

CHAP Masks 7 - Investigations

Content Warnings

- Food & exercise
- Physical violence
- Discussions of: surveillance/lack of privacy, homelessness
- Mentions of: alcohol, police, knives & guns, mould
- SFX: background chatter, beeping & clicking, distorted voice

[Show Theme - Intro]

THE ETERNAL TAVERN KEEPER

Rusty Quill presents Chapter and Multiverse

[SFX: Interdimensional Tavern Ambience]

Ah, you're back! I was worried for a moment. The Pincushion cocktail didn't really agree with you, as I recall, and I thought I had scared you off for good! I may have taken the concept a little too literally. But to make up for that mishap I must tell you what happened next to our young superheroes. I know you've been waiting patiently for the next instalment. After a well-earned night's rest following their first battle as a team, Mini had to get up early for her shift at the shoe shop, and Joseph had to do some research into the company known as Clear Vision Trading...

[SFX: Portal Whoosh]

MADDY

Hello and welcome to Chapter and Multiverse, the actual play podcast where we explore the same city across multiple parallel universes. I am your gamemaster, Maddy Searle, my pronouns are she/her, and today we will be playing our campaign of Masks: A New Generation, which is designed by Brendan Conway and allows our players to take on the role of young superheroes; but before we go any further, I must introduce, as always, our wonderful and talented players! Could you please let me know your name and pronouns and your character's name and pronouns - starting with Pip?

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

Hello, I'm Pip Gladwin and I will be playing Joseph Teller aka Zenith the grey boy in the Grey Box.

(Group laughter)

We are both he/him.

MADDY

Fabulous, and Lydia?

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

Hi, I am Lydia Nicholas, pronouns they/she. I am playing Mini Smithson whose pronouns are she/her and whose human façade maybe beginning to slightly slip, just a small amount of flying.

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(Group laughter)

Ignore the disco lights.

(Laughter)

MADDY

And Lowri?

LOWRI AS BLODEUWEDD MORGAN AKA SYPHON

Hello, I am Lowri Anne Davis, and I am playing Blodeuwedd Morgan aka Syphon. We both go by she/her pronouns.

MADDY

Sweet, and Ahmed?

AHMED AS ADEEB BIN YESLAM AKA THE TURBAN

Hi everyone, I'm Ahmed Aljabry and I'll be playing the Arabian, Adeen bin Yeslam aka The Turban. Pronouns are he and him.

MADDY

Beautiful.

Okay, so last we left off you had successfully apprehended the Green Needle, and you had sent him into the welcoming arms of law enforcement along with all of his minions; and also discovered a little clue on him pointing to a company called Clear Vision Trading who presumably offered to pay him to hit

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this mall for some reason, and you jetted away from the scene of the battle in Zenith's very cool stealth jet off to your new...

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

I don't know I'd say it's a just general stealth jet...

MADDY

Yeah.

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

Just common a garden, as in like literally I got three in my garden at home.

(Group laughter)

MADDY

For sure, and just a regular old stealth jet off to your new Co-HQ at ExoPlanet Corp which I believe has been dubbed, The Grey Box, and you all went back to your various homes/workplaces and your regular lives, whatever they may be and reported back on what had happened that day.

So, as we begin this session, it is a new day, you're all waking up in your various homes and Grey Boxes, and what would you like to do? So, I think for Mini it is very likely that she would have a shift at the shoe shop on a Sunday because it is a busy retail day, but I am open to discussion on that?

[SFX: "Perfectly Ordinary" suburban home ambience, quiet electronic pop music, birds outside]

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

Yeah, I think Mini bounces out of bed, **[SFX: Bedsheets]** heads off to the shoe shop after doing human things like putting on clothes **[SFX: Putting on clothes]** and walking on the ground, you know, human things.

(Group laughter)

MADDY

Yeah.

LOWRI AS BLODEUWEDD MORGAN AKA SYPHON

Typical things you do in the morning.

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

It's just stuff that you do, you know, as if you have mass you know, that's cool, you're gonna be on the ground affected by gravity.

[SFX: Shoe shop ambience, faint city noises, calming music]

Yeah, so she's going to turn up at the shoe shop and she is, yeah, she is just going to have a lovely time. She's going to come in bouncy and shiny and Joe Dustice the extremely boring shoe man, in a shoe family, who runs this shoe shop, he sells shoes, big on shoes, just..."Hello?" – you know there's not much going down there.

MADDY

Yeah.

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

But bounces, measures feet, makes sure the shoes are in line. Brings a little sparkle [SFX: Sparkles] to the shoe shop.

MADDY

Yeah, Joe Dustice ushers you in and is like, "Hey, Mini, good to see you".

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

"It's wonderful to see you too Joe, what a fabulous day we're gonna having selling shoes."

(Laughter)

MADDY AS JOE

"I appreciate, as always, your 'get up and go', it's a good thing in a salesperson. Could you get to sorting out the insoles, they've got a bit muddled?"

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

"Oh yeah, wonderful, really looking forward to it."

MADDY AS JOE

"Good".

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And he looks slightly confused that how enthusiastic you are about this but still.

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

I don't think so, Joe loves shoes – shoes are important.

MADDY

Oh yeah, that's very true. He is very pleased that you are enthusiastic about sorting the insoles, my apologies.

And your colleague Micah Trent is also in there, he is a very friendly chatty person and he's also studying to be a journalist at one of the universities in town and he comes up to you and says, "I've got the internship. I've got it!"

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

[gasps] "Oh my gosh that's wonderful, what's an internship?"

(Laughter)

MADDY AS MICAH

"Well, it's where you work for someone but don't get paid."

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

"Right, that's an original way to do it."

MADDY AS MICAH

"But it's experience."

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

“Yes! You know what, that sounds great. I really think that money’s overrated anyway, capitalism is not seeming to do great things for this planet. I’m glad you’re taking an alternate approach.”

MADDY AS MICAH

“Cool, yeah, but the goal is though, to get experience so that people will want to pay me.”

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

“Oh! I see, I see, so you are exchanging your labour for future value, it’s like you’re investing labour, that’s interesting.”

MADDY AS MICAH

“Yeah.”

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

“Cool. Okay, I’m sure that will work out and not have any like dire consequences.”

MADDY AS MICAH

“That’s cool. Yeah.”

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

“Yeah.”

MADDY AS MICAH

“The way you said that makes it seem like there will be dire consequences...”

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

“What?!”

MADDY AS MICAH

“But okay, yeah, it’s at UTBC it’s like the biggest news corporation in the whole country, it’s amazing like...”

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

“Wonderful.”

MADDY AS MICAH

“I am so excited.”

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

“What are you going to be covering?”

“What’s your beat?”

MADDY AS MICAH

“Uh, I don’t think I’ll be covering anything.”

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

“Oh.”

MADDY AS MICAH

“I think I will probably be covering like the refreshments.”

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

“Interesting.”

MADDY AS MICAH

“I’ll probably be getting people coffee and stuff.”

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

“And that’s what you want a job doing, getting coffee? That’s cool, I love coffee. I thought about getting a job in a coffee shop, it sounded wonderful.”

MADDY AS MICAH

“The thing is, when you ask me questions it makes me reassess my entire life.”

(Laughter)

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

“Okay, sorry, I meant them to be ordinary questions.”

MADDY AS MICAH

“No, no don’t apologise, it’s like a fresh perspective on things. Yeah, maybe internships are bad, actually.”

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

“I wouldn’t know.”

MADDY

“Okay, cool, cool”.

And on that note, what is Zenith doing this morning?

(Laughter)

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

Yes, Zenith will wake up in quite a large bedroom actually.

[SFX: Penthouse bedroom ambience]

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

Oooh, it’s a pad.

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

Yeah, but it’s not his. In quite a large bedroom which is you know, surprisingly kind of mostly black and grey and swings himself out of bed **[SFX: Bedsheets]**, kind of wander **[SFX: Slide door open]** into the largely black and grey kitchen **[SFX: Penthouse kitchen ambience, electronics buzz]** and make a some sort of like protein shake kind of thing out of you know this like unmarked grey bag

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that like you pour into plastic thing and you know like top it up with what with you know water I guess – speaking as a man who is just constantly on the protein shakes, obviously. **[SFX: Making Protein Shake, opening bag, crinkling bag, pour powder, pour water]**

(Laughter)

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

Got to get them gains.

[SFX: Penthouse Training Room ambience]

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

This is my area of my expertise as I'm sure the listeners can tell; and we'll get a sort of training workout in and then is going to sit down again **[SFX: Sit in chair]** in front of that big bank of computers **[SFX: Computers beeping]** and start digging into Clear Vision Trading. **[SFX: Typing]**

MADDY

Fantastic, yeah.

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

Try and find out what I can.

MADDY

Yes, is there some kind of roll on your sheet that would apply to this, or...?

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[MUSIC: Mysterious ambience]

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

I mean obviously I've been reading the files thing [**SFX: Turning pages**], but that's specific to superpowered related stuff so, I would say the closest thing is, if we were going to make it a roll, would be to assess the situation, I guess.

MADDY

Yeah.

AHMED AS ADEEB BIN YESLAM AKA THE TURBAN

Pierce the Mask, it says here as well.

MADDY

Oh.

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

Oh, that's interesting, because I was going to say like but oh that's for people but then like could you...

AHMED AS ADEEB BIN YESLAM AKA THE TURBAN

"Legally, corporations are individuals".

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

Ah, there you go.

(Laughter)

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

I mean that is a far... my odds on success at Pierce the Mask are way worse!

(Laughter)

But I love the pitch on like can I Pierce the Mask of this cooperation to find out what they are doing.

MADDY

Yeah.

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

It's up to you Maddy.

MADDY

What I'm going to say is, I'm going to be spicy, I'm going to say roll Pierce the Mask, plus superior.

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

Oh, that is spicy. See how we do.

MADDY

Because yeah, your strats would definitely work, it's just like coming at it from a slightly different angle.

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

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That's a ten.

LOWRI AS BLODEUWEDD MORGAN AKA SYPHON

Ooo.

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

Wow!

MADDY

Brilliant, yeah you get to ask three questions. I think some of them are probably like way too important for me to reveal this early but...

(Laughter)

...what I'm going to do is I'm just going to give you the information that you receive on that very excellent roll.

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

Cool.

MADDY

So, yes, you manage to dig out this is very clearly some kind of shell corporation. You can't find any evidence of them doing any actual business, any product or service that they provide; but when you delve into the like who owns who own who, they are clearly like the largest corporation that has control over them is UTBC, the United Territories Broadcasting Corporation.

LOWRI AS BLODEUWEDD MORGAN AKA SYPHON

Oh no!

Mini's friend!

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

[Gasps] it goes all the way up and down and sideways, the corruption. No!

MADDY

Corruption!

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

So, they're owned by a broadcast network?

MADDY

Yeah, I think the closest to real world analogue for this is something like Fox News.

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

Mm hmm, no I'm getting that vibe.

MADDY

Yeah, and you also manage to find an address. It's in a kind of disused industrial district in the city that is very run down and because all the wealth in the city has moved to like finance and IT and all these kind of new industries, that regular old industries of factories and warehouses and all that kind of stuff is less in use. So, yeah, you've got an address that you can go and investigate.

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

Right. I think once I've got everything that I feel like I can get at this point with the information that I have available to me I think there's a moment where I guess not fully thinking, **[MUSIC fades] [SFX: Typing]** Zenith is about to like summarise and send this to Aquila, and before he's had a chance to like fully send that message, she already **[SFX: Comms blip]** ... she has got in touch having seen all of this already like and it's just yeah, him being reminded that she is watching literally everything that he is doing and every outgoing message and yeah; and then I will suit up **[SFX: Putting on clothes]** and send a little message **[SFX: Texting]** to the guys to like meet at TARGE for the rest of our orientation **[SFX: Message sent tone]**, and by suit up, I mean put on a lot of very dull clothes.

(Laughter)

[Calm transitional music]

MADDY

Amazing.

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

And I'll head up the lift exit **[SFX: Elevator door opens with a ding]**, not taking the jet.

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

Mini will respond to human friends with something like, "Oh, that sounds amazing! I really want to go save like people and deceit villains and stuff with

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you folks soon. You're all wonderful. However, I do have a shoe shop shift until 4."

LOWRI AS BLODEUWEDD MORGAN AKA SYPHON

Morgan will reply, "Oh my gosh I was totally about to message you all, I was going to see if you wanted to like train together because like I really could do with training, thought maybe we should you know, maybe we could get some move combos going?" [excited emoji face].

(Laughter)

AHMED AS ADEEB BIN YESLAM AKA THE TURBAN

I would say, "I am joining you guys, I just need to pick up some dates".

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

(Laughter)

Tiny dates to go in the tester Pez dispenser.

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

Some tiny dates for my Pez dispenser.

(Laughter)

MADDY

Yeah.

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

So, we'll arrange to meet like when Mini gets off work.

LOWRI AS BLODEUWEDD MORGAN AKA SYPHON

"5 o'clock at TARGE?" Morgan sends.

(Laughter)

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

"Sounds great!"

AHMED AS ADEEB BIN YESLAM AKA THE TURBAN

"Will be there."

MADDY

Sweet, alright yes. Are Morgan and Adeeb doing anything in the meantime between now and then?

[MUSIC fades]

[SFX: Greenhouse ambience, frogs croaking, water running, rustling leaves]

LOWRI AS BLODEUWEDD MORGAN AKA SYPHON

Morgan will probably like you know, have some more food, spend more time with her plants like so she's feeling fully refreshed and chill a bit, keep checking her phone see if she's got any messages, she's got friends now, and...yeah.

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

Aw.

MADDY

Nice.

What's Adeeb's day been looking like so far?

[SFX: City ambience, Busy Highstreet with cars passing and people talking]

AHMED AS ADEEB BIN YESLAM AKA THE TURBAN

I would probably go to find a pastry and bakery tool shop, to find some templates that would make stuff that is in the size of a Pez candy.

(Laughter)

MADDY

Oh yeah, like a really small biscuit cutter, kind of thing?

(Laughter)

AHMED AS ADEEB BIN YESLAM AKA THE TURBAN

Yeah, and once I find something small enough, I'll go buy a few different types of dates and just knead them, take off the seed and knead them into dough and just fill up these... **[SFX: Squashing date and putting in dispenser]**

(Laughter)

MADDY

Nice.

AHMED AS ADEEB BIN YESLAM AKA THE TURBAN

...and just make a bunch just fill the whole thing.

(Laughter)

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

It's called pastry side quest.

AHMED AS ADEEB BIN YESLAM AKA THE TURBAN

I buy two more because I got three types of dates, so I buy two more dispensers.

(Laughter)

MADDY

Cool, are they also cacti or are they different? They can be anything you want.

AHMED AS ADEEB BIN YESLAM AKA THE TURBAN

I will find things, one is like a sunflower.

LOWRI AS BLODEUWEDD MORGAN AKA SYPHON

Nice.

AHMED AS ADEEB BIN YESLAM AKA THE TURBAN

And I'll find something else like plant like, whatever you can come up with.

MADDY

Nice, yeah maybe like a...

AHMED AS ADEEB BIN YESLAM AKA THE TURBAN

A tulip.

[Calm transitional music]

MADDY

Yeah, that's perfect.

So, yes, as you all continue about your business and make your way over to TARGE HQ you manage to meet up. Whereabouts do you want to meet up, do you want to meet at the coffee shop, do you want to meet on the doorstep of TARGE?

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

I think like at the building.

MADDY

Yeah.

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

Yeah.

AHMED AS ADEEB BIN YESLAM AKA THE TURBAN

I grab another chocolate drink and head there.

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

Mini will send a message to like to the group just @-ing Joseph saying like “Can you bring one of those grey milkshakes, they were amazing!”

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

(Laughter)

Joseph is the kind of texter who like you see that they’ve seen the message.

(Group laughter)

And assumes that that is enough.

(Laughter)

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

Aw.

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

Like, yeah, the message...

LOWRI AS BLODEUWEDD MORGAN AKA SYPHON

Message received.

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

I've seen the message, I'm going to do the thing you...

(Laughter)

I will bring you a grey milkshake.

(Laughter)

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

It's just really good, flavoured with flavour.

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

Just a plastic bottle that says "Milkshake" on the side.

(Laughter)

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

And milkshake flavour – yes!

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

Yeah.

MADDY

(Laughter)

Excellent.

[MUSIC fades] [SFX: Outside TARGE HQ, city ambience, cars passing, people talking]

Yeah, you are all standing in front of this severe brutalist modern confection of glass and chrome once more, and you realise because you haven't completed your orientation you don't have any like access cards or anything yet.

(Laughter)

So, you're just like standing outside this building.

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

Message her handler on the tablet, and then it's her day off.

AHMED AS ADEEB BIN YESLAM AKA THE TURBAN

Before we walk in, I'm going to tell them, "Hey by the way, my sister has a music gig, if you want to go?"

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

[Gasps] "Oh, music gigs are my favourite gigs."

AHMED AS ADEEB BIN YESLAM AKA THE TURBAN

Alright, just to be clear, I have never told anyone my full name, so... except probably Mini because she wrote it down on some receipt or signing me as her customer.

(Laughter)

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

Yeah, yeah, yeah, like we've done a lot of shoe...

AHMED AS ADEEB BIN YESLAM AKA THE TURBAN

I would be avoiding this, like you know I am Adeeb and that's it, and I would... I don't know anything about the recording from Zenith, because I have no idea. Yeah.

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

Yeah, I was going to say like there is no way in hell that I don't know your full name at this point.

(Laughter)

AHMED AS ADEEB BIN YESLAM AKA THE TURBAN

Yeah, as far as Adeeb knows...

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

100% looked you up and are like, oh you live here at...

AHMED AS ADEEB BIN YESLAM AKA THE TURBAN

He thinks he's being very careful, like you know him as a person, but you don't know where he's from or where he lives or all the other details.

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

No.

AHMED AS ADEEB BIN YESLAM AKA THE TURBAN

Just putting it out there.

MADDY

Absolutely, you can let them know that that's happening.

Yeah, when you try and enter the building, it just, yeah, the glass doors do nothing and like I think a receptionist sees that you are attempting to walk in, it is the same receptionist from yesterday is like, ah.

(Laughter)

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

Waves.

MADDY AS THE RECEPTIONIST AND VERA

Just yeah and comes up and manually releases the doors [**SFX: Beep, door unlocks and opens**] and is like, "Oh, come in, come in, I'll let Vera know you're here" and in a few minutes Vera comes down and says, "Right okay, this is unexpected. So, do you want to complete your orientation?"

[SFX: TARGE Lobby ambience, cars outside, people talking quietly, gentle piano]

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

“Can I just clarify why it’s unexpected? – sorry.”

MADDY AS VERA

“Just that I knew you’d be coming back but I wasn’t sure when and just in the future it would be helpful for you to send a message because I might have been like in a meeting or out on a...”

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

“Oh, um...”

AHMED AS ADEEB BIN YESLAM AKA THE TURBAN

“Oh great, we need to use the tablet more.”

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

“Yeah.”

MADDY AS VERA

“...and this is another part of orientation that got cut short” she sends a message to all of your phones [**SFX: TARGE message tone**] and you get a link to download an App and you get an App that is secure and can communicate with her other TARGE agents securely.

AHMED AS ADEEB BIN YESLAM AKA THE TURBAN

TARGE Chat.

(Laughter)

MADDY

TARGE Chat.

(Group laughter)

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

Yeah.

AHMED AS ADEEB BIN YESLAM AKA THE TURBAN

Where messages get deleted after sending.

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

I am sure there is an auto... I mean unless obviously it needs to be you know this would be out of my hands anyway, but I am assuming there is a function within my phone that will hack that immediately, like...

(Laughter)

MADDY

Yeah, it will probably take like an hour, but it will happen.

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

Not, again, not for me, just for Aquila.

MADDY

Yeah.

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

Like yeah, okay, I have access to that now, yeah.

MADDY

Yeah, you just you can just sense in the back of your mind Aquila is pleased is like it comes up on your screen like in a videogame.

(Laughter)

[SFX: TARGE training gym]

And she gives you a tour of the training facilities, and you can see that there are various trainers who are specialised in different combat abilities and also in different kind of super heroic abilities. There is actually a trainer who deals with light refraction, and there's a trainer who deals with density; there's a trainer who deals with the kind of manipulation of inanimate objections, not necessarily fabric but who might be helpful for Adeeb and there's also just your general, very strong people...

(Laughter)

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...who can help out with managing different levels of strength and making sure that the appropriate level of force is used, and as well as all the different weapon types, and so yeah, you're just shown through this like massive gym full of mirrors and like the most bizarre workout equipment you've ever seen because they're meant to withstand super strength...

(Laughter)

So, they like have to be like really reinforced.

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

So, like the bumpers that you get at the end of train lines where it's just like massive springs.

LOWRI AS BLODEUWEDD MORGAN AKA SYPHON

YEAH.

MADDY

Yeah, for sure.

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

THONK!

LOWRI AS BLODEUWEDD MORGAN AKA SYPHON

Morgan is very excited to test her strength out on stuff.

MADDY

You can also see that there is another superhero team who are in here who are testing out their abilities, and Vera introduces you and says “Oh, yes this is one of our other recent teams, this are the Astrologers’ Arrows. By the way if you want to come up with a group name at some point, you very much can, but no pressure these things take time.

This is Leo, Pisces, Sagittarius and Taurus...

(Laughter)

You can see there’s a little theme going on here”.

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

Theme, yeah.

MADDY

And they all kind of, they look at you slightly disdainfully, they’ve clearly sort of come in at this from a very professional standpoint and so Leo has a bunch of knives that she takes out of her holster and puts between her fingers **[SFX: Taking knives from holsters]**, kind of like Wolverine, and then throws them all at once. **[SFX: Knives thrown, Thunk, Thunk]**

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

Right.

MADDY

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And Pisces has...there's like just a big tank of water and Pisces is just sort of making the water into like beautiful shapes. **[SFX: Water manipulation]**

(Laughter)

And Sagittarius is shooting at a target with these sort of neon flashing bow and arrows. **[SFX: Shooting arrows into target]**

LOWRI AS BLODEUWEDD MORGAN AKA SYPHON

Ooo.

MADDY

There's another set of targets and Taurus has actual horns growing out of his head **[Lowri gasps]** and he's just running at this target and just spearing it with his horns. **[SFX: Horns spearing target]**

LOWRI AS BLODEUWEDD MORGAN AKA SYPHON

That's cool.

MADDY AS LEO

Yeah, so, Leo comes up towards you and is like, "Well, it's good to see that our status as the best new team won't be challenged any time soon".

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

"Is that important to you?"

LOWRI AS BLODEUWEDD MORGAN AKA SYPHON

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“Yes Mini.”

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

Mini gets out her notebook. [SFX: Opening notebook]

MADDY

That is such a great response.

(Laughter)

AHMED AS ADEEB BIN YESLAM AKA THE TURBAN

Yes.

MADDY AS LEO

“I suppose it is, status is very important, yeah.”

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

“Okay, that’s good to know. [SFX: Writing] It’s always interesting to find out what are people’s priorities, because sometimes it doesn’t seem to match up with what is important in getting things done you know, but that’s really cool, thanks for letting me know.”

MADDY AS LEO

“Cool.”

LOWRI AS BLODEUWEDD MORGAN AKA SYPHON

Oh Mini, always be our spokesperson.

(Laughter)

MADDY

Just like every single person comes up is like, "I know what my deal is" and then they come over and like, "I'm not sure what my deal is anymore".

(Laughter)

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

Just confusion is very disarming, just...

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

It's slightly annoying the way that the things are phrased like in the playbooks, where it's all about like if you openly disregard... oh, I suppose it's openly disregard not like intentionally disregard or undermine an important earth custom in favour of one of your own people's customs, you shift superior up and other labels down, like that's a thing that is one of her moves, but I don't know...

LOWRI AS BLODEUWEDD MORGAN AKA SYPHON

She just does it accidentally all the time.

(Laughter)

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

Yeah, I don't know.

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

Yeah.

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

I don't know if that's the thing...I mean, but then you have to roll for it right?

Like...

MADDY

Mm.

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

So, I guess with things like that it's about provoking.

MADDY

Yeah. Yeah.

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

Discombobulated, there isn't like a mechanic for discombobulation.

(Laughter)

LOWRI AS BLODEUWEDD MORGAN AKA SYPHON

There should be.

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

Yeah.

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

Yeah, I mean like when you provoke someone you are susceptible to your words, say what you are trying to get them to do and roll plus superior is like, I don't know, trying to confuse them, but then obviously you're not trying to confuse them, you just do.

(Laughter)

LOWRI AS BLODEUWEDD MORGAN AKA SYPHON

Yeah.

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

Well, I think a lot of the time with Mini it's not clear to others and sometimes herself.

LOWRI AS BLODEUWEDD MORGAN AKA SYPHON

Mmm.

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

Sure, sure.

LOWRI AS BLODEUWEDD MORGAN AKA SYPHON

Maybe you know, as she gets to know humans more, this is just something that she will slowly shift from it always being accidental to sometimes, oh I can use this.

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

It's like, oh this is actually a powerful technique I have discovered. When I fall on my own face it has a seismic impact that is a useful power kind of thing. I have discovered the foot in mouth combo, it brings down the strongest opponent, yeah. Anyway! There we go.

(Laughter)

MADDY

And having met this rival team and just instantly undermined their sense of self.

(Laughter)

[SFX: TARGE Lecture Halls, clock ticking, fluorescent lights]

You continue on your tour and you get shown to the kind of...it's like a sort of mini university within the HQ where there are lecture halls and seminar rooms and it all looks ridiculously boring for the things that they are actually teaching, you can peak in and see that they are having a lesson on like energy manipulation and it just looks like it's a regular seminar but they're talking about something super rad – this is bizarre; and Vera gives you a like brochure of all the different classes that the HQ offers so that you can tailor your training to your own personal needs, and it's very much just like a very cheesy campus brochure with smiling superheroes being like, "I learned how to control my powers". **[SFX: Handing out and handling brochures]**

(Laughter)

LOWRI AS BLODEUWEDD MORGAN AKA SYPHON

Is there one for controlling absorbing energy from people?

MADDY

I don't think there's anything as specific as that, but there's definitely stuff about controlling powers that aren't necessarily completely sort of under your control. So, I think there's definitely stuff that you can look into with that.

LOWRI AS BLODEUWEDD MORGAN AKA SYPHON

I think it is worth me saying here again, that she is not like Rogue, because I think I'm giving that impression a bit, so she doesn't just automatically do it if she touches you, what she's afraid of is that, she can't control herself I guess is that's... yeah.

MADDY

Yeah, when she does it, she might go too far.

LOWRI AS BLODEUWEDD MORGAN AKA SYPHON

Yeah.

MADDY

Absolutely, and so yes, as Vera kind of ticks off all the boxes of the orientation and make sure that you're all everything is squared away, we're just going to take a short break and we'll be right back.

[Mid-show break]

[SFX: TARGE Lobby ambience]

And we're back, so now you have completed your orientation at TARGE, is there anything you want to ask Vera about it, or do you want to move onto possibly investigating this mysterious lead?

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

I want to, and I'm happy to roll, but I just during this orientation if given the opportunity to in the various different like areas that we were taken through, I would like to plant some more monitoring devices.

MADDY

Oh yeah, for sure, yeah, I think no roll needed you've been specifically trained to do this.

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

Yeah.

MADDY

There are bugs everywhere now.

(Laughter)

And you all now have passes to get into the building.

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

Great.

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

That is handy.

LOWRI AS BLODEUWEDD MORGAN AKA SYPHON

Yay.

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

That will be less embarrassing for us.

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

Mini is a little confused by the class brochure because it's got really basic stuff, like controlling quantum energy flow...

(Laughter)

...but there's not the like the stuff that she really needs like, what is the right level of gift to provide at a birthday party without, you know, embarrassing the host or crashing the local economy.

LOWRI AS BLODEUWEDD MORGAN AKA SYPHON

Yeah.

(Laughter)

MADDY

That is very important to know.

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

It's really confusing what's covered and what's not, but you know.

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

People need to know!

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

(Laughter)

Yes! Anyone understand?!

MADDY

Yeah.

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

You know, you make a statue of them out of tin foil - that's embarrassing; but if you make a statue out of them out of solid gold, like that is apparently a problem. Like this isn't something that Mini's done, but you know, an earlier Specmarkalon visitor and, so like it's still so confusing they're just, they're so close to each other on the periodic table, how can it make such a difference?!

(Laughter)

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Anyway, but Mini won't necessarily ask these questions because she's trying to work it out.

MADDY

Yeah, there's a satisfaction of being able to get it done yourself.

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

Yeah.

MADDY

So, I appreciate that.

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

Gotta work it out, but also, she's just confused about...

(Laughter)

Like, don't they study the quantum energy states in primary school, like, that's something any larvae can do you know, before their first molt.

(Laughter)

LOWRI AS BLODEUWEDD MORGAN AKA SYPHON

Morgan will be interested in like any of the controlling absorbing energy type related seminars and also will ask Vera, "So I don't know, is there like a library of super villains or villains or something, like is there somewhere that we have access to that like has information on people?"

MADDY AS VERA

“Oh, yeah of course, we have our library and information centre where we have historical records on all the superheroes and supervillains that we’ve come across.”

LOWRI AS BLODEUWEDD MORGAN AKA SYPHON

“Oh.”

MADDY AS VERA

“Of course, some of the information is classified to higher up in the organisation for obvious reasons, but there is a whole lot of basic information that you can get access to at this stage, and there are specialised computers that have access to our private databases for this kind of information, so yeah” and she takes you along a few corridors and shows you into this vast space **[SFX: TARGE Library ambience, typing, hushed movements and footsteps, metal groaning]** which has all the books are kind of encased in little metal cases and when you pull them out from the shelf they are attached by a wire, so that you can’t take them away from the shelves, and there’s rows and rows of computers that are specifically meant to access these very private databases.

LOWRI AS BLODEUWEDD MORGAN AKA SYPHON

“Can I bring a guest here?”

MADDY AS VERA

“It depends who it is?”

LOWRI AS BLODEUWEDD MORGAN AKA SYPHON

“I was thinking of my uncle would love this library, it’s amazing.”

MADDY AS VERA

“Well, I think I’d probably have to submit a request for that but it’s entirely possible, I mean from what I remember of your file, he’s also got abilities so...”

LOWRI AS BLODEUWEDD MORGAN AKA SYPHON

“Yeah, but it doesn’t matter, I was just wondering if...”

MADDY AS VERA

“No, no, it’s all good I’ll just send you over the request form and you can use it or not, just whatever you prefer.”

LOWRI AS BLODEUWEDD MORGAN AKA SYPHON

“Thanks.”

MADDY

And you get a little ping on your phone from the TARGE Chat... **[SFX: TARGE notification tone]**

LOWRI AS BLODEUWEDD MORGAN AKA SYPHON

Oh my gosh, it's terrifying.

MADDY

...for a request form.

LOWRI AS BLODEUWEDD MORGAN AKA SYPHON

"Thank you."

MADDY AS VERA

So, yeah, anything else you want to do in TARGE before...

AHMED AS ADEEB BIN YESLAM AKA THE TURBAN

I want to check whatever like manufacturing classes like I just want to see what they're doing.

MADDY

Mm.

AHMED AS ADEEB BIN YESLAM AKA THE TURBAN

And if there is anything like being developed and textile and weaved material, just checking it out, seeing what they have there; and also before we split, I would hand out some date candy to everyone. **[SFX: Pez dispenser]**

(Laughter)

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

Cool!

(Laughter)

[SFX: TARGE Workshop ambience, machines]

MADDY

Excellent.

Yeah, Vera can take you over to one of the workshops where some of the R and D team, the Research and Development people, are working on some of the new stuff and yeah you can see that they are working on making a bulletproof fabric that also resists kind of kinetic energy blasts and other kind of super... like trying to make as many super abilities kind of cushioned by this fabric as possible, so it's kind of in the early stages.

AHMED AS ADEEB BIN YESLAM AKA THE TURBAN

I take mental notes.

MADDY

Yeah.

AHMED AS ADEEB BIN YESLAM AKA THE TURBAN

Seeing if I can figure out how to recreate some of these things myself.

MADDY

Nice.

AHMED AS ADEEB BIN YESLAM AKA THE TURBAN

Probably not, because I need materials.

(Laughter)

MADDY

That's fair.

AHMED AS ADEEB BIN YESLAM AKA THE TURBAN

And I can't put these things on the credit card.

(Laughter)

MADDY

Yeah.

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

I'd like to get a controlled substance...NO, not one of those, just like really,
good string...

(Laughter)

MADDY

I want to stop bullets for reasons...

(Laughter)

Is it at this point that you head out?

AHMED AS ADEEB BIN YESLAM AKA THE TURBAN

Yeah, I would meet up with everyone else outside.

[SFX: Outside TARGE ambience]

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

Has Joseph told us about this address to go research, because super up for some sleuthing, you know – sounds fun?

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

Yeah, I think I will now like we got there and yeah, so I will fill everybody in.

“So, Clear Vision Trading is... it’s a shell corporation that’s... it’s not a real company, they don’t trade anything, they don’t make anything it’s... but I did find an address”.

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

Do you mention at any point that it’s owned by...?

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

Yeah.

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

Because then Mini will pipe up that, “Oh my friend works there!”

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

“UTBC?”

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

“Yeah, he’s got an internship, he does, he said refreshments.”

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

“Okay, well, we don’t really have enough to go on right now, but that could be useful.”

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

“Sure, I’m sure he’ll be able to give me a tour or something, you know later, and I can take some notes file some stories, do some crime stopping, you know, wrap it up into an afternoon”.

AHMED AS ADEEB BIN YESLAM AKA THE TURBAN

“Or we can just go knock on the door and ask for a tour.”

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

“Sure!”

LOWRI AS BLODEUWEDD MORGAN AKA SYPHON

“Do they do that?”

AHMED AS ADEEB BIN YESLAM AKA THE TURBAN

“I mean, most places if you ask nicely”.

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

“Is the address that we’re trying to go to the same as the address of the news offices, or is it a different place?”

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

“No, it’s a different place, it’s like in an old warehouse district.”

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

“Shall we do warehouse first and then arrange a tour or like sneak around the newspapers place?”

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

“Yeah, who was your friend?”

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

“Oh, it’s Micah, he’s at the shoe shop. He is really good at organising boots and...” like Mini gives details about Micah’s skillset that are relevant to her, but...

(Laughter)

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

“Do you give Micah’s surname?”

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

“Yeah. Micah Trent. Micah Trent.”

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

“Cool”.

(Laughter)

AHMED AS ADEEB BIN YESLAM AKA THE TURBAN

“By the way does anyone have a nut allergy?”

LOWRI AS BLODEUWEDD MORGAN AKA SYPHON

“Uh, no.”

AHMED AS ADEEB BIN YESLAM AKA THE TURBAN

“Oh good”

I take out the other one of the dispenser [**SFX: Take out Pez dispenser**] and I give them dates stuffed with pistachio nut.

(Laughter)

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

“Oh, nice!”

LOWRI AS BLODEUWEDD MORGAN AKA SYPHON

“Ooo”.

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

“Nice!”

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

So, I got a pitch for this right, so a Pez dispenser, okay under normal circumstances, there's just no way that it would be able to dispense a full size date, especially dates stuffed with dates now.

(Laughter)

Now, as we know Adeeb is an engineer.

(Laughter)

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

Yeah.

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

Has Adeeb like customised this Pez dispenser so that it will dispense dates?

AHMED AS ADEEB BIN YESLAM AKA THE TURBAN

No, I just moulded the dates into paste and just stuffed a little bit of nuts into it and just wrapped it into the mould/the template so it can fit, and I wrapped them into small papers, so it doesn't stick.

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

Oh.

LOWRI AS BLODEUWEDD MORGAN AKA SYPHON

Oh, amazing!

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

He's a food engineer, this is amazing.

(Laughter)

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

It's like there's been work done with like needles and pipettes.

[Calm transitional music]

AHMED AS ADEEB BIN YESLAM AKA THE TURBAN

That is a good path to take.

(Laughter)

"Alright, let's go check out the place. It's daylight so, we should be fine".

MADDY

Great, so yeah, you head on over to this abandoned industrial district of the city of Chapter, and you manage to rock up at this warehouse which has a very rusty sign saying Clear Vision Trading over the door.

LOWRI AS BLODEUWEDD MORGAN AKA SYPHON

Can I just ask, how did we get there, are we taking the jet again?

(Laughter)

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

Or one of the many like the black SUVs that just litter the streets.

LOWRI AS BLODEUWEDD MORGAN AKA SYPHON

Yeah.

AHMED AS ADEEB BIN YESLAM AKA THE TURBAN

Or the bus.

(Laughter)

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

There's public transport.

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

Or I flew you know...

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

I like the idea of us all just getting a train.

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

Yeah.

LOWRI AS BLODEUWEDD MORGAN AKA SYPHON

Yeah, I like that too.

AHMED AS ADEEB BIN YESLAM AKA THE TURBAN

Yeah, I love that.

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

Getting on the subway together and going to the...yeah, like we don't... you know, we're in normal people clothes so...

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

Yeah.

LOWRI AS BLODEUWEDD MORGAN AKA SYPHON

I'm happy with that I just wanted to establish what resources we had.

AHMED AS ADEEB BIN YESLAM AKA THE TURBAN

Yeah, I would be very uncomfortable taking the car again.

(Laughter)

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

We're climate aware, we take public transport where possible.

AHMED AS ADEEB BIN YESLAM AKA THE TURBAN

Yeah.

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

And when not possible, we take a private jet!

(Laughter)

AHMED AS ADEEB BIN YESLAM AKA THE TURBAN

Oh, well let's stop at a shop so I can buy some threads of different colours, just in case we need to you know make costumes and uniforms to slip in or do something.

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

Cool.

LOWRI AS BLODEUWEDD MORGAN AKA SYPHON

Ooo.

AHMED AS ADEEB BIN YESLAM AKA THE TURBAN

I can't make colour, I can just rearrange the threads.

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

I can't quite remember, but I'm pretty sure we established that like Mini's just got quite a basic suit, but it's something that is compressible right, it's in a rucksack, or it's underneath her other clothes, like it's... doesn't need a new thing made every time.

LOWRI AS BLODEUWEDD MORGAN AKA SYPHON

Mm.

Morgan wears hers underneath like her own tracksuit now.

(Laughter)

And actually, will have given Zenith his tracksuit back, thank you.

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

Sure.

Zenith, like whilst you know his, as we've seen, his stuff is like you know top of the line clearly being bank rolled by somebody quite rich, it's 100% a costume he has to like put on. So, if we're getting in like superhero mode when we arrive at this place there's 100% like a "Give me a minute"

(Laughter)

He goes into an alleyway, takes his clothes off.

(Laughter)

And puts his suit on.

(Laughter)

AHMED AS ADEEB BIN YESLAM AKA THE TURBAN

I can put my red shawl as a curtain if you want?

(Laughter)

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

It's fine I'm very stealthy.

(Laughter)

I have to get changed, I'm a human being.

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

We're all human beings. Shhh!

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

Yup, yup, yep.

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

Mm hmm.

MADDY

[SFX: Bus interior] Great, so yes you take one of the many and varied public transport services available in Chapter off to this industrial district, and find yourself outside of this warehouse **[SFX: Bus doors open, bus drives away]** **[SFX: Abandoned Industrial District ambience, crows cawing, machines]** which has a rusty sign saying Clear Vision Trading that has clearly not been cared for at all and there is a pair of double doors that are locked with a chunky chain and padlock, but you can also see that there is a window around the side that is clearly broken and quite recently, because there are shards of glass still left on the ground and it's pretty easy for you to...because it's on the ground level you can pretty easily climb through that and get inside.

AHMED AS ADEEB BIN YESLAM AKA THE TURBAN

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Do I see the people going in and out?

MADDY

You can't see anyone at the moment, it's very quiet, doesn't seem like anyone's around from what you can tell at the moment, but you don't know.

AHMED AS ADEEB BIN YESLAM AKA THE TURBAN

Okay, so I'm going to leave the big bag of textiles [SFX: Put down bag], because I can't be carrying all of this inside with me.

(Laughter)

So, I'll come back for it later, I hope.

MADDY

Cool.

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

Peer through the window?

MADDY

Yeah, as you look through the window it is very clearly just like abandoned, there is very old furniture which is moth eaten, and there are even like a couple of coffee cups that have just like a little bit of mould growing on them that have been left out for a very long time, but you can also see that in the corner, there is some kind of impromptu bed that someone has set up. It looks like someone's kind of got some cushions from some of the sofas and a blanket

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and just sort of made this makeshift bed in the corner, and this looks a lot more recent than any of the other stuff.

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

Having changed at this point off screen.

(Laughter)

[MUSIC: Mysterious ambience]

[SFX: Warehouse ambience]

Another little twitch on the underside of the helmet and turn on like a little light **[SFX: Flip switch]**, little helmet torch and start looking around.

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

Mini will intensify the light to help us all see. **[SFX: Mini's light powers]**

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

Ah, nice.

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

She can't like create light I don't think, I think that feels like it's too far but, you know, it's brighter, you can see.

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

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So, it goes from like a torch beam to just like oh and now the whole room is lit up.

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

Yeah. It's just a little bit lit up, yeah, it's just a wider beam.

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

Cool.

MADDY

Nice.

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

You know it's cool.

MADDY

So, yeah as you're looking around you can see there are muddy footprints all over the ground, and if you look closely, you can see that some of them lead towards a large stationery cupboard in the corner.

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

Cool. Investigate stationery cupboard, go north.

MADDY

Yeah.

(Laughter)

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

How heavy does that stationery cupboard look?

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

Mm.

MADDY

It is one of those ones that is built into the wall, it is kind of like a...

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

And it's a definitely door, that's a door, that's a secret base, a secret base door.

(Laughter)

Open the secret base door.

Click.

[SFX: Door slides open]

MADDY

Oh, yes, you open it and there is a very frightened looking young woman inside who just immediately bolts and tries to run away and leap out of the window – what do you?

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

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Oh.

LOWRI AS BLODEUWEDD MORGAN AKA SYPHON

“Quick grab her!”

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

“Are you okay?”

MADDY

She’s not listening, she’s just legging it.

(Laughter)

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

Yeah, I’ll get a chain. Chain - leg. [SFX: Whoosh and rattle of Kusarigama]

LOWRI AS BLODEUWEDD MORGAN AKA SYPHON

Oooo.

MADDY

Cool.

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

Yeah, I’m not a nice person.

(Laughter)

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Not looking to like... I'm just looking to trip her up.

MADDY

Let's go for an unleash your power/abilities.

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

Yeah.

I think that's just unmodified for me...yeah. That is a six, which does not succeed.

MADDY

Yep, she nimbly picks up her leg [**SFX: Rattling chain**], and as you see her like dash out of the window [**SFX: Climbing out of window**], it almost looks like her shadow is moving independently from her [**SFX: She lands**] [**gasps**] but they both flee outside and she starts running down the alleyway at the side of the building, what do you want to do?

LOWRI AS BLODEUWEDD MORGAN AKA SYPHON

Morgan will chase he because like Zenith tried to catch her so, I mean Morgan is fast, she's not like super...she's not a speedster or anything but she's very strong, like she has very strong legs and buttocks...

(Laughter)

So, she's very fast, just because her body is strong!

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

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Yeah, yeah, no it was just you know when you're just...

(Laughter)

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

Strong buttocks! Along with everything else strong...

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

It's just when you're not expecting a word in a sentence and then you get it and you're like – woah!

(Laughter)

I'm thinking about butts now!

(Laughter)

MADDY

Yeah.

LOWRI AS BLODEUWEDD MORGAN AKA SYPHON

She's got good calves has Morgan so um.

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

Excellent knees.

MADDY

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(Laughter)

You're giving the fan artists a present.

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

Yeah, yeah.

LOWRI AS BLODEUWEDD MORGAN AKA SYPHON

I mean. Oh no.

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

Spectacular knees.

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

(Laughter)

Buns for days!

(Group laughter)

LOWRI AS BLODEUWEDD MORGAN AKA SYPHON

Oh, no!

MORGAN

What have you done Lowri, what have you done?!

(Laughter)

LOWRI AS BLODEUWEDD MORGAN AKA SYPHON

I'm just going to roll, what is this a unleash power, no direct...mm what would this be?

MADDY

I think it's unleash yeah, you're not trying to hurt this person.

LOWRI AS BLODEUWEDD MORGAN AKA SYPHON

Okay, I'm unleashing my buttocks.

(Laughter)

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

Unleash them!

LOWRI AS BLODEUWEDD MORGAN AKA SYPHON

What do I add to that?

MADDY

That is freak.

[SFX: Abandoned Industrial District ambience]

LOWRI AS BLODEUWEDD MORGAN AKA SYPHON

I got a ten, so I catch her presumably?

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

WHOOO!

MADDY

Yeah, absolutely.

LOWRI AS BLODEUWEDD MORGAN AKA SYPHON

Like I don't want to hurt her I just kind of like...I'll tackle her. Safely! **[SFX:
Tackle to ground]**

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

Ah, I love it, with your Welsh powers.

LOWRI AS BLODEUWEDD MORGAN AKA SYPHON

(Laughter)

With my Welsh powers. Oh. I love it.

(Laughter)

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

Is that maybe your new superhero name? The Tackler.

(Laughter)

LOWRI AS BLODEUWEDD MORGAN AKA SYPHON

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The Tackler.

(Laughter)

MADDY

Amazing, yes you absolutely level this young woman to the ground, but you manage to position yourself so that you take most of the impact.

LOWRI AS BLODEUWEDD MORGAN AKA SYPHON

Yeah, I'm cradling her head maybe, yeah and I land on my back.

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

Aw.

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

Turn in the air, land on your back?

LOWRI AS BLODEUWEDD MORGAN AKA SYPHON

Yeah.

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

Yeah, nice.

MADDY

Yeah.

LOWRI AS BLODEUWEDD MORGAN AKA SYPHON

And I'll just shout, "I'VE GOT HER!"

(Laughter)

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

Mini will fly over [SFX: Hover using powers], "Oh, um, are you okay? We didn't want to hurt you. We just need to know what diabolical things are going on in here. Can we help you? Are you diabolical?"

MADDY

"Um, well, my parents certainly think so, but don't see how that's any of your business."

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

"Well, why were you there? We think some crimes have been happening here or nearby".

MADDY

"I've just been using this as a place to crash".

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

"Oh, okay".

MADDY

"Like, not one... like I thought that no one used that building anymore but the other day there were people in there..."

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

“[Gasps].”

MADDY

“...and I really like... I was going to go find a new place, but I haven’t found anywhere yet”.

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

“Oh, um, well, that’s much more important than us finding some crimes!
Do any of you know about a good place for this lovely young human person to stay? Maybe there’s some resources we can get you. Let me...I’ve got shoes – do you need shoes?”

MADDY

“Uh, I’m okay for shoes right now, thanks, but appreciated...who are you?!”

AHMED AS ADEEB BIN YESLAM AKA THE TURBAN

“Should we call TARGE?”

MADDY

Yeah, you could absolutely call TARGE.

LOWRI AS BLODEUWEDD MORGAN AKA SYPHON

“I don’t know,” I mean, do we believe her? Like, is there something we need to roll?

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

Mm hmm, I was...

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

I mean Mini does, but Mini is quite straightforward you can absolutely...

LOWRI AS BLODEUWEDD MORGAN AKA SYPHON

Yeah.

AHMED AS ADEEB BIN YESLAM AKA THE TURBAN

"I mean, we should just hand her over to them and they will help her, if she needs help, otherwise they'll figure it out."

MADDY

If you want to find out what her deal is, you can roll to Pierce the Mask, plus mundane.

LOWRI AS BLODEUWEDD MORGAN AKA SYPHON

Ooo.

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

Yeah, that's what I was thinking.

LOWRI AS BLODEUWEDD MORGAN AKA SYPHON

Yeah.

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

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Yeah.

LOWRI AS BLODEUWEDD MORGAN AKA SYPHON

Is that all of us or whoever...

AHMED AS ADEEB BIN YESLAM AKA THE TURBAN

I can do it.

MADDY

Whoever wants to, but I know that Adeeb is pretty adept in mundane.

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

Yeah, that's the thing like that's... this is not a Mini power so that's not what's going down.

(Laughter)

AHMED AS ADEEB BIN YESLAM AKA THE TURBAN

Alright, so we're going to pierce some... that is a total of six.

LYDIA AS MINI SMITHSON AKA SOLARTRIX

Ooph.

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

Ooph, it did not work out.

MADDY

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Yeah, you're just not sure, this person seems like, they've seen some stuff, there's a look in her eye that just is very weary, and you can see that kind of trying to get underneath that is going to be very difficult.

AHMED AS ADEEB BIN YESLAM AKA THE TURBAN

"Yeah, we should just get help through TARGE".

LOWRI AS BLODEUWEDD MORGAN AKA SYPHON

"Uh, do you want us to call someone for you? We could maybe help you, we work with some like powerful people?"

MADDY

"Mmm institutions haven't really been super great for me to be honest. Are you sure that..."

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

I think Zenith is going to come forward and you know crouch down [**SFX: Step forward and crouch down**] and speaking softly, but again, like the voice when he has his helmet on is like when he's communicating through the communicator to you guys, you hear his voice normally but he's kind of speaking out loud in costume...

LOWRI AS BLODEUWEDD MORGAN AKA SYPHON

Ah.

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

...his voice is kind of scrambled a little bit...not scrambled, but like...

LOWRI AS BLODEUWEDD MORGAN AKA SYPHON

Yeah, disguised.

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

Disguised exactly.

Zenith crouched down and say, **[through vocoder]** “What do you know about Clear Vision Trading, or these people you saw using this place?”

MADDY

“Well, I don’t know much, just like a couple of days ago I overheard a couple of people, like when I heard them coming in they were undoing the chain, so I ran and like hid in that cupboard that you found me in and they were talking about this... like, I’m not sure who they were talking about, but they were saying that he was part of their pilot programme, and that they needed to get bigger villains on side for the initiative to work.”

PIP AS JOSEPH TELLER AKA ZENITH

“Mm”.

LOWRI AS BLODEUWEDD MORGAN AKA SYPHON

“Oh.”

MADDY

“And there was a woman who was wearing a suit and she had a lanyard on, and I think it was like for some kind of news corporation or something, I can’t quite remember, and then there was this guy, he like he could have been a

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superhero or a supervillain or something, he had this black suit with a neon green skull on it...”

And Adeeb would recognise that as description of Poltergeist’s costume.

AHMED AS ADEEB BIN YESLAM AKA THE TURBAN

“Oh no.”

MADDY

And on that cliff hanger...

LOWRI AS BLODEUWEDD MORGAN AKA SYPHON

[Gasps].

MADDY

We’re going to end the episode there for today.

LOWRI

Oh no.

MADDY

So, thank you so much for listening to this episode of Chapter and Multiverse; and as always, I would like to know where we can find our fantastic players on the internet, starting with Ahmed?

AHMED

Hi...

(Laughter)

I'm still shocked with this, I was just...

PIP

Reeling...

(Laughter)

LOWRI

[Gasps].

AHMED

...thinking about Poltergeist, like I should look into and check out what he's up to, and now you throw this at me.

(Laughter)

You can find me everywhere @mr_aljabry mostly on Twitter where I share Arab titbits to use for your tabletop RPG characters and war building, just find the avatar with the turban.

(Laughter)

MADDY

Oh yeah, and Lowri?

LOWRI

You can find me @LowriTweets on Twitter and in various other Rusty Quill shows and feeds.

MADDY

Brilliant, and Pip?

PIP

Yeah, yeah Pip Gladwin, that's me. You can find me @Pip_Gladwin on Twitter or just you know like speak my name into a seashell and I shall appear.

(Laughter)

LYDIA

Cool.

MADDY

Fabulous, and Lydia?

LYDIA

Hi, you can find me @LydNicholas on Twitter and @urbanchooks on Twitter and Twitch, and you know generally flowing in the wind, growing in the grass, like wherever I am summoned, I don't actually have the powers that Pip has, I just exist in one body, in one place at one time.

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PIP

I feel like I make other people bad at outros.

(Laughter)

LYDIA

No.

PIP

I really do.

LYDIA

This is a classic bad Rusty Quill outro, like this is a tradition.

(Laughter)

PIP

Okay, good.

MADDY

Yeah, I'm very pleased to be carrying on that tradition.

LYDIA

(Laughter)

Yeah.

MADDY

You can find me on Twitter and Instagram @maddy_abstract where there are links to all the various things that I do, and we hope to see you next time on Chapter and Multiverse, but until then, from all of us here in the space between worlds, goodbye!

EVERYONE

Bye!

[Show Theme - Outro]

THE ETERNAL TAVERN KEEPER

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