worth it this time a damn mech got in my way, I could have been way ahead of you and your mother helped you...

-See you tomorrow Josh, said Rob, shortening the conversation.

- Christine, it is a great pleasure to have you with us again.

Said the president.

-Thank you Mr President, it is great to be back,

even if in a very different way.

- Don't worry Christine, everything will be fine, we will rescue the machine, recover our planet, Doctor Finn and all our dear friends and family.

-Rob has developed very well, he is intelligent, cunning, fast and very strong. We have to trust him, with all our support he will succeed, have faith.

-Yes, I'm very proud of him, he's my Rob.

-You know, I can't believe it all, it seems like a dream, or rather a nightmare, said Christine, a little apathetically.

-Yes, and when we find that machine we will all wake up, reminded the president.

-Well let's rest, tomorrow we have decisions to make, by the way, what did you mean by saying that the answer is within Rob?

-Yes, if it merged with the meteorite, it's likely that it knows the coordinates, I don't know, it's just a hunch.

-Yes, it makes a lot of sense.

-Good evening Mr. President.

-Good evening Christine.

The fate of the planet was still a little uncertain for everyone, but there was no doubt that will and hope still dominated over discouragement.

That night, when Rob was in his room looking at the moon, or rather at the earth, with renewed hope on his face.

-You know mom, it's great to have you here.

-I thought about what you said about the coordinates and I think I may have the answer.

-Yes Rob?

-I have been dreaming about letters and numbers almost every night, see I took notes.

Rob showed Christine his notes with numbers, letters and diagrams in code form.

-But they don't seem to make sense, I don't know the beginning or the end, I also don't know the order of the code or if it's incomplete, in the end, so far it's useless!

-Don't worry Rob, everything will work out, don't think that the responsibility is yours, because it belongs to all of us, none of us are to blame for everything that is happening, the future is blind in the eyes of the present and the past.

-Now rest, tomorrow is a new day, with new hopes, relax, I feel like everything will work out.

-Good night son.

-Will you stay here with me? Rob asked.

-Yes, I will be watching you, I am your protector now.

She replied smiling.

-Good night mom!

Christine caressed Rob on his face like a mother putting her child to sleep and feeling that good human feeling again, he quickly fell asleep.

After that, Christine sat next to him and rested watching his son throughout the dark night, illuminated only by the pale light of planet Earth that came through the window.

On the way to planet Beta

One morning, Rob woke up screaming for his mother and suddenly she appeared at his side.

-What happened, son?

He was excited because he was inspired by one of his strange dreams, he had an idea that could be the way to find planet beta.

-Mom, I have a plan!

-What would it be Rob?

-I think I know how to find planet Beta, we have to talk to the president.

-Ethos where is the president?

-The president is in hangar eight where the Meca that will take us to planet beta was completed.

-But it's not a ship? Christine asked.

-Exactly! Rob stated.

-Let's go Ethos quickly to hangar eight, we can't waste time, let's wake Josh up.

Then Rob knocked on his brother's bedroom door and called him, he was still sleeping.

-knock, knock, knock... Wake up Josh!

But it seems he was sleeping so heavily that he didn't respond.

-Sleeper! Rob exclaimed, shaking his head.

For a moment Rob closed his eyes and then there was a loud noise accompanied by Josh's scream.

-Aaaaaai!

Josh opened the door and ran out, disheveled.

-What's wrong with these trash cans!

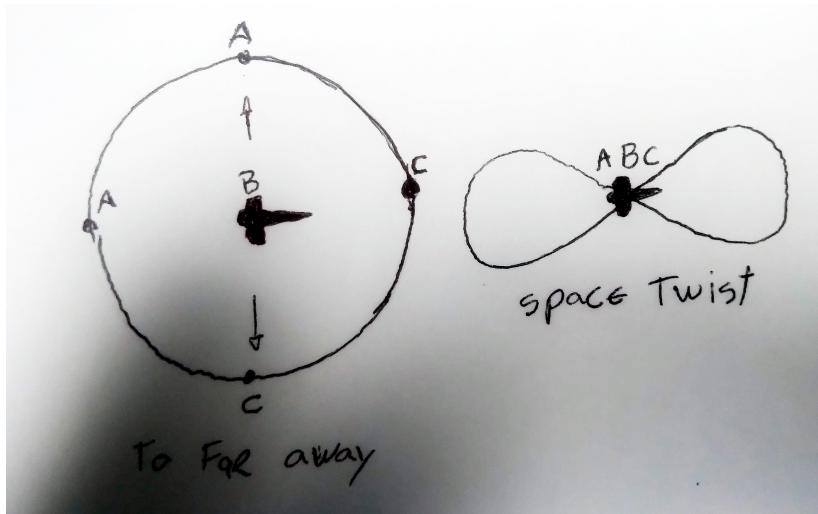
Josh said pointing to the room and added:

-That trash can tried to throw trash at me, it must be defective!

And Rob said nothing:

-Come on Josh, hurry up we have to go to hangar eight, I think I found a way to take us to planet Beta.

When they arrived, they came across that grand Ship, its builders were mechs, humans and Mooners, all together. This was the first time in history that cooperation of such a level had taken place. It was an enormous starship, equipped with the once dreamed of space folding. The "fold" was not exactly like that described in science fiction books and stories from the last century, in practice it was in fact a spatial twist that made intergalactic travel possible in a very fast and safe way. Basically, equipment installed around the ship twists the space just like twisting a balloon filled with air, after twisting the point in space where you want to get "approaches", then the ship waits at this point and is taken to the distant point one light year at a time per second depending on the spatial elasticity constant and the distance to be covered.



-The president is on the bridge, said Ethos.

On the bridge, there was a crew responsible for tracking the planet Beta, they had been working for weeks and had spared no effort, however, they were not very excited about the progress they had made.

Along with them was the president who was also the captain of the ship and he was the one who welcomed them when they arrived at the bridge.

-Hello everyone, what is the reason for this noble visit?

He said upon seeing the troupe.

Christine materialized and came forward:

-It seems that Rob got president, he found a way, a way to take us to planet Beta.

Then the president walked towards the boy, crouched down holding his arms and said:

-Tell us Rob, do you know the coordinates of planet Beta?

-Actually, I don't know exactly, but I know it's here somewhere and I think I discovered a way to find it.

-I'll explain better:

-It seems hard to believe but when I was transported through the funnel next to Ethos, somehow I connected with the mecas, just like what happened with the meteorite, we fused.

-Yesterday something extraordinary happened, I managed to connect with the mecas and that wasn't all, I managed to control them just by concentrating.

The president looked at him for a moment, he seemed a little incredulous but he didn't give up supporting him and said:

-I believe in you son, this can change everything, can you show us?

-The brain that controls this ship is a meca, isn't it?

-Yes, replied the president and added:

-I understand where you're going.

-Maybe if I concentrate, somehow I can instruct her to find the way.

After saying this, Rob walked towards the controls

that were right in front of the large ship, closed his eyes for a few seconds and then raised his left hand, in which there was the beta symbol embedded.

When everyone started to think that nothing would happen, they noticed some blackouts in the lights, interference on the screens, strange noises and the mechs that were present there, including Ethos, started to flash their indicator lights, when suddenly an automatic trash can left towards the Josh and hit him right in the shin.

-Aaaaiiiii, yelled Josh, adding:
-But what was this?
-These machines are chasing me!
He said angrily.

Then Rob, coming out of the apparent trance he was in, apologized:

-My fault, sorry I couldn't resist.
-Like this? Josh asked.
-Do you control the mechs?
And he added:
-Now I understand everything, you smart guy, you cheated yesterday in our race, he said smiling.

Rob was a little embarrassed but with a smile on his face he soon returned to try.

He closed his eyes again and reached for the controls. This time it didn't take long for the electronic interference to begin, but it also didn't take long for it to go silent. The silence persisted for a few seconds until something incredible happened.

The holographic display had printed many

luminous points in their midst that represented stars and planets, soon after, little by little they became denser and denser until our galaxy, the Milky Way, was clearly visible. In the next moment all those bright spots began to move very quickly towards the massive black hole in the center of the galaxy, the Beta symbol tattooed on Rob's hand began to glow and the display then showed something unprecedented, something that had not been seen until this moment. day, beyond the black hole.

Inside it was very different from what they imagined, there was light inside the black hole, it was a mishmash of colors, it looked like a gigantic cylindrical screen with meaningless images. Then, passing through the black hole, they realized that there was a bridge that connected us directly to another universe, but not just any universe, the one where all the others lead there, the universal core or the central universe, a place that cannot be seen or penetrated in any other way than by black holes.

In the midst of colorful nebulas there were three planets in evidence, the display brought the largest of them all, a frightening giant, the one that was right in the middle and which, to everyone's delight, was the much sought after planet Beta, where the hope of saving rests. planet earth and the people who live on it.

When the display turned off, everyone on the bridge celebrated a lot, they jumped and hugged each other with joy like they hadn't done in a long time.

Christine went to Rob and hugged him tightly saying:

-Congratulations Rob, I'm very proud of you son,

see everyone is very grateful for what you did today.

Now with a broad and mature vision, with all acquired respect, Rob proposed to say something and at the same time everyone fell silent to listen to him:

-The real test is yet to come, we know our destination and it is the center of the galaxy, let's recover this machine and save our planet!

And everyone celebrated again.

-We will leave tomorrow, said the president.

-Come on Rob, we have to talk, I'll buy you coffee, I bet you haven't eaten anything yet, I know a Luan bar nearby and they have the best croissant in the entire moon.

-Josh, were you mad at me?

Rob asked.

-Why? because of the trash cans that moved towards me?

-Well, yes.

-You have got to be kidding!

-Now that I think about it, it was hilarious.

-Yes?

-This is really cool.

Josh said with all the excitement.

-My brother has superpowers, your mother has superpowers, that's awesome!

-I can't wait to see what you're capable of doing.

-Well, actually I connect with the mecs and that's it.

-There are hundreds of types of Meccas and everything each one does is one thought away from controlling them.

-Don't be modest Rob, this is a big deal, Ethos is a level one mech, have you forgotten?

-When you master this, you can use it to our advantage on planet Beta, if we ever need it.

But Rob had already mastered his power by this point. All he had to do was concentrate a little and act naturally and the mecs would do everything he mentally ordered.

The next morning, when it was still dark, the ship left, they left very early. In addition to the crew, they were taking a dozen mech soldiers, five transports and some builders, everything they thought necessary to support the task of recovering the machine.

-We are ready for the first warp, commander, when you give the order we will start.

-Bending authorized!

"Gentlemen, place your seat in the upright position and fasten your seat belt, in the second fold when we reach cruising speed you will be able to walk around the ship"

After an intense glow, the ship then disappeared, the speed of transport in the warp is something exorbitant, nothing that is possible to see with the naked eye from the outside. But from the inside, every point of light in space is distorted around the ship.

The destination of the first fold is the edge of the galaxy, before heading towards the nucleus, the massive

black hole at the center of the Milky Way.

In less than ten minutes the ship arrived close to the edge of the galaxy, a place free of any celestial body. This way they could accelerate smoothly towards the center, without worrying about any collisions along the way.

"Attention gentlemen, we have reached the edge of the galaxy, we are going to start the warp towards the center, this will take a few hours"

Notified the commander.

When the ship reached cruising speed, Rob started to do tests in the mech hangar, with the help of Ethos, he tested the control of all of them, in order to familiarize himself with his new power, Josh was the one helping him with his training. his half brother.

-Rob the king of toasters and trash cans
He teased Josh jokingly, and completed it.

-The military mecas are very powerful, they are armed to the teeth, they will protect us at any cost, remember the law?

-Yes, I remember the law, but calm down, we don't know if the "beings" are bad!

-I'm feeling each one of the mechas here, I see how much they respect us, so they deserve all our respect too.

-I hope I don't have to use them, as they were made to intimidate and protect us and not waste their military power.

-Bad?
-These aliens froze our planet with this machine.

-It wasn't quite like that, Josh.

-We don't know what awaits us on the other side of the universe.

Said Christine, and added:

-The message said: rescue the machine with wisdom and bravery, perhaps all this violence is not necessary.

In any case, a direct order from Rob would be enough and the entire defense would be ready to destroy any hostile enemy. Furthermore, they could count on Christine's invisibility, which was undoubtedly an ace up their sleeve.

"Gentlemen, we are reducing speed, we are close to the nucleus, in your positions, we will leave the warp in a few minutes"

Everyone positioned themselves in their seats for the speed reduction.

When the ship stopped in the middle of space. They could not believe the size of that black hole, it simply occupied the entire horizon, in any direction they looked they saw the black hole, there were many nebulae around it, its gravity was not exorbitant as described in the black hole theory, its gravity was enough to "hold" the Milky Way but was not consuming the matter in its surroundings.

But now they had no choice, the only options were to enter the black hole or return back to new life on the small moon planet, and if Rob wasn't wrong when he offered to help, they are one step closer to discovering a

universe on the other side. of the black hole.

We have to trust, the controls are no longer responding, the ship is drifting, heading towards the nucleus. That's when Rob was called.

"Rob we need you on the bridge"

-We are going to cross and we need you to have the ship under control, we will enter warp as soon as we reach the event horizon. The fold will only take a few seconds and if everything goes well, we will be on the other side.

When the ship reached the transverse center of the black hole in relation to the galaxy, Rob with his hand outstretched ordered the ship to warp towards the black hole for a few seconds. There was a lot of turbulence, he was scared, it seemed like they wouldn't be able to get through the hole intact, some parts of the fuselage were coming loose, there was no more power on the bridge, the lights went out, only the emergency lights illuminated them, everything was shaking, Rob couldn't take it anymore, he had a little blood running down his nose and after about twenty seconds of bending, Rob turned it off.

There were long seconds of absolute silence, each crew member of the ship regained consciousness and what they saw afterwards was the most incredible thing they had ever seen, the black hole disappeared giving way to a giant blue star, they were in the middle of hundreds of thousands of nebulae, it was a nursery of stars, everything around was colorful and the olographic map indicated the planet Beta.

When they noticed that everything had gone as planned, they jumped for joy and hugged each other for having survived the black hole.

-An incredible discovery, we made here today.
Said the president

But as they celebrated, they noticed that the ship was still out of control, it was being pulled towards planet Beta.

-Rob, are you doing this?
asked the president.
-It's not me.
He replied a little tiredly.

But it wasn't the planet sucking the ship in with its gravity. When they looked closely they saw that there was a gigantic ship, it was camouflaged, with one of its large doors open and was taking them straight inside.

-This is certainly not the welcome we were expecting.
The president said worriedly.

Everyone was silent and helpless in the face of that situation.

The gigantic ship, after swallowing their ship, took them to planet Beta. There was no communication, no intervention by any kind of being, just the ship.

-Christine better investigate what we're dealing

with.

Said the president.

Christine then left the ship and went to search what had caught them, visited all the rooms of the ship including the bridge and had a surprise. The ship had a certain human familiarity but was completely empty.

And everyone didn't understand.

-Could it be that the ship is being piloted remotely?

The President said and added:

-Let's wait for them to take us, they don't seem suspicious.

The ship then entered the atmosphere of the gigantic planet Beta, it resembled Earth, it had oceans, clouds and solid land but it was three or four times its size and the atmosphere was breathable, a paradise on the other side of the known universe.

The gigantic ship then landed in a kind of shipyard and opened the doors for them to leave. They were monumental structures. Someone did all this and they had no idea who it could be.

-Whoever owns this place certainly has a sense of grandeur, said Christine.

As there was no sign of hostility, they decided to leave the military mechs inside the ship, but they went out with the transports to see what was around, they wandered for hours and found nothing other than very well-made buildings, but completely empty and

abandoned with the vegetation taking over everything.

-Holve a civilization here!

Said the president, and added

-There must be someone else, we have to find someone. The beings from the meteorite would not bring us here for lack of reason, they said you will be tested, we need to find the machine.

They wandered with the Ship for three days and three nights around the planet looking for the machine or any sign of life, but they found nothing. No hint of what that situation meant.

That's when Rob suggested he could find her.

-Take me to the starting point, the shipyard.

They were inside the ship and he repeated the act of concentrating but this time, he thought about the machine and the meteorite, raised his arm and began to rotate slowly like a compass,

-Show me the machine, show me the machine!

Rob whispered.

And the symbol began to shine in his hand when he thought and pointed in a certain direction.

-Head in this direction!

Said Rob confidently.

They followed his guidance and found a kind of

very large arena and landed right in the middle, there was no one, just a lot of dust and vegetation that took over everything. They got off the ship in the middle of that arena that had perhaps been the scene of many fights in the past, who knows.

-She is here!

Rob said with certainty.

-It's there!

He said pointing to the upper floor in the central part of the arena.

When they got there, the surprise was, the machine was there, dusty and lonely, there wasn't a barrier to prevent them from getting to it, there were bars that prevented entry but they weren't locked.

-This is too easy, said the President

And he added:

-Rob, don't touch the machine yet, let's think about what to do.

-I think if I touch the machine it will turn on, everything was so quick the other time.

Rob said.

And as they approached the machine, they heard a voice, which came from an ologram coming from the machine itself.

"Project Beta, project Beta, project Beta..."

"If you are here it is because you have proven your bravery and wisdom, few risk crossing the black hole or have the technology to do so. The beta project was created about 2 million cycles ago to test intelligent species to collaborate with the maintenance of life. In the past we sent the sphere to several different destinations throughout the universe, hoping to receive its people on our planet. We are of the species called human, we inhabit this planet for millions of cycles, however we were forced to abandon it after the atmosphere left to be breathable. The machine has the power to go back in time to where it was first created, two million cycles ago, however, they will have to make a fundamental choice, if they choose to change the past, their planet will no longer be frozen , but the machine will be destroyed never to be used again, if you choose the present, that is, to remain here and collaborate with the maintenance of life from now on, the machine will be your tool for this, use it wisely."

-Humans?

The president said confused and added:

-Maybe they are our ancestors.

-Did they leave here to go to Earth?

-Bad atmosphere?

-But we are breathing!

-The planet must have healed itself after a long time.

-Can the machine go back all this time?

-Imagine what we could solve in millions of years, how many wars we could avoid, how much injustice...

While the president spoke like an elven parrot in front of the facts revealed by the machine, Rob decided to get a little closer, as he was confident that everything would be fine.

That's when he touched her.

The metal of the machine became smooth and shiny like a mirror again and they could immediately see what that place was like in the past, the others only saw it in the reflection of the machine, but Rob, who touched the machine and saw it differently, invited everyone to touch also so that they could see. The place where they were was new again, everything came back to life, there were people and beings of other species everywhere, the arena was full of people, the games were taking place, but they were not seen, they were like passengers in an invisible machine. .

When Rob removed his hand after a few minutes, everything was gray and abandoned again.

They had actually just visited a time programmed into the machine that showed the glorious past of planet Beta, a time when people fought with dignity for life on their planets through games, and the machine was like a prize for the winners, the real test.

-We came to save our planet and this is what we are going to do.

Said the President and completed.

-On the other hand, if we stay and build the funnel here, the star nursery can offer us all the material we need for a long time.

-No signal passes through the black hole, we have no way of communicating with the other side of the

universe, if we could we would send a colony of meccas and humans here.

-It's a difficult choice, but our friend Finn on Earth counts on our help, after all, if it weren't for him we wouldn't find planet Beta, he died for us.

-Ethos what the Meccans suggest.

-Colonization Mr President, what happened on Earth can be fixed, but losing this planet could be a big mistake, since Planet Earth was overpopulated.

-Rob, Christine, what do you say?

-Despite losing our powers we think saving our friend Finn is the best option.

-It's decided we're going to save our planet.

In the attempt they were about to make, they touched the machine Rob, Christine and the president and immediately were transported to the surroundings of Dr. Finn's house because the president knew his house, it was night and it was raining a little, when they looked out the window They saw him, he was sitting in his reading chair in the corner of the room.

-What is he reading?
asked the president.

And Christine, stretching her feet, looked out the window and saw that she was reading the book Unexplained Ancient Wonders.

-This is the book described in the manuscript note.
Christine stated.
-We are at that moment.

-We have to get his attention to stop reading.

Even though he knew it would have no effect, because they were in a parallel world and none of them were present there in the past, the president took a small stone and threw it at the window that was next to him, and he stopped reading and looked at the window.

-It worked, I managed to distract him.

Said the President excitedly.

But they soon realized that there was no way, they remembered that the note in the manuscript said that he looked at the window for a moment, in other words, they were trying to change when in fact they were creating exactly what the note said.

-Who's there.

Said the President in a low voice.

They realized that there was someone else there behind the house, but when they approached, the person fled without leaving a trace.

-Someone has already seen this moment, and took note of everything.

-Who left us the book?

Rob took his hand off the machine and they returned to planet Beta without changing the past.

-Rob is now up to you, let's go back to the day he was born and prevent him from being part of this reality.

When we do this you and Christine won't remember any of this, nor will you even know what it is.

This time only Rob and Christine touched the machine, and they returned to the hospital where Rob was born, on the day the book was found in the crib.

-Mom, the book.

Rob said.

-Christine then threw the book in the trash and watched if anyone was coming to leave the book in the crib. She waited and waited, until the strange person appeared in the room, he was wearing a coat and hat, he couldn't see her but she saw him, he left an object in a hurry and left the room quickly, and Christine followed behind to find out who It was, the steps were long, but Christine really wanted to see who it was, so she started running to catch up with him and when she reached him, she turned around and looked straight into his face and saw that it was Dr. Finn.

Christine was very surprised and when she went back to her room to see what he had left, she found something that was not the book, but a teddy bear with a note that said:

-Thank you for saving my life!

But in the next crib...

"...the renowned astrophysicist Dr. Arold Finn has just announced a great discovery that will change our history, he discovered a planet three or four times larger than Earth and that can be inhabited by human beings, he called it Beta. .."

The choice Rob and the others made to save the planet and their friend Finn placed them in a position of honor, a position superior to sustaining life, which is now a closely guarded secret. Planet Beta, which is part of our past, has now become our future home.

The End