# Code Lyoko

## Episode 58: “The Pretender”

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##### Ext. Park – Day

A streetlight along the path flickers. A crow lands on top of it. A spectre exits the light and enters the crow’s nostrils. The bird shrieks and struggles, flickering grey. After a while, it straightens up again.

##### Int. Jeremie’s Room – Day

The Superscan shows an activated tower.

##### Int. Boys’ Showers – Day

Odd, Ulrich and Jeremie are brushing their teeth in the mirror.

Odd (brushing teeth)

Forget it, Ulrich! Your sabre may have some class, but compared to my laser arrows, your monster count is way behind mine.

Ulrich (mouth full of toothpaste)

Oh, yeah? I bet you forgot that my sabre saved you from a quick game over last time.

Jeremie (mouth full of toothpaste)

You know what? I made up a little statistics program that I’m using to record your performances on Lyoko over the last few weeks. So tonight, if you want, we can compare and see who’s best, ok?

Odd (mouth full of toothpaste)

That’s great! I really love stats. We’ll finally have proof of my superiority! (points toothbrush at Ulrich) But in any event, I’ve got something that you’ll never have, good buddy – and that’s *style*!

He draws a circle with his toothbrush to emphasise his point. Nicolas and Herb walk up nearby and stop to listen.

Ulrich (mouth full of toothpaste)

Style, my friend…doesn’t impress a Megatank.

Nicolas

Hey, what’s all this about a Megatank, huh? You talking about a video game?

Odd finishes rinsing his mouth in the sink and wipes his lips with his towel.

Odd

Yeah! Teddy Bear Heaven! Way too complicated for you.

Herb and Nicolas walk away.

Herb

Very funny, Della Robbia.

Ulrich leans into the sink to wipe his face with his towel. Johnny enters the room and walks up to him.

Johnny (sheepish)

Uh, Ulrich? Have you got…a minute? Can I talk to you in private?

Ulrich looks intrigued.

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

Johnny sits on Ulrich’s bed while Ulrich opens his closet to get dressed.

Ulrich

I’m listening.

Johnny (sheepish)

Um…well, you’re um…Yumi’s best friend, aren’t you?

Ulrich

Yeah, I guess you might say that.

Johnny (sheepish)

Um um…what I want to say, um…is that…when I see Yumi, I mean…I um…I…I mean, well, I’d like to… You remember the episode of Hospital of Horrors that was on last week?

Ulrich (surprised)

Huh? You’d like to give Yumi a transfusion of French poodle’s blood?

Johnny (sheepish)

No no…no, I mean at the end. What happens between Stacy and Doctor Schrank…

Ulrich (avoiding the subject)

(sigh) Listen, I-I don’t remember what…happened at the end, and I don’t know what you’re talking about. And they’ve got pancakes for breakfast, so…

Ulrich closes his closet and starts walking to the door.

Ulrich (avoiding the subject)

…hurry up, will ya?

##### Int. Dormitory Staircase – Day

Ulrich walks down the stairs, smiling and chuckling to himself. Odd, Aelita and Jeremie are waiting at the bottom of the stairs.

Odd

You look happy for a change! What’s going on? What did Johnny want?

Ulrich (amused)

Just to talk. He’s totally flipped out over Yumi.

Aelita

That’s adorable. So, what did you tell him?

Jeremie

You did let him down gently without laughing at him…?

Ulrich (amused)

You’re kidding. I wasn’t gonna pass this up! I told him to follow her twenty-four hours a day every day, nonstop.

The others frown disapprovingly.

Aelita (disapproving)

That wasn’t very cool, Ulrich. Yumi hates being followed around. She’ll probably tell him to get lost!

Ulrich

So what if she does?

Jeremie (disapproving)

You know, Ulrich…you can be a real jerk sometimes.

Ulrich (defensive)

Hey, come on! It’s just a little bit of hazing. I got hazed when I was in seventh grade.

Odd (disapproving)

Hazing, huh? Sounds more like jealousy to me. I don’t believe it! You flip out even when Kiwi looks at Yumi!

Odd, Aelita and Jeremie walk away.

Ulrich (angry)

Hey, don’t forget, Yumi and I are just friends and that’s all!

Ulrich points after them to emphasise his point.

##### Int. Library – Day

A crow lands on the windowsill of the library and caws. Yumi glances up from the book she’s reading to look at it. Johnny walks up beside her.

Johnny (quiet)

Uh…hi, Yumi.

Yumi (quiet)

…Hello.

Johnny sits down.

Johnny (quiet)

Do you mind if I sit down next to you for a second, Yumi? It’s really nice to see you!

Yumi (quiet)

That’s great, but I happen to be reading.

Johnny (quiet)

You know, I love to read, too. I read all kinds of stuff! Books and magazines and comics… Do you like comics?

Yumi glares at him and growls.

Johnny (quiet)

I like mangas best. What about you?

Yumi shuts her book and taps her finger on the cover impatiently.

Johnny (quiet)

I’ll bet you know some great ones! Can you recommend any to me?

Yumi (quiet, annoyed)

No. See ya, I’m going to lunch.

Yumi gets up and walks away.

Johnny (quiet)

I’ll go with you!

He follows after her.

##### Int. Cafeteria – Day

Johnny is behind Yumi in line for lunch.

Johnny

I like the idea of self-service. Don’t you? Huh?

Yumi growls and takes a plate of salad.

Johnny

Oh, you’re having salad? Oh, great idea!

Johnny takes a plate of salad as well. He closes his eyes while he talks and Yumi moves on.

Johnny

Vegetables are good for you. Lots of vitamins! I’m gonna have the…

He opens his eyes and realises Yumi is gone. He follows.

Johnny

Hey, wait for me!

They both take a plate of salmon and Brussels sprouts.

Johnny

I can’t believe that you like Brussels sprouts, too! We have so much in common. It’s amazing!

Aelita and the boys are already at a table, eating.

Odd

Hey, don’t forget that in Sector 5, I took out at least three Flying Mantas in a matter of seconds!

Ulrich

I don’t trust your count. You stink at maths! I prefer Jeremie’s stats.

Yumi puts her tray down at the table. Johnny isn’t far behind.

Johnny

Where’s your table? I’d really like to sit with you!

Yumi (irritated)

And I’d like to get some water.

Yumi walks away. Johnny sits next to Ulrich, looking uncertain.

Ulrich

How’s it going, Johnny?

Johnny

I’m not sure, but I have the feeling I’m getting on her nerves by following her.

Ulrich puts his hand on Johnny’s shoulder.

Ulrich

Oh, no. You know what girls are like. Come on, don’t let it get you down, buddy. Now when you guys get to the gym, ask her for all kinds of advice.

Johnny (uncertain)

Ok…

Jeremie, Aelita and Odd all frown disapprovingly at Ulrich. Yumi returns with a jug of water.

Johnny

Great idea! Could I have some water?

Johnny holds up his glass to her. Yumi groans in exasperation.

##### Ext. Drinks Machines Building – Day

Ulrich, Odd, Aelita and Jeremie are hanging around the door to the building. Everyone but Jeremie is holding a drink.

Jeremie

I think I got question two right. I said that China stretched over the large river valleys of Eastern Asia…like the Huang-Ho, the Yangzi Jiang and the Si-Kiang.

Aelita

What about you, Odd? How did you do on question three?

Odd

Simple! I said China was the most populated country in the world with a billion people per square metre.

The others all laugh. Odd looks embarrassed.

Odd

You mean I got it wrong?

Ulrich (laughing)

I guess I was right not to trust your stats, huh! (laughs)

A crow caws as it flies overhead and Ulrich looks up to watch it. It lands on the roof above the arches, which is already packed with crows. Ulrich stands up.

Ulrich

Hey, guys… Have you noticed all those birds? It’s kind of bizarre.

The eyes of one of the crows are red. The eye of XANA pulses in them. The kids all look up at the birds, concerned.

Odd

It reminds me of a film. A dumb flick where birds attacked the heroes. It wasn’t even scary!

##### Int. Gym – Day

Yumi closes her eyes and prepares herself, clenching her fists. After a deep breath, she opens her eyes again and runs towards the pummel horse. She jumps up into the air, performs a frontflip and lands in a split-legged handstand on the horse. She brings her legs together, waits for a moment and then jumps off and lands in front of the horse, arms out wide and a smile on her face. She looks up in surprise when she hears someone clapping.

Johnny

Fantastic!

Yumi (irritated)

Ugh… Johnny, you wouldn’t be planning on following me over all over all the time?

Johnny

Well yeah…!

Yumi growls loudly in exasperation.

##### Ext. Quad – Day

One of the crows takes off from the roof and flies straight towards Jeremie. Jeremie gets a good look in its eyes when it gets close to him. When it hits his head, purple electricity comes out of its feet and runs across Jeremie’s skin. He tries to defend himself and the others watch in shock. The crow flies away.

Jeremie

I saw the sign. It was in their eyes! It’s XANA.

A crow on the roof caws and the eye of XANA flickers in its red eyes. A number of crows take off from the roof and descend on the heroes.

Odd

Hurry! They’ll peck away at us until there’s nothing left!

The four of them run away, the crows in hot pursuit. One of them hits the back of Ulrich’s head.

##### Ext. Park – Day

Odd (breathless, scared)

I take it all back! It wasn’t a dumb film after all! Head for the passage. I’ll try to lure them over to my side!

Odd stops and holds his arms out wide. The others keep running and the birds flock above Odd.

Odd

Come on, little birdies! Over here!

They converge on him all at once.

The others reach the manhole and Ulrich lifts the cover. Aelita and Jeremie climb down.

Ulrich

Odd! Come on, we’re here!

Odd is now lying flat on the ground, being attacked by the birds. He reaches for a nearby stick.

Odd (struggling)

Give me a second to finish my acupuncture session…

Once he grabs the stick, he stands up and swings it at the crows, dispersing them. He then makes a dash for the manhole. When he gets close, he slides along the ground to reach it. Ulrich climbs down and Odd follows, pulling the cover back over the manhole just before the crows catch up. They flock around the area, squawking.

##### Int. Sewers – Day

The group are on their skateboards and scooter. Aelita is on a skateboard this time.

Jeremie

Incredible! I forget to check the Superscan for a few hours and bang, a XANA attack.

Aelita

Don’t worry. Everything’ll be just fine once we get the tower deactivated!

##### Int. Gym – Day

Johnny is lined up in front of the pummel horse while Yumi watches.

Yumi

Go on! Your turn!

Johnny clenches his fist and takes a deep breath, far less composed than Yumi’s one earlier. He then runs towards the horse. He jumps up into the air but doesn’t perform a flip, and ends up falling onto the horse with his legs open. Yumi gasps. Johnny ends up sitting on the end of the pummel horse, shaking and flashing a large, awkward grin. Yumi’s phone rings and she answers it. Outside the window, a few crows approach the building.

Yumi

Odd? What?

The whole murder of crows is now visible through the window.

Yumi

A big flock of birds?

Yumi turns to the window and ducks when a crow flies straight at it.

Yumi

Ok. I’ll be right there.

Yumi runs to the door. Johnny gets off the horse and starts to follow her.

Johnny

Yumi, wait up!

Yumi

No! Don’t follow me.

A crow smashes through the window right next to Yumi. She dodges and rolls to the side as the rest of the flock pour in through the window. Yumi points to an exit.

Yumi

Johnny! Get going! It’s me that they’re after.

Johnny runs to a door, followed by several crows.

##### Ext. Gym – Day

Johnny gets outside and closes the door just before the crows reach it. Yumi jumps through a window, smashing it. The crows are right behind her. She immediately gets up and runs past Johnny, followed by the entire flock. After watching them go, Johnny runs in a different direction.

##### Ext. Bridge – Day

Ulrich sticks his head out of the manhole. A crow walks past right near his head and he watches it warily. The entire bridge is covered in crows: they’re all over the ground, the overhead beams and the railings. The kids climb carefully out of the sewer.

Odd

I don’t believe it!

Aelita lets out a deep breath.

Aelita

We’ve been through worse. And besides, it’s not every day we have such a big audience.

The crows have formed a path down the middle of the bridge for the kids to walk through. Aelita leads the way, and all four kids keep a watchful eye on the birds. The further they get, the more the birds caw at them and the eye of XANA flickers in their eyes. Finally, some of them take off.

Ulrich

We’ll delay them. Head for the elevator. See you later.

Aelita and Jeremie run into the factory. Odd and Ulrich take on fighting stances.

Odd

Over here! We’re waiting!

##### Int. Factory – Day

Aelita and Jeremie swing down the ropes. The lift isn’t waiting for them. They look up when they hear the flapping of wings and see Odd and Ulrich sliding down the ropes, yelling and being assaulted by the birds. Jeremie and Aelita get into the lift and the door starts closing.

Jeremie

Ulrich, Odd! Hurry up!

The boys land and run towards the lift, the birds right behind them. Jeremie holds the lift door slightly open for them.

Jeremie (panicked)

Faster! Faster!

Odd and Ulrich slide into the lift just before the door closes completely. The birds run straight into the door.

##### Int. Lift – Day

Dozens of dents appear in the lift door where the bird beaks slam into it.

Odd

I took out five of them! How ‘bout you?

Aelita gets out her phone.

Ulrich

I don’t know. But if you’re trying to cheat, don’t forget that the birds aren’t part of the stats, only monsters sent by XANA.

Aelita

Yumi’s all on her own, I hope she’s ok…

##### Ext. Shed – Day

Yumi runs towards the shed, still pursued by the murder of crows. Her phone starts ringing just as she nears the building.

##### Int. Shed - Day

Yumi runs inside and shuts the door behind her, leaning against it. A bird’s beak pierces the wood right in front of her face. She slides down to the floor, exhausted.

##### Int. Lift – Day

Aelita hangs up.

Aelita

There’s no answer.

Jeremie has stepped out into the lab.

Jeremie

Don’t panic. I’ll virtualise you in the vicinity of the activated tower, and then I’ll call Yumi.

Odd

Mhm.

Jeremie walks away and the lift door closes.

##### Int. Shed – Day

Yumi checks her phone.

Yumi (breathless)

Too late!

The crows smash through the front window and come for Yumi. They peck at her with electrified beaks, causing her to drop her phone. She tries to open the door, but they peck at her hand and force her to withdraw. She swings her arms in an attempt to bat them away, to no avail. She sinks lower to the floor as the crows converge on her.

##### Ext. Shed – Day

Yumi’s cries of pain are heard among the flapping of wings.

##### Int. Lab – Day [Alternating with Scanner Room]

Jeremie

Transfer, Ulrich. Transfer, Aelita. Transfer, Odd. Scanner, Ulrich. Scanner, Aelita. Scanner, Odd. Virtualisation!

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

Ulrich, Aelita and Odd are virtualised. The Overboard and Overbike appear in front of them soon after.

Jeremie

The activated tower is south-southwest, in a crater.

They run to their vehicles.

Odd

Start up the stat program, Einstein!

Odd and Ulrich get on the vehicles.

Ulrich

You’re gonna cry when you see the results!

Aelita gets on behind Odd. They set off.

Odd

I doubt it, buddy. And besides, I don’t cry when I get bad grades, do I?

Ulrich

If you did, you’d have drowned in your tears ages ago!

Jeremie watches them on the map.

Jeremie

You can start earning your points now… XANA’s sent you a big welcome party of Krabs.

Odd

Let’s go, Ulrich! I’ll leave you the claws!

Odd accelerates.

Ulrich

We’ll see about that!

Ulrich accelerates as well.

Odd

May the best man win, and that’s me! BANZAAAI!

Odd dives into the crater. Ulrich sneers.

Ulrich

Cheater…

Odd slows to a stop when he enters the crater, looking around. The crater has a spiral path leading down to the bottom. The tower is in the middle of it.

Odd

Huh? Where are they? I don’t see anything!

The Krabs are on the spiral path behind Odd and Aelita, with their lasers already charged. They open fire and hit the back of the Overboard, causing it to fall.

Ulrich sees what happened while he’s still driving towards the crater. He drives around the edge of it and stops.

Ulrich (mocking)

Is that what you mean by, “style,” huh?

Odd, Aelita and the Overboard have ended up on the ground near the tower. Lasers from the Krabs rain down around them.

Odd

Go on, then! See if you can do any better!

The Krabs all turn their attention to Ulrich. He drives down onto the spiral path and heads straight for the Krabs, sabre drawn. As he passes under each of them, he stabs them in the underbelly, leaving long, glowing gashes. He stops nearby and uses his hand to shield his face from the four explosions.

##### Ext. Shed – Day

Jim, Delmas and Johnny walk towards the shed.

Jim (disbelieving)

What is all this about crows with red eyes?

Johnny

But it’s true, I swear. They flew into the gym and attacked Yumi!

They stop and look at the broken shed window.

Johnny

(points) Look at the window!

Jim opens the door and immediately recoils as the murder of crows burst out into the open. Once they’re gone, he goes inside.

Johnny

There, you see?

Delmas and Johnny follow Jim inside.

##### Int. Lab – Day [Alternating with Shed]

Jeremie tries to call Yumi.

Jim kneels down beside the unconscious Yumi.

Jim

Yumi!

Yumi’s phone, lying on the floor where she dropped it, starts ringing. Delmas picks it up and answers it.

Delmas

Hello?

Jeremie

Mister Delmas? Is that you?

Delmas

Yes, it’s me.

Jeremie

Uh…do you know where Yumi is?

Jim checks Yumi’s pulse.

Delmas

Yes, she’s here! In the tool shed! And she’s been hurt!

Jim

Mister Delmas, we have to get her to the hospital.

Delmas

Listen, Belpois! I’m too busy to talk to you at this time, I have to call an ambulance! So hang up, please!

The call ends.

Jeremie

Ulrich, Odd, Aelita. Can you hear me? Yumi’s been hurt. I have to launch a return to the past. First, you’ve gotta deactivate the tower. Fast.

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

Ulrich

Ok.

Aelita runs towards the tower, but before she reaches it, a Krab walks out from behind it and starts shooting at her. She jumps out of the way and crouches beside Odd. Odd takes aim.

Ulrich

Leave him to me!

Odd

Huh?

Odd lowers his arm. Ulrich drives down to the bottom of the crater and stops, facing the Krab. The Krab turns to face him. Ulrich drives straight towards it and draws his sabre. When he gets close, he jumps up and does a flip, stabbing it in the eye on the way over its head.

Ulrich

Impact!

He lands back on the Overbike and comes to a stop just before the monster explodes.

Ulrich (smug)

Bullseye!

He turns to look at Odd with a smug smile on his face. Odd puts his hands on his hips, tail swishing angrily.

Odd (annoyed)

That’s not fair!

The Overbike is shot by a laser, knocking Ulrich off and destroying the vehicle. Odd points and laughs, until two Krabs start shooting at him from behind. He dodges one laser and then gets hit right in the torso by another and goes flying backwards. Ulrich laughs this time. The Krabs approach them and Odd picks himself up and runs to put himself between Aelita and the monsters.

Jeremie gets a warning about Odd taking a hit.

Jeremie

Ulrich and Odd… Would you mind concentrating? Do I have to remind you there’s a tower to deactivate if you want to save Yumi?

Odd flips through the air and takes aim.

Odd

Laser arrow!

He shoots three laser arrows into the eye of a Krab and destroys it. He lands nearby.

Odd

That’s one less monster!

Odd stands up and makes a heroic pose.

Odd (boasting)

Odd the great, the brave, the magnificent, has finally overcome his handicap, and has now caught up with his opponent! Temporarily, of course, because Odd i-

He’s cut off when he’s hit by a laser. He goes flying again, screaming as he devirtualises. Ulrich Supersprints over and salutes him, grinning.

Ulrich

So long, Odd, the mega-

He’s caught off guard by a laser from the Krab but manages to block it in time.

##### Int. Scanner Room – Day

Odd appears in the scanner, kneeling on the floor and holding his abdomen.

Odd

That wasn’t fair!

He frowns.

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

Ulrich blocks lasers from the Krab. He takes a hit to the shoulder.

Jeremie

Careful, Ulrich! You’re losing too many life points.

Ulrich rolls across the ground and does a push-up jump to avoid lasers. An energy field suddenly appears and destroys the Krab. Ulrich stands up.

Ulrich (annoyed)

Hey, Aelita, you’re cheating!

Aelita

Yeah, I know. But you boys are just too clumsy!

She winks and runs into the tower.

Jeremie

Nice one, Aelita!

A crow squawks. Jeremie looks up in surprise.

Jeremie

Huh?

##### Tower, Desert Sector, Lyoko [Alternating with Lab]

Aelita reaches the top platform.

Jeremie looks up in dismay at the crows gathered near the ceiling of the lab. They caw and take off.

Aelita enters the code.

Aelita

Tower, deactivated.

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

Aelita runs out of the tower.

Ulrich

It’s ok, Jeremie! You can launch a return to the past now!

Aelita reaches Ulrich. There’s no response from Jeremie. They look up at the sky, worried.

Ulrich (worried)

Jeremie?

Some lasers narrowly miss them. Five Hornets have arrived.

Ulrich

Jeremie?! Do you read us, Jeremie?!

Ulrich takes out his sabre and blocks lasers. Aelita throws an energy field and destroys a Hornet.

##### Int. Ambulance – Day

Yumi lies unconscious on a stretcher, hooked up to a heart monitor and fluids and with some gauze on her arm. Johnny watches over her from the seat next to the stretcher. He has a band-aid on his forehead.

##### Ext. Shed – Day

The ambulance officer closes the back doors of the vehicle and walks around to the front. Delmas turns to Jim.

Delmas

Can you make anything out of this attack by birds with electric beaks, Jim?

Jim

No! Never seen anything like it, Sir, ah… Well except when I investigated paranormal phenomena for a highly special Secret Service section.

While he’s talking, the ambulance turns its lights and siren on and drives away.

Delmas (surprised)

You did? I didn’t know that!

Jim

I did! But, I’d rather not talk about it… It’s a…classified defence secret.

##### Int. Lab – Day

The lift doors open to let Odd into the lab. His eyes widen.

Odd

Huh?

Jeremie is on the floor, unconscious.

Odd (dismayed)

I don’t believe this! Jeremie!

He goes over to Jeremie.

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

Ulrich and Aelita dodge and block the Hornets’ lasers. Aelita throws an energy field. At the same time, the Scyphozoa flies out of a cave in the side of the crater. Aelita smiles when her energy field destroys a Hornet, but she is then captured by the Scyphozoa.

Aelita

Ulrich!

Ulrich is still blocking lasers.

Ulrich

Aelita!

Ulrich tries to get to her, but he’s stopped by the Hornets. The Scyphozoa is now at work possessing Aelita. Ulrich’s sabre is shot out of his hand and flies up into the air. The Hornets follow it and shoot at it, forcing it higher and higher into the air. After several shots, the blade glows red. The Hornets fire at the same time and the sabre disintegrates into blue pixels.

Ulrich

Oh, no!

##### Int. Lab – Day

Odd is now sitting at the computer with the earpiece on.

Odd

Ulrich! Can you hear me? Jeremie’s out cold! The birds have attacked him!

Ulrich

Oh, great… XANA’s captured Aelita. I’ve got Hornets on my tail and my sabre’s gone. Do something!

Odd

I’d love to, but…the Supercomputer programs aren’t exactly…my thing. I can try to get your sabre back!

Odd starts typing awkwardly, using only his index fingers.

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

A Manta flies down into the crater and positions itself underneath Aelita.

Ulrich

Oh, no!

Ulrich starts running towards them, but the Hornets block his path with their lasers. The Scyphozoa deposits XANA-Aelita on the Manta and the two monsters take off, flying out of the crater.

Ulrich

I don’t believe it…

The Hornets follow after XANA-Aelita and the Manta.

Ulrich

Supersprint!

Ulrich sprints up the spiral path and leaves the crater.

##### Ext. Town – Day

The ambulance drives through town with its sirens blaring.

##### Int. Ambulance – Day

Johnny gently rubs Yumi’s forehead with a tissue or cloth. Yumi slowly opens her eyes.

Yumi (weak)

H-huh? Y-you’re still here?

Johnny

Sure I am. I wouldn’t leave you, Yumi!

Yumi (weak)

Where’d you get the stupid idea to follow me from?

Johnny

From Ulrich. He said it was the best way to get your attention! And so that’s what I’ve been doing!

Yumi (weak)

I should’ve guessed it was him. (turns head away) He’s not only jealous, he’s dumb.

Johnny

U-Ulrich’s jealous? But of what?

Yumi (weak, tired)

Forget it…

##### Desert Sector, Lyoko

Ulrich Supersprints across the plateau, chasing after the Manta carrying XANA-Aelita. He makes a mighty jump, leaving a small crater in the ground from the force. He lands on top of a Hornet and jumps from one to the other until he’s close to the Manta. On his last jump, he does a mid-air somersault and cannonballs into the bottom of the Manta, throwing XANA-Aelita off it.

Ulrich lands first and Supersprints over to catch XANA-Aelita. He sets her down gently and holds his hands out, placating. XANA-Aelita glares at him with her XANA eyes and forms an energy field in her hand. Ulrich Supersprints, zipping away at lightning speed.

Ulrich

I may not have my sabre, but I can run!

XANA-Aelita throws her energy field and Ulrich dodges it.

Ulrich

Olé! Odd, we can’t take the chance of Aelita going into the Way Tower. You gotta try to launch a return in time!

Odd

I thought we were never to do that when she’s under XANA’s control!

XANA-Aelita throws another energy field and Ulrich dodges it.

Ulrich

Olé! At least try to program me a sabre!

##### Int. Lab – Day

Odd is still slowly typing.

Odd

I’m almost there! (uncertain) And…here we…go…!

##### Desert Sector, Lyoko

Ulrich holds out his hand. A sabre materialises just above his palm.

Ulrich

Great, Odd!

Once it has completely materialised, Ulrich wraps his fingers around the handle, but it disintegrates into blue pixels.

Ulrich

Huh?! Ok, I take that back!

Odd

Uh, sorry!

XANA-Aelita runs towards the tower. Ulrich Supersprints up beside her and trips her over, causing her to fall on her face and slide across the ground. The Manta starts shooting at him from behind. Once XANA-Aelita picks herself up, Ulrich sprints behind her and wraps his arms around her, using her as a shield. The two of them struggle and the Manta tries to fly around behind Ulrich, but he manages to keep XANA-Aelita in front of him.

##### Int. Lab – Day

Odd (to himself)

Let me see. How are we going to get out of this one?

He looks over at Jeremie, who’s still unconscious on the floor.

Odd

It’s time for some strongarm tactics.

##### Int. Ambulance – Day

Johnny holds Yumi’s hand. The beeping of her heart monitor has slowed noticeably. Yumi and Johnny look at each other in concern and then Yumi closes her eyes.

##### Desert Sector, Lyoko

XANA-Aelita elbows Ulrich in the abdomen, pushing him backwards into a rock. The Manta moves in and XANA-Aelita prepares an energy field.

Ulrich

Huh?

He dodges out of the way just in time before the energy field smashes a large hole in the rock, sending shards of it flying everywhere. A number of large shards embed themselves in the ground next to Ulrich. XANA-Aelita runs straight past him, towards the tower. The Manta and three Hornets close in on Ulrich before he can do anything, forcing him to dodge their lasers.

Ulrich

Beginning to get on my nerves…!

He removes a shard of rock from the ground and Supersprints towards the monsters. He runs up an angled rock behind them and pushes off it, landing on the Manta’s back. He stands up and dodges when a Hornet tries body slamming him.

Ulrich

Oh, you missed!

A second Hornet tries the same thing, he dodges again.

Ulrich

Missed again! Tough break.

A third Hornet tries again from behind, and this time Ulrich smacks it away with the shard of rock. It flies into a rock and explodes. Ulrich stabs the shard into the Manta’s eye, destroying it. He falls towards the ground.

##### Int. Lab – Day

Odd slaps Jeremie’s cheek.

Odd

Come on, Jeremie. This is the tenth slap! (threatening) Don’t tell me you need a *real* smash!

Odd holds his arm back, preparing for a powerful slap. Jeremie opens his eyes.

Jeremie

Odd?

Odd slaps him, but not very hard.

Jeremie

Are you crazy or what?!

Odd covers his mouth and giggles nervously.

##### Int. Ambulance – Day

Johnny continues watching the heart monitor.

Johnny

Yumi!

Her eyes are still closed. Johnny strokes her hand.

##### Desert Sector, Lyoko

XANA-Aelita continues running towards the tower. Ulrich Supersprints in front of her, blocking her way, holding another shard of rock.

Ulrich

I’m not gonna let you through, Aelita.

He’s shot in the shoulder by a Hornet and falls to his knee. XANA-Aelita looks up at the tower and smirks, then keeps running towards it. The Hornets fly closer. Ulrich throws his rock shard at them and destroys the first Hornet.

Ulrich

One…

The shard keeps going and destroys the second monster as well.

Ulrich

…and two! (fist pump) But… (turns around) Oh, no…

Aelita runs inside the tower.

##### Int. Ambulance – Day

There are tears in Johnny’s eyes.

Johnny

Hang in there, Yumi.

##### Tower, Desert Sector, Lyoko

Aelita enters the code XANA.

##### Int. Lab – Day

Jeremie is back in his seat.

Jeremie

Ulrich! I’m ready for action again. Tell me what’s going on.

##### Desert Sector, Lyoko

The tower disappears from the bottom up.

Jeremie

Do you need help?

Aelita falls out of the tower.

Ulrich

Too late…

He turns around to see the Desert disappearing. He runs over to Aelita as she picks herself up.

Ulrich

Come on, Aelita. This is no time to drag your feet!

They both run away.

##### Int. Hospital Hallway – Day

The two ambulance officers wheel Yumi’s stretcher through the hospital. Johnny runs after them.

Ambulance officer 1

Uh, what do we have here?

Ambulance officer 2

Adolescent girl, about fourteen. Multiple injuries. Unconscious.

##### Int. Lab – Day

Jeremie

It’s all over.

Odd

For the Desert Sector, yes. (puts hand on Jeremie’s shoulder) For Yumi, I hope not, so…move it.

Odd removes his hand. After a moment, Jeremie starts typing.

Jeremie

Return to the past now.

##### Int. Hospital Hallway – Day

The return to the past washes over Yumi’s stretcher as the two men run through the hallway, wheeling it.

##### Int. Boys’ Showers – Day

Herb

Very funny, Della Robbia.

Nicolas and Herb walk away, leaving Odd and Ulrich to finish brushing their teeth. Jeremie enters the room.

Ulrich

Well?

Jeremie

It’s ok! Yumi’s going to be fine.

Odd

Phew!

Jeremie

Yeah. (teasing) But she knows about what you told Johnny to do! And she’s furious.

Odd (teasing)

Don’t say we didn’t warn you!

Ulrich doesn’t respond. Johnny arrives.

Johnny

Ulrich. Ulrich! Have you got a minute? Can I talk to you…in private?

Ulrich

No problem!

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

Once again, Johnny sits on Ulrich’s bed while Ulrich gets dressed by his closet.

Johnny

Uh well…well, y-you see…uh…when I see Yumi, I w-w…uh…

Ulrich

Ok, I get it. You like her, and you don’t know how to get her to notice you, right?

Johnny

Uh that’s it, but how did you guess?

Ulrich

Instinct. There’s one thing that can’t fail.

Johnny

Sure?

Ulrich

She’s gonna love it! Trust me. Now you gotta go find her, and tell her this…

##### Int. Library – Day

Johnny (uncertain)

Ok, right. Uh… Ulrich is a really dumb jerk, and he wants to apologise for pulling such a stupid stunt.

Yumi looks at Johnny for a moment before smiling and pushing out the chair next to her.

Yumi (amused)

Ok. Well, why don’t you sit down? We can study together.

Johnny

T…together? Like, us?! Like you and me? Together?

Yumi

Why not?

Johnny sits down.

Johnny

Wow, that Ulrich really rocks!

Yumi (laughing)

(laughs) I guess!

##### Ext. Drinks Machines Building – Day

Ulrich, Odd and Aelita are standing by the door holding drinks. Jeremie approaches holding a few sheets of paper.

Jeremie

Hey, guys! I got the latest stats on Lyoko battles!

Odd

Ready to eat your hat, good buddy?

Ulrich (amused)

You’re the one who’s not gonna be able to digest this!

Jeremie reads from his papers.

Jeremie (announcing)

The Lyoko Warrior who has outclassed all the others is…Aelita!

Jeremie and Aelita laugh and high-five. Odd and Ulrich frown.

Odd

I don’t believe in statistics. They don’t mean a thing! That’s not the way to determine a *real* Lyoko hero!

Ulrich

Yeah. For once I agree with you, Odd.

Jeremie and Aelita continue high-fiving and laughing.

Aelita

Yeah!

Jeremie

Yes!