

A Dreamvale Story by Jaden Heaton

The Explosion of

CRONILA

CERTIFIED DREAMVALE

Name: Lilliana

Age: 16

Species: dramanox

Gender: female

Home Planet: Cronila



Personality Traits

- Kind
- Determined
- Loving
- Courageous

Abilities

- Mind control
- Mind reading
- Can freeze time
- Feels tired after using powers

Moral Alignment

Chaotic Good

Dream(s)

I want to find the other nine survivors from my planet

Fear(s)

Being alone forever.

Backstory: When I was six years old my home planet blew up and there were ten survivors total. My mission in life is to find the other nine survivors. My mom and dad died in the explosion. I had gotten shipped off right before. I'm an orphan. I've recently landed on a random planet. At first I was afraid to leave the safety of my ship. But I faced my fear and now I realize I made a good decision.

Luka

Age: 16

Species: Draman

Gender: Male

Home Planet: Cronila

How we Met

After running from the home I'd been in for ten years... A boy helped me through my breathing and talked to me. I learned we could be a team and we were both from Cronila. This must be fate.



Ability #1:

Fast thinking; in tense situations his brain works faster and better. Pressure is what unlocks this power. His brain works faster than others and he manages to always help everyone.

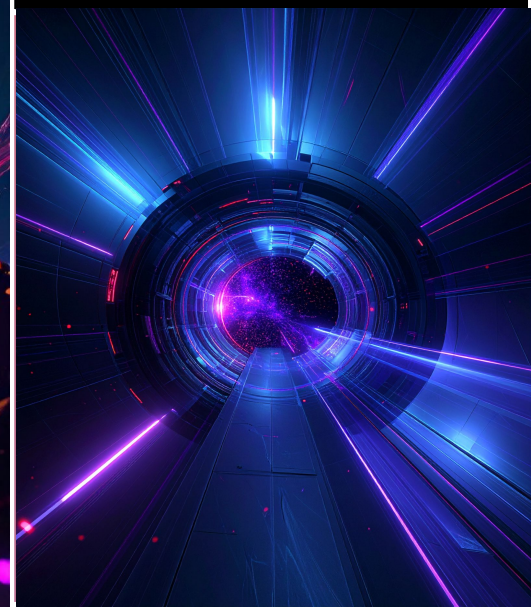
Ability #2:

Manners; In situations where bargaining is the key or getting on someone's good side is helpful he's useful. He's able to charm his way out of trouble. His apologies feel like a knife slashing at your heart and his little smile makes you forgive.





Windilone



Wilrinia

Coordinates (x, y)	(20000,4000)	Government Type	N/A
Population	0	Intergalactic Disposition	The plant was very friendly. Allowing people to visit for vacations and to move here. If they didn't originate from Cronila they would have gas masks and things to help their lungs adjust to the air quality.
Terrain	The land is rocky but solid while the air quality is mostly gassy and hard to breathe in if you're a foreign	Primary Race(s)	Most dragon mixed with human. The most common race was draman (Dragon X Human).
Climate	Hot in most areas but there are places that were once warm but turned cold due to unfortunate explosions	Primary Resource/ Technology	Wilrinia, a type of machine that allows you to see your future profession or what you would be best at in life. It works by someone standing below the scanner and allowing it to trace it's whole body along with a close up of their eyes.
Size	It was a large planet around 40,958 KM	Description	Cronila is a light red and purple planet with lots of trees and advanced technology. Cronila has lots of issues with things blowing up unexpectedly. Unfortunately leading to the whole plant blowing up. Otherwise everyone that had a home on Cronila was friendly, warm, and welcoming helping others find jobs, homes, and things to do such as hobbies, volunteering, and more!
Planetary Wildlife	A large tree named a Windilone. It's tall and has lots of leaves. Although it is large they are mostly known as being dead despite all the leaves they have. The leaf colors range from red, purple, brown, orange, and lastly bright blue.		

Herb Pops



Crona



herbs

Nonia



Charm Pop

Origin Story: The origin to the herb pops is the two planets Nonia and Crona had their items taken and someone used the two to create a magical healing medicine that restores max health and gives back hydration and the feeling of a full stomach.

Appearance: The Herb Pops look like small green and brown squares with a light aura around it giving off the friendly and helpful effect.

● Restore

Everytime you eat one of the square you're immediately healed and no longer feel hungry or dehydrated.

◆ Strengthened

In order to gain more strength you need to be at your weakest point or just badly injured. The pill isn't supposed to be used to gain strength. It's only normally used to restore health.

★ Invisibility

The rarest thing the pill can do is lend you the ability to turn invisible. Nobody knows how this happens. Scientists think it happens because of an ingredient in the herbs that were added to the pills.

Chapter One: Early Days



“No! You can’t do this to me!” But she did no matter how much I pleaded or begged she kicked me out. Wind thrashed my hair and I felt my heart shatter. Fear consumed me and I took off running the heavy duffle bag squeezed in my grip.

Now you may be wondering how I ended up here so I’ll start when I was around six years old. So around ten years ago.

On the planet of Cronila that is my home planet. A big beautiful planet; red, purple, and black mixed together to create an intimidating aura around it but that was further from the truth. Everyone that lived there was nice, warm, and welcoming. Until Olumpia trewol 4011. Or in English words October 12th, 4011.

The biggest explosion we’d had. It was normal for explosions to go off but they mostly happened in the restricted areas of the planet. But this time it happened in Crinolia the capital and also where my mom, dad, and I lived. The explosion happened right under the bank and I just remember seeing ash, fire, and money rain down. At first nobody noticed the fire and just went for the money. That was until a second explosion happened- this time bigger and worse.

Sirens rang from the building signaling everyone to evacuate the planet. Everyone was rushing and I was almost trampled until my father grabbed me. Him and my mother rushed to the emergency pods near the airport luckily we were one of the few hundred people who arrived there. They shoved me into a pod made sure I had food and water- buckled me, shut the door and... pushed the send off button.

Why... Why did they have to do that? I was only about 470 KM away when the third explosion happened...

And then the fourth and fifth and sixth. I wasn’t in reach of the blast radius but I could still see the explosions happening. I looked around.

“Mom!? DAD!” They have to be in an evacuation pod... right?

“Mommy!!” I screamed until my throat burned and I had to chug half my water. “Mommy...?” My voice was strained and whispered. I noticed nine other evacuation pods. Nine other survivors? There had to be more. There were thousands of evacuation pods at the airport! There had to be more people. My eyes started to droop. I struggled to stay awake and finally I succumbed to sleep.

Chapter One: Early Days

When I awoke. I was warm... But still shivering. I looked around and finally realized I had landed on a planet. I grabbed a water bottle and crawled out of the opened pod. I stood up on my two shaky feet.

"Hello!!" I yelled but my throat still hurt but it wasn't as bad. I started to walk and stumbled. I eventually stumbled upon a

village that wasn't small but it wasn't big either. Pens were lined up against houses, some small.. Dragons lied in the pens.

"Hello?" I called out and someone opened a door a few houses down. An older woman but no older than 50.

"Hi, you lost little lady?" Her voice was loud but not obnoxious.

"Y-Yes... my home-" She interrupted me quickly "Are you from Cronila, little girl?" I must have looked surprised because she didn't wait for an answer.

"Oh honey, that's just been all over the tellynet."

"H-Huh?" I murmured.

"What's a tellynet, ma'am?" I asked respectfully.

"Oh honey, let me show you. Come on now." I hurried over to the house and up the two steps to the door. She ushered me in and sat me down onto the couch.

"See this?" She patted a black box.

"Yes ma'am?" I murmured. She flicked a small switch and the whole thing lit up. Glowing across her face and I'm sure mine as well.

"Wow..." A small gasp escaped me when a replay of an explosion happened... The explosion that exploded my planet.

"How-" I started

"No, no dear. Don't ask, I don't have an answer. Do you know where your parents are? We've been told there are only ten survivors from the planet, which means you are one of the rarest creatures in the whole Galaxy!" Her voice sounded excited like it was a good thing to be one of ten..

But I really just wanted my mommy and daddy.

"No!" Sobs poured from me and I just couldn't stop. She looked dumb-founded for a moment before running over and coddling me against her.

"Shhh" She continued to try and sooth me but it wasn't like my mother. I just wanted my mom... Wails continued until they eventually subsided and I was left feeling miserable and tired. She handed me my water that I had been carrying and I greedily drank.

"I w-want my m-mommy!" I wailed again

"Well..." She started but then stopped as if thinking over her words carefully. She didn't come up with something to say and instead remained quiet. She just held me against her side and we both sat there. She was stiff and warm. I was limp and cold. The only noise in the room was the vroom of the supposed

Chapter One: Early Days



tellynet, my sniffles, and her soft huffing breath.

“W-Why did m-my planet blow?” I whispered softly. She tilted her head to look at me.

Her expression was something of concentration and the hard truth.

Chapter Two: Disbelief



I won't bore you with any more details from when I was younger so let's fast forward a little bit because I assume you can probably piece together what happened.

I turn sixteen in two days. I thought we'd celebrate my birthday like any other one. So I started writing a list of things I wanted; clothes, shoes, bracelets, the normal things people want on their birthday. I was so horribly wrong.

"Lilliana get up!" Marge yelled from the bottom of the stairs like any other morning before school or shopping. It wasn't a school day.. Or a shopping day. I hurriedly climbed out of bed, threw on some clothes, brushed my teeth, combed my hair and then finally walked downstairs.

She's impatiently tapping her foot while leaning against the kitchen counter.

"Yes, Marge?" The taste of toothpaste still fresh on my tongue.

"You need to find a job." Her voice is stern and straight to the point.

"Uh... uh what?" I asked, confused and genuinely lost. I've never heard of a job?

"What's a job, Mrs. Marge?" She huffs and straightens from the counter.

"A job! J.O.B! Job!" She repeats the word three more times as if that'd ring something in my head. I don't want to anger her.

"Oh! A job... Right, yes. I'll go get one, how many do you want?" She laughs. In my face.

"How many do *I* want? No sweetie. How many do *you* want." She stares at me expectantly.

"O-One, I just want one..." I murmur still confused on what a job was. A few minutes later I was walking down the sidewalk toward a fast-food place called Ro-Bo-Eats. I entered the small building and the smell of grease hit me. The door had a little bell that gave off a small

Ding Dong Ding

I walked over to the front counter.

"Hello, how may I assist you today?" The girl behind the counter looked tired. She had black hair and dark circles under her eyes with drooping bags.

"Uhm.. I'm here for a job?" I ask carefully.

"You want to work here?" She replies.

"Yes, ma'am."

Chapter Two: Disbelief



“I suppose... Follow me.” She rounds the corner of the counter and walks down a dark hall expecting me to follow. I force myself behind her. Silently keeping pace.

“I’ll set you up with an interview right now.” Her voice is drained of emotion and kind of sounds like it carries a raspy exhaustion to it.

Twenty minutes later and I’m hired. Cleaning off tables, sweeping, mopping, dusting. Usually I do this at home. I never thought I’d be doing it in a public place. The interviewer said I’d be working for five hours and get 13.69 jeepos an hour. That’s a lot of jeepos! I only have 100 jeepos in my savings! I didn’t know I could do such an easy task for so many jeepos.

“Lilliana!” Someone yells my name and I turn to see Marge. She’s wearing her nice sundress, glasses, and her golden bracelets. Marge is pretty well off. She has quite a lot of jeepos in her savings and once she retires she’ll have tons more too! I want to be just like her when I’m older.

“This is where you work? Did you really get a job, Lilliana?” Her voice sounds skeptical and wary.

“Oh, yes ma’am. Would you like to order something?” I’m not allowed to act like I know the customer.

“No, Lilliana. I don’t want to eat something as trashy as this place.” She snarls out the words like a nasty wolf.

“Oh, okay no worries, ma’am.” I turn and start wiping down another table, my back toward her.

“Don’t turn your back to me young lady!”

I turn to her as straight as a pin board fear coursing through me. “I’m sorry, ma’am I’m at work and I just forgot...” I murmur “Marge.. Please don’t make a scene.” I whisper so quiet I don’t even know if she heard me. Her face scrunches with disgust and I know she heard me.

“Fine.” She turns and storms out of the fast-food place. I glance up at the counter. The girl -who I’ve learned is named Pixie- is quietly watching me eyebrows raised and eyes slightly rounded. She mouths “Who. Was. That?” I turn back to the table. My face turning red I’m too embarrassed to answer her question and stare. I can feel her eyes tracing me burning into the back of my head.

Later that night when I got home; sweaty, and exhausted I walked straight to my room, grabbed fresh clothes and changed into them. I had gotten changed into the work uniform in the employee bathroom. So now that I was back into my regular clothes I felt slightly more energized but not enough to

Chapter Two: Disbelief



not completely pass out when I first laid down on my bed. The soft pillows and blanket lulled me into a peaceful comfortable sleep.

“Mmm...” I murmured softly into a pillow, the soft fibers of the fabric tickling my nose and cheeks. “Hehe....” I giggle and push my face further into the comfortable softness of the warm thick pillow.

I awoke about an hour later. Midnight the day of my birthday. I excitedly get dressed in a warm long sleeve t-shirt with black sweatpants and some pink slippers. I make coffee and start on eggs for breakfast. I hurriedly eat my breakfast and drink my coffee before brushing my teeth.

“Mom!” I call out and I hear Marge grumble before stomping down the stairs.

“It’s my birthday!” I say excitedly

Her eyes light up like she just got a gift.

“Yes, you’re sixteen correct...” Her voice has a sharp edge to it and I feel a strange sense of wariness creep into my lower stomach.

“Yes.. I am.” I confirm, and a grin spreads across her face.

“Get out of my house.” She orders her tone so sharp and set I can’t tell if she’s joking

“What?” My voice wavers.

“Get out of my house, your stay is very, very over due.” She turns and marches upstairs. And I’m left standing there bewildered. She comes back and a bag is launched at me. Heavy.

Chapter Three: A Boy?



As I'm hunched over struggling to catch my breath I feel a hand on my shoulder and I almost send a fist flying into the direction but I pause when I lock eyes with the person... They're red, yellow. With a sparkling like mine. I see them pause to flush their cheeks and they remove their hand as if burned then they sheepishly look around.

"Sorry..." His voice is deep but has a slight nerdy sound to it. He's wearing a short sleeve shirt and black shorts despite the chilly weather.

"N-No please... it's okay." I stand up on shaky legs. I reach my hand out. He stares at it for a moment before slipping his into mine. I give a sharp shake before stating my name.

"Hi, I'm Liliana Elena Roosana." My voice is firm yet shaky.

"Hi..." He shakes once before releasing my hand and glancing around.

"You're from-"

"Cronila." I interrupt. He sharply inhales before a soft sigh escapes him.

"Me too..." He murmurs finally after a moment.

"Did you get kicked out of your home too?" His voice is quiet, almost scared. I glance behind him. The same duffle bag I have.

"Y-Yeah..." I stutter slightly. How is this possible...

"Did you also crash here ten years ago?" He asks more confidently.

"Yes. I did." I replied.

"You think the pods are still where we crashed?" I ask, getting curious. Now that I think about it. I haven't gone back to the woods since I crashed here.

"We need to go check, I suppose." He answers.

"Follow me, we can go to mine first." The pods are strong and can start up even after a crash.

"Wait!" He calls after me grabbing both his and my duffle bag. "We can't just leave these. They have our information." He insists and I reach for mine and he hands it over. Golly! This thing is heavy... He seems to see my struggle and retakes the duffle bag.

Chapter Three: A Boy?



He seems to see my struggle and retakes the duffle bag.

“Holy.. How are you carrying two of those like they weigh nothing...” I question.

“I’m super strong. My mom’s power was empathy. My dad’s power was super strength. When I feel empathetic while lifting, almost nothing is heavy to me.” He’s calm while he explains as if he’s talking to a child. I huff and turn and start toward the woods. He follows quietly.

“Have you been out here after landing here?” He asks softly as if his voice might spook me.

“No... Not since I was six.” I reply almost as quietly as him. After about thirty minutes of walking we arrive at the pod. Only forty feet away from my emergency pod is another. I turn to him.

“That yours?” I question him.

“Yes, ma’am.” He murmurs before walking over to my pod. He climbs in it and starts pressing buttons. A small sound escapes the pod before it starts to float.

“They still work!” He exclaims excitedly. He climbs out and walks over to his fallen one. I place both duffle bags into the working pod before quickly following him. He’s already seated into the pod pressing and moving buttons and levers. A small strangled sound escapes the pod before silence. He presses a button again. Strangled noise.

“The engine must be dead...” He mutters frustration laced in his tone.

“We can get another one right?” I watch as he stands from the pod.

“Maybe.”

Chapter Four: The Plan



After messing with the pod for another hour he finally gave up with a huff and sat in the grass beside me.

“Well?” I ask tiredly.

“We both need to work, earn, and save enough Jeepos so we can afford a new engine.” He answers quickly almost like he planned for this to happen.

“Can’t we share my pod?” I answer

“Oh, sure,” he says sarcastically. “If you want no room to sleep, eat, or do literally anything.” I give him a questioning look. “The duffle bags. They’re far too heavy and big to fit two of them along with two people.” He sums up.

“Oh. Okay. We can both work, get Jeepos, and buy a new engine then where would we go?” He answers quickly again.

“We’d go find the eight other survivors of the explosion, duh.” He says it like it's the most obvious thing in the world.

“Oh... Do you know where they are... I mean Cronila exploded almost ten years ago...” I answer after a couple of moments.

“Isn’t it dangerous? I mean what if they’re dangerous?” Fear bubbles inside of me. What if they’re all over the universe? It’d take years to find them all.

“Obviously I’m not worried about finding all of them. But we need to find some. We need to rebuild Cronila. Haven’t you heard? The other survivors are trying to find each other as well.” His voice has an excited edge to it.

“Okay! Well I start work in an hour!”

I went to work and to my surprise we were quite busy. I made a whopping 53.89 Jeepos! That means I have 245.64 Jeepos in my savings. I excitedly head back to the pods. I stop walking for a moment and it dawns on me. I don’t know his name. I rush to the pods. The duffle bags are still in my pod. Locked. I unlock it and unzip a duffle- mine. I unzip the other one and pull out a paper. Luka Elliot

Chapter Four: The Plan



North. I remember him... he was my neighbor. And my best friend. We went to school together and after we'd race each other home... He was my childhood best friend. Does he know this? Did he recognize me by my name? Did he recognize me at all?

I rezip the duffle bag and relock the pod. I look around. He isn't here, maybe he's at work. I walk around the forest. One thing this planet is good with is their nature quality. They have fruit trees and random spurts of gardens everywhere. I walk along picking fruit and digging up vegetables. I end up with a handful of foods. I'm sure I'd be able to make a fruit bowl with this amount of fruit. I walk back toward the pods. When I get back Luka's sitting next to a pod leaning against it actually. He seems to be asleep or his eyes are just closed. I get closer and he glances at me then at the food.

"You collected fruit and vegetables?" His voice is rough. I'm pretty sure he works at the same place I do. I hadn't seen him today. I think he works with restocking things like buns, meat patties, and the ice cream that goes into the machines.

"How was your shift?" I ignore his question as I sit down and set the food down carefully not to smoosh or dirty any. It rained recently so the fruit looks clean. I'll have to wash the vegetables though.

"Eat some. I'm sure you're hungry." I know he's hungry, he's eyeing the fruit like a starved animal. We both begin eating and juices race down my chin. I hum gratefully. The delicious smells and tastes blossom around me.

"Mmm..." We say in union. A laugh escapes me and I choke slightly.

"Good?" He asks while biting down on a ripe piece of fruit.

I nod quickly and toss the seeds aside once I finish. I wipe my mouth and look around. This is one beautiful place. The trees had beautiful leaves and the branches swayed in the wind. I breathed a soft sigh and then slowly exhaled.

"You tired?" He stood and I followed unsure where he was walking. He walked to a tree about thirty feet away and started climbing up using grooves in the bark to get leverage. He must've carved them because it didn't seem natural. I started climbing after him and once I reached a platform I gasped.

Chapter Four: The Plan



He must've been doing this all day.

"Wow, Luka it's-"

"What." His voice shot out like a bullet.

"Luka it looks nice?" I finished what I was going to say. He stood there frozen.

"I never told you my name... Did you look in my duffle bag?"

"Yeah... was I not allowed to?" I took a step toward him. "Did you remember me? Is that why you never told me your name?" The questions kept coming. "Did you remember when we would run home from school? Or when we would play tag or hide 'n' seek the back yard of the apartments?" He was backed against the trunk of the tree and I can only assume the bark was biting into his back.

"I did remember you. I'm sorry I didn't say anything or tell you my name... I guess... it would've been better without us getting personal. My childhood was part of my life I left behind okay? And I'm sorry I wasn't honest with you or upfront from the start." He was staring at his shoes.

"I'm not mad." I sigh "I just wish- I would've known who you were from the beginning. I feel so guilty for not recognizing you." I sit on the platform that's nicely built around the trunk of the tree.

"Did you do this while I was at work?" I feel and tap the wood under me. It's sanded down and smooth.

"How much money did this cost to sand?" I look up at him and he's grinning.

"I used a natural sander..." He's smiling like he just solved all the problems. I don't question what he means. I'll give him this moment.

Over the next few days and weeks me and Luka work- breaking our backs saving up for the new engine. I've officially reached 1,500 Jeeps. Luka had told me he had 3,000 Jeeps and I practically jumped on top of him. I was so happy and proud of us. We went to an engine store and purchased one. We weren't sure if it was the right one...

Chapter Five: Excitement



So once we reached the pods and he got to the old engine and took it out I was vibrating with nerves. He slowly placed the new engine in and flicked a few switches and pressed a few buttons to power up the pod I was holding my breath. I could feel my face turning purple from no oxygen.

“D-Does it work?” I mutter, shaking.

“Would you wait? The pod ain’t even on yet.” He huffs and presses one final button and when the strangled noise comes on I practically faint. The pod's lights flick on and then off then on and then its floater sensors kick on and it levitates... Just like it’s supposed to.

“We did it!” I practically tackle him when he stands from the pod.

“Luka we did it!” I hug him so tight I swear I hear his bones crack. When I release him he’s grinning like a little boy on summer time morning.

“We did. Now we need to go buy some supplies with our remaining Jeepos.” He starts heading toward the stores and I rush after him.

“I thought we spent all our Jeepos?” He glances down at me with a soft smile.

“I thought ahead and saved more than we needed to.” His legs stride faster and I jog to catch up. By the time we reach the pods again he’s carrying all ten bags of supplies we bought which involves; food, water, solo games, pillows and a few blankets.

“What planet are we going to go to first? Do you even know what planet the other survivors are on?” He looks down at me then up at the sky and sighs.

“Like I told you when we first met. I heard the other eight survivors are also trying to meet up. I investigated a little bit and got some information. I heard they’re heading to Pixie Hollow.” Pixie Hollow was quite far away and he seemed to know that.

“Are you sure we’d make it?” I look at the pods.

“Positive. I just need you to trust me... Do you trust me, Lilliana?” I nodded.

“I trust you, Luka.” And so we separated the supplies, climbed into the pods, exchanged duffle bags and then started up the pods. He showed me the buttons and levers and what they do. Told me how to connect speech to talk to him and then finally...

Chapter Five: Excitement



We launched off

The noises were loud, lots of cranking and creaking before finally the pod gave me instructions to start it up and fly. I followed him off the planet and looked back. Though the planet was beautiful, the people here... Weren't representing it as well as they should. The people are greedy and rude and I don't ever want to come back.

Chapter Six: The Meet



The soft sound of the pod's engine reluctantly started to lull me to sleep. I fought my eyelids and suddenly Luka's voice echoed into my pod.

"Falling asleep on me, Lilliana?" I could hear his amusement. I glanced to my right and saw his goofy grin. I grumbled before responding.

"How long do we have to be in these darn small pods? And how long until we can **finally** sleep... or take a break?" My voice was laced with exhaustion and my eyes were taking the fall. I could feel my brain basically giving in.

"How about we get to the planet and then you can sleep for as long as you want." He was trying to compromise but I was having none of it.

"I don't want to wait another billion miles!" I know I was overreacting the distance but I hadn't noticed how close we actually were.

"Billion miles? Is that what you call 30 miles?" I could see him laughing at me. Though the microphone didn't pick it up.

"Be quiet..." I murmured. He took a sharp right and I followed although we were still 30 miles out the planet was beautiful. I look over- Cronila.. It was still floating. It looks healthier than I remember when I was like six.

"Wow..." I breathe out.

"That's... beautiful." I had totally forgotten he could hear me and nearly had me jumping out of the pod when he spoke

"Yeah, I miss it. Ten years without a normal life and here I am missing it. Though the adventures are quite... entertaining." I look over and he's easily maneuvering his pod. We fall into a comfortable silence and I realize these pods move quite quick. We're already close to landing on the planet.

"Wow, I can't wait to see the other survivors." We say it almost in union

"Well, Lilliana, are you ready?" His voice is filled with hidden excitement.

"As ready as I'll ever be." I follow him as he guides his pod down to the exit and entrance port

Chapter Six: The Meet



where all vehicles that fly whether that be; flying cars, cubes, pods, or a new invention that came from an Earth planet named an airplane.

We hit the run way with a slight bounce as the planet's gravity takes effect starting to ground the pods but keeping the slight levitation.

“Come on Luka!” I quickly exit the pod and run over to his, carrying the heavy duffle bag in my hands. He exits his pod too and quickly takes the duffle bag from me slinging both over his shoulders.

“Alright, let’s go. I don’t know exactly where the meeting is but I’m sure we can ask around.” I follow behind him peering around- this planet is dark but has a light aura around each person whom is homed here.

“It’s pretty here.” I touch a chime and nearly fall at the loudness of the echo. I feel my cheeks burn red at the stares. The store owner rushes over.

“Oh dear, are you alright?” The old woman helps me to my feet and dusts me off. I notice the ground is a little dusty.

“Yes ma’am thank you, we actually have a question. We’re from Cronila and we were wondering where the meeting is.. Since the other eight survivors are coming here right?” I keep my voice steady despite my nervousness of asking such an important question. Her face brightens and she gives us direction on where the meet is, and where to find it.

“Oh! Yes dear, it’s at the capital. Go straight, take a right, and you’ll see it. It’s the biggest building on the planet!” Her voice is laced with joy and wisdom.

“Thank you.” Luka grips my arm and starts heading in the directions she gave. But he goes **left** instead of **right**.

“Luka, what are you doing?” I tug against his grip trying to free my arm.

“She said go right? Why are we going-” My words are cut off when I see a beautiful building standing as if to shield the planet. It has lights and pillars decorating the outside along with beautiful

Chapter Six: The Meet



curtains tucked around the edges of the roof giving off a homey decor.

“Wow, but how did you know to go left not right?” I look up at him and he's staring intently at me.

“You think I’d trust grandma back there?” He laughs.

“She had no idea what you were talking about besides the Cronila part. She didn’t know the actual directions but she wanted to try and be helpful, probably to try and gain a bonus if she helped us get rounded up together. People here are either begging for money or laughing in your face.” He starts trudging into the building, releasing my arm. I follow, his words stung. That lady was nice. But I suppose that’s just who... Luka is.

Once inside the inside is even more gorgeous. Chandeliers hanging from the ceiling. And that’s when I realize.. Luka is crying. I glance up. My mom and dad... His mom and dad.. I feel tears build and I finally realize I’m sobbing. I look over- there’s four other people I don’t recognize, but they’re definitely from Cronila. I run over and launch myself into my parents. They still smell the same from when I was younger. They look the same except a little more weathered..

“Mom! Dad!” I cry into their arms. I look over and Luka is slowly approaching his parents. He looks like a wounded animal.

I finally found my home.

And I’m

So very

Grateful.