# Code Lyoko

## Episode 24: “Ghost Channel”

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##### Ice Sector, Lyoko [Alternating with Lab]

The gang are fighting four Bloks on the path just in front of the tower while Aelita takes cover behind a tall piece of ice. The three fighters dodge and deflect lasers.

Ulrich

Ok!

Ulrich charges up to a Blok, stopping for a moment to deflect a series of lasers before charging again.

Ulrich

Impact!

He stabs the Blok’s eye, Supersprint-jumping away as it explodes.

Ulrich

Odd! Take Aelita to the tower! Yumi’s in trouble!

Odd is facing two Bloks, jumping around all over the place to dodge their fire. He fires an arrow into the eye of one of them, destroying it, and gives Ulrich a thumbs up.

Odd

Ok, here we go!

Ulrich

Hang on, Yumi. You can do it.

Odd faces his other Blok and fires an arrow.

Odd

There!

The arrow finds its target and the monster explodes.

Odd

Aelita!

Aelita peeks out from behind her cover and runs up to him.

Odd

Ok Princess, the home stretch!

They run towards the last two Bloks together.

Jeremie sweats as he watches the charge on his map.

Jeremie

Odd! Two more Bloks are coming at you!

The Bloks move in Odd and Aelita’s direction.

Odd

No sweat! Be back in a second, Aelita!

He jumps up in the air and Aelita moves to the edge of the path. The Bloks fire at Odd, and he skilfully dodges with mid-air flips.

Odd

LASER ARROW!

He fires two arrows, which hit and destroy a Blok each. He lands and throws his hands up in the air, victorious.

Odd

Yyyeaaah!

Jeremie watches his map with worry.

Odd

He’s amazing! How does he do it?

Jeremie

Odd!

Odd

The crowd is going wild!

A monster looks out from behind an ice rock lining the path, aiming at Odd as he does his victory dance.

Jeremie

Odd, cut it out, will you?

Jeremie calls out over Odd’s continued praise for himself.

Jeremie

There’s a third Blok!

Odd stops dancing.

Odd

Huh? A third one?

The Blok fires. Odd doesn’t have time to react; he’s hit and flies backwards. Ulrich and Yumi get rid of another Blok nearby.

Yumi

Odd!

Jeremie

Oh no! Odd, you’ve lost too many life points!

Odd gets up and runs towards the Blok.

Jeremie

Odd, what are you doing?! Take cover! It’s too risky! Odd, one impact and it’s game over! You’ve only got ten life points left, that’s all!

The Blok fires at Odd as he runs towards it. Odd ducks and falls onto his knees, sliding across the ice and aiming his gloved hand.

Odd

Ten’s more than enough! Here we go!

He fires three arrows. They all hit the Blok and it explodes. Odd slides to a stop right where the monster had been.

Odd

You see? What did I tell you?

The other three run up to meet him.

Ulrich

Great, Odd!

Aelita

Congratulations!

Odd

Hey, Jeremie! Next time, just enjoy the show and let the *real* pros get the job done, ok?

Jeremie opens his mouth in shock.

Odd laughs, stopping when he realises nobody is laughing with him.

Odd

Huh?

Ulrich, Yumi and Aelita glare at him in disapproval.

Aelita

I’ll go and take care of the tower.

Aelita walks away.

Odd

Hey, take it easy! I was just kidding! I didn’t mean it! Hey, Einstein, you hear me? It was a joke!

Jeremie bows his head. Nobody responds.

Aelita enters the tower.

Jeremie (down)

Return to the past now.

Return to the past.

##### Int. Science Classroom – Day

Hertz

Valerie?

Valerie

Present.

Hertz

Benjamin?

Benjamin

Present.

Hertz

Herb?

Herb

Present, Ma’am.

Hertz

Nicolas?

Nicolas

Here.

Hertz

Sissi?

Sissi opens up a book with a photo of a girl with a horse on the cover: “Poney Passion.”

Sissi

Present.

Hertz

Jeremie?

Jeremie

Present.

Jeremie opens a book and then whispers back to the desk behind him, still looking forward. Hertz continues calling the roll.

Jeremie

Hey, great work, guys. You were better than ever! No hard feelings, Odd. It was-

Hertz

Odd?

Jeremie turns around in surprise when there’s no response, and discovers that the desk behind him is empty. Odd and Ulrich are gone.

Hertz

Odd? Odd? Odd’s absent? Well, and so is Ulrich!

TV static.

##### Int. Science Classroom – Day

Hertz

Herb?

Herb

Present, Ma’am.

Hertz

Nicolas?

Nicolas

Here.

Hertz

Er, Sissi?

Sissi

Present.

Hertz

Jeremie?

Jeremie

Present.

Hertz

Dylan?

Dylan

Present.

Odd leans forward to Jeremie and talks over Hertz.

Odd

Hey, that was great work, Einstein! You were never better! No hard feelings, huh?

Jeremie keeps fiddling with his pencil, frowning and not responding to Odd.

Hertz

Caroline?

Caroline

Present.

Ulrich

After what you said to him before, it’s no wonder he’s sulking.

Hertz (annoyed)

Odd! Ulrich!

Odd and Ulrich

Here, Ma’am!

Hertz

I know that you’re here. What I do not know is what you have to say to each other that’s so interesting!

Odd sits back down.

Jeremie (mechanical)

They’d asked me if I’d noticed…that with all due respect, Ma’am, the Brower equation you wrote on the blackboard is wrong.

Hertz (surprised)

What?

Jeremie (mechanical)

It’s not wrong from a mathematical point of view…

Odd and Ulrich look at each other in surprise.

Jeremie (mechanical)

…but it fails to take into account Bronzky’s theories on the phenomenon of compared masses. You should treat the second unknown element as a squared mass, not a factorial.

Hertz turns around and studies what she’s written on the board. After a while, she turns around, looking surprised.

Hertz (surprised)

Why, yes! You’re…you’re absolutely right! I’m sorry about that!

Odd keeps looking at Ulrich and gestures to Jeremie as if to say, “did you see that?”

TV static.

##### Int. Science Building Hallway – Day

Hertz (off)

Jeremie, would you know where Ulrich and Odd are?

Jeremie bursts into the hallway and runs off, leaving Hertz looking confused.

##### Ext. Classroom – Day

Jeremie looks into a classroom window.

Jeremie

This is weird. I don’t believe it! Yumi’s gone, too!

He jumps down from the window and runs off.

##### Int. Odd and Ulrich’s Room – Day

Jeremie runs into the room.

Jeremie

Nobody here?

He leaves again.

##### Int. Jeremie’s Room – Day

Jeremie enters and runs straight to his computer.

Jeremie

Aelita! Aelita…Ulrich, Odd and Yumi…! Tell me that they’re with you…

Aelita

Why? Didn’t they come back from Lyoko?

Jeremie (upset)

No, Aelita! I’ve lost them! Something must have gone wrong in the return trip!

Jim stands in the doorway, watching in silence.

Aelita

Calm down, Jeremie. They couldn’t have just vanished! Go and check the scanners, while I look around Lyoko.

Jeremie

Good idea. I-I’ll go and see.

He turns around and is startled to see Jim there. Jim is frowning, arms folded. He hums disapprovingly. Aelita gasps and her window closes.

Jim

You mind telling me what you’re doing here?

Jeremie is at a loss for words.

TV static.

##### Ext. Quad – Day

Students mingle in the quad. Ulrich, Odd and Yumi are by a tree. Ulrich has a book open.

Yumi

You guys ok?

Odd

As ok as two guys can be with two hours of bio ahead of them!

Yumi looks up at Jeremie, standing far away from them, leaning against a column.

Yumi

Anyone know why he’s sulking?

Ulrich

He’s angry at Odd.

Yumi

Listen, uh… Something really strange happened in English class…

##### Int. Classroom – Day (Flashback)

Yumi doodles in her book while she listens to the teacher talk.

Kensington

All the world’s a stage, and all the men and women are merely players. They have their entrances and…

Kensington suddenly goes all fuzzy, like a bad TV signal. Yumi looks up in surprise.

Kensington

…and all the men and women merely players. They have their entrances and…

##### Ext. Quad – Day

Yumi

Like a broken record! But it only lasted a second.

Ulrich

And what? You’re thinking that it could be XANA?

Yumi

I really don’t know, Ulrich! But it sure wouldn’t hurt to keep an eye on things.

Jeremie watches them, listening to their conversation.

##### Desert Sector, Lyoko

Aelita stands on top of a rock, looking around. It’s deserted.

Aelita

Nobody.

Suddenly, she hears a pulsation.

Aelita

Pulsations?! XANA…!

##### Mountain Sector, Lyoko

Aelita travels through the data stream and lands on the next tower platform. She exits the tower into the Mountain Sector, running along the path. She stops and looks around, concerned.

##### Int. Principal’s Office – Day

Delmas

Jeremie, this is serious!

Jeremie looks around, silent.

Delmas

Everyone is very concerned! Now for the last time, do you know where Yumi, Odd and Ulrich are?

Jeremie (sad)

No, Sir! I…

He falls silent again. Delmas gets up and walks around to Jeremie’s side of the desk.

Delmas

As I’m sure you can imagine, their parents are worried sick!

Jeremie

But I told you, I don’t know where they are…

Jim covers his face with his hand. Delmas places both hands on the desk, hanging his head and sighing.

##### Mountain Sector, Lyoko

Aelita sits cross-legged on a rock.

Aelita

Jeremie.

##### Int. Principal’s Office – Day

Delmas (desperate)

Think about it. Please! The smallest clue could prove to be a great help! You four are always together!

Jeremie notices his laptop beeping and picks up his bag.

Jeremie

Alright, Sir. I’ll think about it. But I need to be alone.

Delmas

You have an awful lot of nerve, young man! However, if it’s the only way to bring you to your senses…I’ll give you three minutes.

Jeremie stands up.

Jeremie

Thank you, Sir.

##### Int. Admin Building Antechamber – Day

Jeremie sits in a darkened, empty hallway with his laptop open.

Jeremie

I felt your message. What’s new?

Aelita

I’m sorry, Jeremie, but they’re not on Lyoko. There’s an activated tower, though – only I can’t seem to locate it.

Jeremie looks up at the empty hallway when he hears some noises, but nobody comes.

Aelita

I need your help. Come to the factory.

Jeremie

Impossible! I’m stuck in the principal’s office.

Aelita

You are? Don’t worry, I’ll help you get out of there. Yes, Jeremie – just like XANA, I can operate on the school’s network as well! Listen closely now…

Delmas and Jim walk over to where Jeremie is.

Delmas

I’m sure Jeremie knows more than he’s saying.

Jim

Should we call the police?

Delmas

Hm…

Jeremie

I’ve thought it over. I’ll tell you where they are.

White noise.

##### Int. Cafeteria – Day

Student 1

Pass the peas!

Student 2

No, you can reach them yourself!

Student 1 (sarcastic)

Thanks!

Student 3

Did you hear Rockout’s new single?

Ulrich, Odd and Yumi are sitting together at a table.

Odd

Didn’t I tell you?

Ulrich

No, go on.

Odd

Well, I needed new wheels, ‘cause I broke them on a ramp. So, I call over the guy selling them… Ohhh!

Odd stops dipping his food in sauce and looks up in amusement. Ulrich turns around to look as well.

Odd (laughing)

Hey, Sissi! Did you use canary feathers in the washing machine instead of soap?!

Sissi is there holding her tray, and her shirt is yellow instead of its usual pink.

Sissi

That is so dumb! I’ll have you know that yellow is the in colour this year! Humph!

Sissi stalks off, and Odd laughs.

Odd

What a dope.

Ulrich and Yumi laugh. There’s a sound like an audio file being rewound really fast, and then…

Student 1

Pass the peas!

Student 2

No, you can reach them yourself!

Student 1 (sarcastic)

Thanks!

Student 3

Did you hear Rockout’s new single?

The three friends stop laughing and look around in confusion. After a while, Yumi finally speaks up.

Yumi

Hey, did you hear that?

Odd

I sure did…

Sissi

That is so dumb!

They look over: Sissi is standing by their table again.

Sissi

I’ll have you know that yellow is the in colour this year! Humph!

She stalks off a second time.

Odd

I didn’t say anything that time…!

Yumi

We’ve got a problem, guys.

All three of them look over to Jeremie, who’s sitting at the next table over, typing on his laptop. He looks back at them.

##### Int. Gym Hallway – Day [Alternating with Boiler Room]

Delmas

But there’s nobody here!

Jeremie

We have to wait a little while.

Delmas and Jim turn to look at him in confusion and annoyance.

Jeremie

They’ll be here any minute now!

The meters on the boiler start showing really high readings as the pipes start squealing and releasing steam.

Delmas checks his watch and hums, looking around expectantly.

More steam pours out of the boiler.

Delmas (impatient)

Well, where are they?!

BOOM! The boiler explodes. Delmas ducks out of the way just in time and a large piece of metal flies into the wall where he was just standing. The three of them run away from the fast encroaching steam. Delmas and Jim run out onto the oval, covering their faces. They fall onto their hands and knees on the grass, coughing and hacking. They then fall silent at the same moment, and look up.

Delmas and Jim

Jeremie…!

##### Int. Gym Boiler Room – Day

The two men look around the room. The boiler is still leaking steam, but seems to have calmed down.

Jim

He’s gone…!

Delmas

That’s impossible. He couldn’t have just…disappeared!

##### Int. Lift – Day [Alternating with Mountain Sector, Lyoko]

Jeremie gets in the lift and presses the button. He puts his earpiece on as the door closes.

Jeremie

Aelita!

Aelita

Yes, Jeremie.

Jeremie smiles widely.

Jeremie

Thanks for giving me a hand!

Aelita

I hope you realise that if…that if you don’t detect anything alive on the scanners…it’ll mean that…

Jeremie

Yes, I know. We’ll find out soon enough.

Jeremie reaches the scanner room. All three scanners are empty. Sweat drips down Jeremie’s face.

Jeremie

Empty!

He rubs the back of his neck, unsure of what to do.

##### Int. Lab – Day

Jeremie

They aren’t there. I don’t get it – if they’re not here, and they’re not on Lyoko either, where are they?

Aelita

Jeremie! Just before you got here, I captured this soundbite! A sort of…radio or TV station transmission. But be careful, Jeremie. It was really bizarre. Let me show you.

A new window opens on screen, showing Jim leading a class of students out onto the oval. All the students are in uniform: red shirts and black shorts with a red stripe down each side.

Jim (on feed)

Alright, let’s go!

Jeremie

Huh?!

Jim (on feed)

Let’s start with a little stretching!

The feed zooms in to show the students in the class: Odd and Ulrich are among them. Odd is laughing.

Jeremie

Hey, that’s crazy!

The students start stretching, reaching up high and then down to their toes, following Jim’s count.

Jim (on feed)

And one, and two.

##### Ext. Oval – Day

Jim

And one, and two. And one, and two.

Yumi sits on top of the grandstand, watching them. She looks over to Jeremie, who’s sitting not far from her.

Jim

That’s it!

She looks back over when she hears Herb shout out.

Herb

Hey! Watch what you’re doing, huh! You did that on purpose, I saw you!

Nicolas and Herb go all fuzzy like bad TV reception before becoming normal again. Nicolas whacks Herb in the shoulder.

Jim

And one…and two!

Herb

Hey! Watch what you’re doing, huh! You did that on purpose, I saw you!

Yumi

It happened again!

Herb

I’ll show you what it feels like!

Herb starts punching and kicking Nicolas.

Jim

And two! And one!

Yumi

And it’s happening all the time!

She glances back over at Jeremie.

Jim

Keep going on your own!

Yumi

…Jeremie?

##### Int. Lab – Day

Jeremie

What am I looking at? They didn’t come back to Earth, did they?

Aelita

What if what we’re seeing is a recording?

On the feed, Yumi has approached Jeremie.

Jeremie

But how can that be, Aelita? I’M in the picture!

The feed zooms in on Jeremie, typing on his laptop.

##### Ext. Oval – Day

Yumi

There are weird things happening! Any news from Aelita?

Jeremie (mechanical)

I’m having difficulty contacting her. I have no idea if there’s an activated tower or not. But at the slightest alert, we’ll have to move in.

Yumi

Hey, how come you’re not doing phys. ed. Jeremie?

Jeremie (mechanical)

Jim agreed to excuse me.

Yumi

He did?! That’s weird. You’re not exactly a star athlete.

Jeremie

You’ve gotta know how to handle him.

They look over at the PE class. Odd and Ulrich are on the ground doing push-ups as Jim counts.

Jim

Twenty-six! Twenty-seven! Keep going!

Jim looks up and waves at Jeremie.

Jim

Twenty-eight!

Yumi stares in surprise.

Jeremie

Not like them.

Yumi

Huh?

Jeremie goes back to his laptop. Yumi walks off.

Yumi

Incredible…

##### Int. Lab – Day

Jeremie

It sure isn’t a tape. It’s happening somewhere right now.

Aelita raises her eyebrows.

Jeremie

They’re neither in Lyoko, nor in the real world. They’re somewhere else…

Aelita

Yes, I know, but… I’ve checked all the transfer protocol data. And unless a sort of…parallel world exists somewhere… There’s no such thing as an intermediate space…!

Jeremie

…unless XANA has manufactured one! That’s it! A world parallel to Lyoko! And he must have modelled it after the school. He couldn’t have made a better trap! Yumi and the others think they’re in reality, but it’s only an illusion…

The feed shows the other Jeremie, and then Odd and Ulrich still doing push-ups.

Jeremie

They’re living under XANA’s control, completely at his mercy! We’ve gotta rescue them! Find out where the signal is coming from…

Aelita

(nods) I’ve been trying to, but…it’s been masked. The signal is scrambled! All we have is a soundwave, and not the signal itself!

Jeremie

Then that’s what we have to use. We’ve gotta program it to guide the scanner and dive towards the source, using a trial-and-error system.

Aelita

But that’s crazy and you know it. And besides…who could do it? We’re all alone, Jeremie, and-

Jeremie

It’s gonna have to be me. If you take over the controls, then I’ll be able to go.

Aelita

It’s too dangerous…

Jeremie

But we can’t leave Ulrich and Yumi and Odd at the mercy of XANA! Think about it: if I’m here in front of you…

The feed zooms in on the other Jeremie, who has a small smile on his face.

Jeremie

…who’s the other Jeremie?

##### Mountain Sector, Lyoko

Aelita is still cross-legged on the rock.

Jeremie

Aelita! There’s something I want to tell you. …I’d much rather be entering a virtual world…to find you waiting there for me.

Aelita

(smiles) So would I.

##### Int. Lab – Day

Jeremie places the earpiece on the keyboard and gets out of the chair.

Jeremie

Here we go.

He goes down in the lift.

##### Int. Scanner Room – Day

Jeremie approaches the scanner.

Aelita

It’s ok, Jeremie. I’ve prepared the transfer procedure. You can get into the scanner.

Jeremie gets in and the doors close.

Aelita

Scanner Jeremie! Virtualisation!

##### Ext. Shed – Day

Jeremie appears several metres above the ground and falls flat on his face. He sits up and fixes his skewed glasses.

Jeremie

Aelita, can you hear me?

No response.

Jeremie

Oh, of course not, that would be too easy.

He gets up and looks around, then walks off. In a rosebush nearby, one of the flowers dissolves into the eye of XANA, its inner circles pulsing hypnotically. A red circle appears in the centre.

##### Int. Jeremie’s Room – Day

The other Jeremie watches the flower’s video feed of the real Jeremie on his computer screen.

The other Jeremie

Ugh… There he is at last.

Jeremie runs along a path through the park. Jim enters the room.

The other Jeremie

We’ve got a visitor, Jim.

Jim has pale green skin and white eyes with no irises or pupils. He growls softly.

##### Ice Sector, Lyoko

Aelita stands atop a high platform.

Aelita

That’s gotta be it.

She’s looking out at a large ice crater at the end of a path. Inside it sits a gigantic orange bubble.

Aelita

I’d better go now and have a closer look.

She sets off towards it.

##### Odd and Ulrich’s Room – Day

Odd is on Ulrich’s bed reading a comic. Ulrich stands in the middle of the room.

Odd

Yeah, Yumi’s what you might call intuitive, but she can be wrong sometimes. And let’s face it, Ulrich, huh? Any girl with a crush on you can’t be what I’d call absolutely normal.

Ulrich

Well what about Jeremie? Don’t tell me you don’t find him a bit strange.

Odd

Well yeah, he has been acting a bit weird lately.

Odd’s phone rings and he digs it out as he’s talking.

Odd

But to think that he’s been hiding a huge secret… Yeah, hello? Yumi, is that you? What’s the-

##### Int. Ishiyama Kitchen – Day [Alternating with Odd and Ulrich’s Room]

Yumi (panicked)

It’s started again, but this time it’s a lot worse than ever. This time it’s at my own home!

Ulrich has taken the phone off Odd.

Ulrich

What’s going on, Yumi?

Yumi (panicked)

It’s my parents. They’re acting so, uh…I don’t know, so *strangely*! They keep making the same gestures…! And they act as if I’m not even there!

Akiko and Takeho alternate between stirring their tea, sipping it and relaxing in their chairs. They only spend about a second on each gesture, and every time they change, they go all fuzzy for a moment.

Yumi (panicked)

It’s as if they were phoney imitations of my real mum and dad! We’ve gotta do something!

Ulrich

You’d better not stay there. I’ll see you in the park, ok? We’ll go to the factory. I’ll warn Jeremie.

Yumi (upset)

No, not Jeremie.

Ulrich (surprised)

Huh?

Yumi (upset)

Just Odd, you and me, ok? Let’s leave Jeremie out of it this time, I…I-I have my doubts. See ya.

They hang up. Ulrich looks over at Odd, who shrugs.

##### Int. Dormitory Hallway – Day

Jeremie rounds the corner and looks down the empty hallway.

Jeremie

Let’s hope they’re in their room…

A shadow creeps along the wall behind him, accompanied by a soft growl. Jeremie whips around in surprise. The pale-faced Jim reaches out and grabs Jeremie by the shirt, throwing him back the way he came. Jeremie looks into Jim’s blank, white eyes and runs down the hallway, away from the man. Jim pursues, growling and snarling.

##### Int. Jeremie’s Room – Day

The other Jeremie watches Odd and Ulrich on a video feed.

The other Jeremie

I’ve got you.

He switches back to the feed of Jeremie, who’s now running back through the park, chased by Jim.

The other Jeremie

Soon, I won’t have any more obstacles.

##### Ice Sector, Lyoko

Aelita draws closer to the giant orange sphere.

Aelita

I only hope it’s not too late.

##### Ext. Park – Day

Yumi, Ulrich and Odd stand by the manhole.

Yumi

What about Jeremie?

Ulrich

We didn’t tell him. But, you know, once we’re at the factory, we can’t get to Lyoko without him.

Yumi

We’ll see when we get there. But I’m afraid he can’t be trusted.

They hear rustling in the bushes and turn to look, startled. Nicolas and Herb look at them from behind some trees, unnoticed by the three friends.

Ulrich

Must have been a squirrel or something.

Odd opens the manhole. Nicolas and Herb move away.

Odd

Come on, let’s go.

As they climb into the manhole, Jeremie runs past not far away. He stops and backtracks, seeing his friends go.

Jeremie

Oh no, too late!

Jim walks out of the trees and spots him. Jeremie cries out and runs towards the manhole, but is intercepted by Nicolas and Herb. Their eyes are also blank, like Jim’s. Jeremie looks at them fearfully for a moment, but then pushes his way between them. Nicolas and Herb watch after him, startled. They grow taller, thinner. Their skin turns green and their hair spikes up. They run after Jeremie, with Jim not far behind.

##### Ice Sector, Lyoko

Aelita reaches the sphere.

##### Ext. Park – Day

Jeremie runs from Herb, Nicolas and Jim. Jim pulls ahead of the two teens.

Jim

Outta my way.

Jeremie runs deeper into the park. Nicolas and Herb fall behind, leaving just Jim in pursuit.

Jeremie

For a program, you’re a pretty good imitation!

##### Ext. Town – Night

Night falls and Jeremie reaches the park fence. He climbs it and jumps down the other side. He lands and glances quickly back at the wall before running down the street. In the sky, the full moon flickers.

##### Int. Lab – Night

Yumi is sitting at the computer, with the boys either side of her.

Yumi

I don’t understand. There’s no link! It’s like Lyoko didn’t exist anymore.

The other Jeremie (mechanical)

And that might be exactly what has happened.

The three look up in surprise. They get up and move closer to him.

Ulrich

Jeremie!

Yumi

Jeremie… But what are you doing here?

The other Jeremie (mechanical)

I got a message from Aelita that a tower has just been activated. She said something about a program to erase Lyoko. I haven’t heard from her since.

Ulrich and Odd gasp.

Ulrich

Ok, we gotta check this out, Yumi.

Yumi holds up a hand, signalling for them to wait.

Yumi

Hey, wait a minute. If the link has been cut, how do you intend to send us there?

The other Jeremie

I’ve created a new access protocol. All we need now, are the scanners.

Odd

Well what are we waiting for?

Yumi frowns at the other Jeremie, arms folded.

Yumi

Hold it, Odd. I’m not too sure of this.

The other Jeremie looks worried.

The other Jeremie

What’s wrong with you? Look! It’s Jeremie, Yumi!

Ulrich

We’ve gotta get moving. What if Lyoko does get erased, huh? Have you thought about Aelita?

The other Jeremie

Look, you’ve gotta believe me. But if you have any doubt, let Ulrich and Odd be transferred before you!

The lift opens and all four of them look over in surprise. Jeremie is there.

Jeremie

Yumi, you’re right! It’s a trap!

The three friends look back and forth between the two Jeremies.

Jeremie

Don’t go!

The other Jeremie (mechanical)

XANA, is that the best you can do? A cheap imitation to delay us?

Jeremie

He’s lying. The phoney is there, it’s him! Everything here is phoney!

The three friends gasp in confusion.

Jeremie

You never came back from your last trip. You’re in a virtual world created by XANA!

Yumi

That would explain all the inconsistencies!

Jeremie

Of course it would. XANA can make mistakes too! He only has theoretical knowledge of the real world. What he wants is to get you into the scanner to get rid of you, once and for all!

The other Jeremie (disbelieving)

That’s totally absurd, XANA.

Ulrich

It’s true. We have no proof that *he’s* not the one who’s lying to us, right? He could have created the inconsistencies, too.

Odd

Exactly! (points at Jeremie) To hold us up while Aelita and Lyoko are being erased forever!

Jeremie

The only proof is the fact that I’m here with you. You have to decide which one of us is lying.

The other Jeremie

And it’s not me. Assuming, as you claim, that this world is virtual, you mind telling us how you got here? We’re listening, XANA.

Jeremie

I got in here via the scanner. I’m here in virtual form.

The other Jeremie

You gave yourself away! *Everybody* knows that the real Jeremie wouldn’t step foot in the scanner! He’d be much too frightened!

Jeremie reels, sweating. The other Jeremie smirks. The three friends look between them again, settling on the real Jeremie.

Odd

And I’m sure he would go into the scanner, if his friends were in danger.

Ulrich

No doubt about it.

Yumi

Absolutely none.

The other Jeremie (desperate)

But it’s not logical, don’t you see? He’s much too scared to even try! Uh- *I’m* much too scared! If not, then why haven’t I already done it?!

Jeremie

I told you why: because he’s not infallible. XANA’s knowledge of people is only approximative!

Odd

That’s right. And as far as friendship goes, it’s not approximative; it’s double zero. Good to see you again, Einstein.

Jeremie smiles.

The other Jeremie

No! It’s not logical! Noo!

He shakes his head very fast, and light pours out of his form. Jeremie, Ulrich, Yumi and Odd watch on in horror as the other Jeremie transforms in a burst of oscillating light, like bad TV reception. Eventually his form settles: tall and thin with pale skin, sharp teeth and blank, white eyes. His glasses are also gone, and his hair stands on end. He continues to glow an orange colour. His voice is deep and unsettling.

XANA

NOT LOGICAAAL! NOT LOGICAAAAAAAAAL!

XANA floats up into the air silently. He extends an arm towards the gang. Nicolas, Jim and Herb materialise behind the stunned Ulrich, Yumi and Odd, and grab them, lifting them off the floor. They cry out and struggle. XANA makes a hand gesture, causing a glowing crack to open in the floor and move towards Jeremie. The ground opens up beneath his feet and hundreds of cables envelop him. He screams. XANA laughs.

XANA

You…are…going…to die!

XANA laughs again.

Jeremie

AELITA!

Jeremie’s cry reaches out through the virtual bubble, reaching Aelita as she looks in from the outside.

##### Ice Sector, Lyoko

Aelita is blown back when she hears Jeremie’s call. She looks at the bubble before her, mouth wide open.

##### Int. Lab – Night

Jeremie

NOOO!

Ulrich, Yumi and Odd struggle against their captors, to no avail. XANA continues to laugh evilly as the cables wrapped around Jeremie grow tighter and tighter.

##### Ice Sector, Lyoko

Aelita runs back to the edge of the bubble and gets down on her knees. She places both hands on the exterior of the bubble, and electricity seems to sprout from her fingers, like a plasma ball. She sings. The bubble explodes, creating a large column of light that stretches up into the sky. Large, glowing rings periodically shoot from the bottom of the column to the top. The column of light finally glows a bright orange.

##### Int. Lab – Night

XANA screams as he disappears from the room in a flash of light. Nicolas, Jim and Herb suffer the same fate, letting Ulrich, Yumi and Odd fall to the floor. They all look up at Jeremie, still encased in the cables. The cables unfurl and split apart, and Jeremie flies up into the ceiling, screaming. He fades through the ceiling and disappears.

Yumi (distraught)

Jeremie! No!

##### Ice Sector, Lyoko

The column of light glows brighter, sending out a shockwave that leaves an aftereffect on the surrounding ice. Everything goes white.

##### Lyoko-Earth Transfer Cables

Jeremie screams as he’s carried along the transfer route.

##### Int. Scanner Room – Night

Jeremie gasps and falls out of the scanner. He looks around, wide-eyed and glasses askew. He runs to the lift and heads up.

##### Int. Lab – Night

Jeremie sits down, retrieves the earpiece and puts it on.

Jeremie

Aelita! Here I am! Are you ok?

Aelita

Yes, fine. Don’t worry.

Jeremie breathes a sigh of relief.

Aelita

I got them back, all of them. Safe and sound.

##### Ice Sector, Lyoko [Alternating with Lab]

Aelita

The parallel world bubble has disappeared.

Odd flips around the crater they’re standing in, where the bubble just was. He laughs happily.

Odd

I don’t remember anything, but I feel just great!

Ulrich

Aelita? W-what happened to us?

Aelita

XANA created a replica of where you live so you’d think it was reality.

Yumi

He locked us up in a virtual prison.

Aelita

But Jeremie and I did all we could to set you free!

The other three look at her in surprise.

Odd (pleasantly surprised)

What? Jeremie came to Lyoko?!

Aelita nods.

Odd

Fantastic, Einstein! Join the daredevil heroes club!

Jeremie

Thanks, Odd! No hard feelings, huh?

The computer starts beeping and Jeremie looks startled.

Jeremie

Look, it’s XANA’s welcoming committee!

There are dozens of red markers on the map.

Forty-six Bloks head towards the Lyoko Warriors.

Ulrich

No need to worry, Jeremie. We’re used to this! It’s a piece of cake! (unsheathes sabre) Here we go!

Odd

I’m with you!

They run off, cheering and laughing excitedly as they rush towards the monsters, weapons drawn.