# Code Lyoko

## Episode 68: “Opening Act”

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##### Int. Cafeteria – Day

Yumi walks up to the table where the others are sitting. Ulrich, Aelita and Odd are all reading copies of the Kadic News. There’s a photo of Chris, the Subdigitals’ drummer, on the front.

Yumi

Hi, everybody!

Jeremie

Hi, Yumi!

Yumi sits down next to Ulrich. Many of the other students in the room are reading the newspaper as well.

Ulrich

What’s happening, Yumi?

Yumi

You mean to tell me there’s actually a little news in the Kadic News this time?

Odd looks up at her in shock.

Odd (shocked)

Don’t tell me you haven’t heard?!

Yumi

Huh?

Ulrich passes the newspaper to her.

Yumi (reading, unenthused)

“Scoop of the year,” blah, blah, blah… “Chris coming to Kadic,” blah, blah, blah… “Too amazing.”

She lowers the newspaper.

Yumi (unenthused)

Chris? Chris who?

Ulrich

You’re kidding. Haven’t you ever heard of the Subdigitals?

Odd

Chris is their drummer! And he’ll be at Kadic today!

Yumi

Hey, you guys, cool it. It sounds like a phoney scoop.

Jeremie

Yeah, sure does. Just another one of Milly and Tamiya’s dumb stories.

Aelita

Well, it could be for real! It seems that Chris is coming here to visit his uncle!

Yumi

Huh? You mean that Chris has an uncle who works here?

Aelita (mysterious)

I wonder who that can be…

Jeremie (disbelieving)

You too, Aelita?! How can you believe that stuff?

##### Ext. Arches – Day

Odd leads the way, still holding the newspaper open. Nearby, students are talking excitedly and reading the Kadic News.

Yumi

If it’s true, who do you think his uncle really is?

Ulrich

Fumey…Chardin…Mister Delmas… Not Mister Delmas! Sissi could never be Chris’s cousin.

Aelita

If she was, she’d be shouting it out to anyone willing to listen to her.

Ulrich

What about Riley?

Odd (amused)

Huh? Michael Riley, the custodian? Right, well in that case, why not Jim?

Not looking where he’s going, Odd walks right into Jim.

Jim

Well done, Della Robbia. Just as clumsy as ever.

Odd

Jim! What a coincidence, we were just talking about you. (nervous laugh)

Jim raises an eyebrow.

Jim

About me?

Odd

Uh, yeah. It seems that the Subdigitals’ drummer is coming to Kadic to visit his uncle, and we thought you’d be the first to know.

Jim waves his hand, trying to dismiss the topic.

Jim

Uh…me? Now what gave you an idea like that?

Odd grins and slaps his forehead.

Odd

Oh, almost forgot. How stupid of me! That’s not your style of music at all, is it, Jim? You’re more into, like, oldies, huh?

Jim

Yeah, but…wait a second. I also happen to like rock music. And I *love* the Subdigitals!

Jim nonchalantly inspects his nails.

Jim

Those guys are really talented artists, especially my nephew. He’s really great.

The others look at each other.

Odd (excited)

Hey! I was right! You’re Chris’s uncle! I can’t believe it!

Jim

Uh… I didn’t say that, did I?

Odd (excited)

Uh-huh, you sure did, Jim! (to the others) That’s what he said, right?

Jim slumps a little. Yumi, Ulrich and Aelita look more excited.

Jim

Ok, ok, little Chris is my nephew. But…!

Odd (excited)

Wow, now that’s what I call a sensational scoop!

Jim

Counting on you all not to tell anybody! (stern) Especially *you*, Della Robbia. I don’t want this getting around.

Odd puts his fist on his chest.

Odd

I promise not to tell a living soul, Jim.

##### Ext. Cafeteria – Day

Jim runs between the cafeteria buildings, fleeing a crowd of excited students.

Students

JIM! JIM! (…)

Jim (nervous)

Hey! You’ve all got the wrong guy! I don’t know any Chris! I never heard of the guy, you hear? GO AWAY! AWAY, I SAY!

##### Int. Hall – Day

Tamiya snaps photographs, occasionally illuminating Delmas, Jim and Chris with camera flashes. The three adults are up on stage and Delmas is talking at a lectern.

Delmas

My dear Chris, on behalf of the entire staff and student body of Kadic Academy, I would like to wish you a very warm welcome.

The students all start cheering and waving their hands in the air.

Students

CHRIIIS! (…)

Delmas

Chris, all yours.

Delmas steps aside to let Chris up to the lectern. The students keep shouting and squealing. Chris smiles and waves.

Chris

Good morning, everyone. And thank you all for this enthusiasm!

More screaming.

Chris

As I guess all of you know, I came here to visit my uncle!

Chris and Jim exchange a smile.

Chris

But, there’s another reason as well: the Subdigitals have decided to do a school tour to discover a new talent! And to develop that talent by giving you guys the chance to be the opening act at our next concert!

Yumi, Ulrich, Odd and Aelita exchange looks. Jeremie isn’t there. The excited screams get louder again and Chris waves.

Chris

And thanks to the kind authorisation of your principal, we’ve organised an audition for this afternoon in your gymnasium!

More cheers.

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

Odd throws the door open and runs inside, desperate for something. Ulrich and Yumi walk up to the door as Odd starts rummaging through a drawer.

Odd (panicked)

Now where did it go?! I’m positive I put it here!

Ulrich (chiding)

Since when do you actually put *any* of your things away, Odd?

Odd (stressed)

Ha ha ha, very funny!

He stops throwing things out of the drawer and turns to look up at Ulrich.

Odd (stressed)

You know, you guys could give me a hand!

Yumi

If you tell us what you’re looking for, maybe we could help!

Odd (stressed)

My CD demo!

Yumi walks over and looks into the drawer under Odd’s closet, where Kiwi is lying.

Odd (stressed)

(moan) I absolutely *have* to play it for Chris!

Yumi picks up a CD from under Kiwi’s front legs. The cover is pink, the front with a silhouette of Odd’s head filled with purple and yellow in an alternating pattern, and a yellow paw print on the back.

Yumi

Well, you *did* put it away! In Kiwi’s drawer.

Odd takes it from her.

Odd

Let’s see. (excited) Oh, thanks!

Odd pats Kiwi’s head.

Odd (loving)

My adorable little diggity dog!

Yumi looks unimpressed, grunting. Ulrich smiles at her.

Odd

Glory and fame are just around the corner. I hope not too many kids show up…

##### Ext. Gym – Day

There’s a very long queue of students waiting to enter the gym, stretching from the door and up the stairs. They’re all chattering excitedly. Odd, Yumi and Ulrich join the end of the queue. Odd looks upset.

Ulrich

Uh, you were saying?

##### Int. Aelita’s Room – Day

Aelita closes her closet and puts her finger to her chin, thoughtful. After a moment’s thought, she opens an under-bed drawer and takes out a box full of CDs, which she empties onto her bed. Among the various colourful CD cases is one with a blank cover: obviously a rewritable CD. On top of the cover is the label “Aélita Remix.”

Aelita

Ah! There you are!

Aelita laughs happily and kisses the CD. She gets up and walks over to her door, where she meets Jeremie, who has just appeared with a notebook.

Aelita

Jeremie! It’s you!

Jeremie

Y-yeah. I was thinking, Aelita, that since Delmas cancelled classes today, we could make some headway on the program for our new virtual ship!

Aelita looks away.

Aelita (slightly sheepish)

W-well…I’d like to, but…

Jeremie notices the CD in her hand.

Jeremie (upset)

Oh, no. Come on! Don’t tell me you’re gonna waste your time going to that audition? Imagine what XANA might be plotting on the network even while we’re talking! We’ve gotta find a way to travel there, an-and I was counting on you, Aelita!

Aelita (subdued)

Alright.

She pockets the CD.

Aelita (subdued)

I won’t go.

Jeremie smiles.

##### Ext. Gym – Day

Sissi waves her own CD around. Nicolas and Herb are with her, as usual.

Sissi

Chris has *got* to choose my demo! He’s got a good ear for talent…and then I’ll be the greatest DJ star of all time!

Behind her in the line, Odd pouts.

Odd (spiteful)

The biggest DJ of all time, huh? What does DJ stand for, Dumb Jerk?

Sissi (annoyed)

Just cool it, Odd! You’ll eat those words when you see me in a stretch limo.

Odd looks at his own CD with uncertainty.

Yumi

Odd, don’t worry. You’ll see – your mix will blow everyone away.

Yumi and Ulrich exchange a knowing, amused glance.

Ulrich

Yeah, as long as you don’t bust our eardrum.

Odd (annoyed)

Hey, man! With friends like you, who needs enemies?! Thanks for your support, Ulrich!

##### Int. Gym – Day

A mixing table has been set up on the stage, linked up to a sound system. Chris is sitting at a table in front of the stage with a huge stack of CDs next to him. He looks bored while listening to Matthias’s mix. Matthias finally ends the music and takes his headphones off, smiling.

Chris

Thank you, uh…Matthias, is that right?

Matthias

Uh…yeah.

Chris crosses Matthias’s name off his list.

Chris

Next!

Sissi is now on stage.

Sissi

Hello, I’m Sissi Delmas, the daughter of Jean-Pierre Delmas, the school principal!

Nicolas and Herb stand behind Chris, smiling. Chris has an eyebrow arched, unimpressed.

Sissi

(nervous laugh) Er… I’m going to play my best track for you. It’s called, “I’m Headed for the Stars!”

Chris

Ok, Sissi! I hope it really takes off for you!

Sissi picks up a record.

Sissi

You won’t believe your ears, Chris!

She puts the record on the turntable and places the needle on it. Chris pours himself a drink from a glass jug while watching her. Suddenly, a dreadful cacophony of high-pitched singing, metal scraping and occasional snippets of music bursts from the speakers, causing Chris to visibly flinch. The jug and glass both shatter, spilling liquid on the table. Nicolas and Herb clap as the music finally starts to sound non-ear-grating. Chris still holds the handle of the jug in his hand. He holds up his other hand, signalling for the applause to stop.

Chris

Thank you, Sissi.

Sissi growls as she, Nicolas and Herb make their way towards the door. They pass Odd, Ulrich and Yumi on the way.

Odd

Hey, Sissi! Your stretch limo have a flat tyre?

Sissi

Dork!

Once on stage, Odd puts his CD into the mixing board and picks up a record.

Odd

Uh, hello! My name is Odd Della Robbia, and I think I’d better explain that my music is…a little experimental. Actually, uh…well, pretty…different! Well anyway, you’re gonna love it.

Chris raises an eyebrow and hums, intrigued.

##### Int. Jeremie’s Room – Day

Jeremie is on his computer. Aelita is on the bed using Jeremie’s laptop, with pieces of paper around her.

Jeremie

You see, this is where I’m stumped. I still don’t understand the real nature of the transitional interface between Lyoko and the network! Even though I’ve gone over and over the flux, and…

Aelita stares blankly ahead.

Jeremie

Hey, Aelita…? Are you listening?

Aelita looks up.

Aelita

Oh, I’m-I’m sorry. Could you say that again?

Jeremie (disappointed)

(sigh) Never mind.

Jeremie turns back to his computer.

Jeremie

There might be a way! I discovered that we could reconfigure the navigation parameters in relative function to the frequency of the flux…

Jeremie’s voice gradually gets quieter as Aelita zones out again.

##### Int. Gym – Day

Odd ends his mix and removes his headphones.

Odd

And there you go!

Chris’s mouth is hanging open. Ulrich and Yumi don’t look particularly impressed.

Chris

Um…um… Well, um…

Yumi and Ulrich look at each other.

Chris

(short laugh) I…

Odd

Odd! Odd Della Robbia! And what you just heard is just a little taste of what I can do! I swear… I’ve got lots of other tracks, you wanna hear them?

Chris

Some other time, maybe! Thanks a lot, O-Odd.

Taking the hint, Odd loses his enthusiasm and walks down from the stage. He leaves his CD on top of one of the huge stacks next to Chris’s table. The three friends then go to leave the gym, Ulrich’s arm around Odd’s shoulders.

Odd (upset)

I was good, wasn’t I?!

Yumi

Well… You gave it your best shot! That’s the main thing.

Ulrich

One thing’s for sure: you said it was different, and you weren’t lying!

Jim passes them and stops, surprised.

Jim

Huh?

He looks over at Chris before walking up to him. Chris has his head in his hands, upset.

Jim

Well now, kid, have you found a future star?

Jim puts his hand on Chris’s shoulder.

Chris

I’d rather not talk about it, Uncle Jim.

Jim (surprised)

Hm?

##### Int. Jeremie’s Room – Day

Jeremie’s computer gives two short beeps.

Jeremie

What do you mean, “System error?” Ok… Don’t blow your cool, Jeremie! We’ll just shift the polarity of the contact flux and uh…

He turns to Aelita, holding his hand out.

Jeremie

Hand me those figures, huh?

Aelita is still just sitting there, now with her eyes closed.

Jeremie

Are you ok, Aelita?

After another moment, Aelita looks up with a sort of sigh.

Aelita (dazed)

Something wrong?

Jeremie

Eugh… It’s ok, I can finish up on my own. If you wanna go, you can go.

Aelita

Are you…are you sure?

Jeremie

Yeah. I think I know what’s holding us up…

Aelita puts the laptop on the bed.

Aelita (excited)

Ok! I’m off, then!

She runs to the door.

Aelita (excited)

See you later!

Jeremie gives her a flat look as she goes out the door. Once she’s gone, he sighs before turning back to the screen.

##### Ext. Gym – Day

Jim and Chris are standing at the top of the stairs. Chris is now wearing sunglasses, and he still looks down.

Chris

It’s not that simple! It’s all part of this promotional operation. If we don’t bring the record company some new talent, they’ll be down on me like a ton of bricks! They’ve already made us change our name!

Jim

Don’t worry, m’boy! There’s gotta be a youngster around here with a ton of talent!

Aelita runs past in the background. Milly, Tamiya, Veronique and Tristan run up to Chris.

Milly

A few words for the Kadic News, Chris?

Tamiya

Just one or two questions!

Veronique

Can I have an autograph, Chris?

Chris sighs.

##### Int. Gym – Day

Aelita bursts into the gym through the back door. She comes to a stop when she sees that nobody is there.

Aelita (panting)

Oh, no! I’m too late!

She looks up at the DJ equipment on the stage.

##### Ext. Gym – Day

The four kids excitedly hold notebooks up to Chris.

Milly

When’s your next concert?

Tamiya

Are you working on a new album?

Veronique

Sign my notebook. Please?

Aelita’s mix starts playing from inside the gym.

Jim

Calm down. He can’t answer your questions if you all talk at once. Now let’s try it one at a time!

Chris looks up, surprised, as he notices the music.

Milly

Me first!

Chris holds his hands up.

Chris

Hold on!

Tamiya

No, me!

Chris

Quiet down! That’s fantastic, it’s what I’ve been looking for all day today!

##### Forest Sector, Lyoko

A tower is activated.

##### Int. Gym – Day

Chris walks into the gym, removing his sunglasses.

Chris

Hey! I uh…

There’s a screech from the speakers and the sound of the back door closing. Chris looks around, but there’s nobody there.

Chris

Oh, no. I’m too late!

He puts his sunglasses back on and heads back for the door. Purple electricity bursts from the turntable as a spectre seeps out and onto the floor.

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

The gang minus Jeremie are hanging around outside the door. Ulrich and Yumi have cans of drink. Aelita is sitting curled up by the door, eyes closed.

Odd

And you figure that compared to the rest of the candidates, I’ve got a pretty good chance of getting picked? (excited) Just thinking about being the opening act for the Subdigitals gives me the chills!

Ulrich and Yumi look at each other and hum.

Ulrich

Odd, er…it’s not in the bag just yet.

Milly and Tamiya walk up to them.

Milly

You guys want a scoop?!

Tamiya

Chris finally found the opening act he was looking for.

Odd (excited)

I knew it! Fame, fortune and glory are all mine now!

Milly

Forget about it. No one knows who it is. Not even Chris!

Odd, Milly and Tamiya all look disappointed.

Odd

What? But…how can that be? I didn’t stop repeating my name!

Tamiya

No, it happened *after* the auditions. All he did was hear the music. He didn’t see the DJ.

Aelita looks up in surprise.

Aelita

Huh?

Odd (heartbroken)

I don’t believe it!

Milly

He went to see the principal to see if he could find the Cinderella!

A huge smile on her face, Aelita runs off.

Milly

Whoever he or she is!

The others all watch Aelita go, surprised.

Milly

Huh? What’s the matter with her?

Odd

Huh! Well when you gotta go, you gotta go, I guess.

##### Int. Jeremie’s Room – Day

The Superscan opens on the screen.

Jeremie

Oh, no! A XANA attack!

He phones Ulrich.

Ulrich

Yeah, Jeremie?

Jeremie

The Superscan has just picked up an activated tower. We’ve got to get to the factory fast.

Ulrich

Ok, but Aelita took off and no one knows where she went!

Jeremie

Wait for me under the arches. I’ll stop by her room first. See you in a few minutes!

##### Ext. Admin Building – Day

Aelita runs into the undercover walkway. Chris is standing there, leaning against the wall.

Aelita (breathless)

Oh! Chris!

Aelita walks up to him, taking the CD out of her pocket.

Aelita (breathless)

I was looking for you! I wanted to give you this.

Aelita holds the CD out to him. Chris grabs her wrist, shocking her into dropping the CD. She cries out and struggles, but can’t break free. Chris’s sunglasses flash red and the eye of XANA appears in the lenses. Aelita screams as electricity flows from the man’s hand and into her arm. She collapses.

##### Ext. Admin Building – Day

Milly and Tamiya are walking along the path. They come across XANA-Chris, walking in the other direction carrying the unconscious Aelita over his shoulder.

Milly

Chris! I’ll bet you found out who the mystery DJ is! It’s (shocked stutter)…

Tamiya

Huh?!

Both girls stop, shocked. Milly gasps and cowers behind Tamiya as XANA-Chris walks past them.

##### Ext. Aches – Day

Ulrich, Odd and Yumi are together, waiting. Yumi has her phone to her ear.

Aelita (voicemail)

Hi! Leave me a message!

Yumi hangs up.

Yumi

She’s not picking up!

Jeremie

She’s not in her room, either!

Jeremie walks up to them.

Jeremie

We were working together, but she wasn’t concentrating. She was more interested in showing her demo to Chris at the audition.

Ulrich

Oh, now I understand why she took off like a rocket.

Odd

Do you think Aelita’s the mystery DJ?

Ulrich

Kinda looks like it.

Jeremie

You mind filling me in?

Yumi

Don’t worry, we’ll tell you on the way. You two go and find her. She must have gone to the principal’s office to see Chris. Meet us at the factory!

Odd and Ulrich nod.

Odd and Ulrich

Mhm!

##### Int. Sewers – Day

XANA-Chris walks through the sewers with Aelita over his shoulder.

##### Ext. Cafeteria – Day

Yumi and Jeremie run past the cafeteria. Milly and Tamiya are sitting on the steps, staring blankly in shock. Yumi and Jeremie notice them when they run past and they stop running.

Jeremie

Huh?

Yumi

Hm? You look like you’re in shock! Did Sissi say something intelligent for once?

Tamiya

Chris just kidnapped Aelita!

Jeremie

What?!

Yumi and Jeremie walk over to the two girls. Milly gets up.

Milly

Yeah. We saw him pass by with Aelita on his shoulder. He was totally weird, like the mad killer in Executioner 2…

Tamiya stands up as well.

Tamiya

Shouldn’t we call the police?

Yumi

Uh, I wouldn’t do that. That was just for the…the…video! (nervous laugh) I mean, the new Subdigitals video. They’re doing this science fiction thing with robots invading the school.

Jeremie

Right. We’ve gotta go now, we’ve got parts in the…next scene they’re shooting.

Yumi and Jeremie run off. Milly and Tamiya watch them with open mouths.

##### Ext. Admin Building – Day

Ulrich and Odd run into the undercover walkway. Ulrich answers his phone.

Ulrich (breathless)

Yes, Jeremie. …Huh? Chris?! …Ok.

Odd stops, spotting something on the ground.

Odd

Huh? Hey, look!

He picks up Aelita’s CD, still lying on the ground where she dropped it. Ulrich looks through the window into the admin building.

Odd

This has to be Aelita’s demo!

Ulrich sees Chris and Jim through the window.

Ulrich

Odd, look! Chris and Jim!

Odd

Outside?

Odd joins Ulrich, looking through the window.

Ulrich

She walked right into the lion’s den.

Odd

Aelita isn’t there. Chris must have locked her up somewhere!

Ulrich

That’s weird… He doesn’t *look* xanafied, does he?

Odd smiles at Ulrich.

Odd

Only one way to find out.

##### Int. Admin Building – Day

Jim puts his hand on Chris’s shoulder.

Jim

Look, kid, there’s nothing to worry about. We’re gonna find your DJ.

Odd and Ulrich enter the room, making both adults look up. Odd holds the CD up as he approaches.

Odd (acting helpful)

Chris! Check out this CD! It’s just what you’re looking for!

Jim

Hey! Stern! Della Robbia! Cut that out!

Ulrich joins them just as Odd reaches Chris.

Ulrich

I-it’s important! Look, we’ve got the demo Chris has been looking for.

Chris puts his sunglasses on his head to frown at the CD before taking hold of it. He tries to take it, but Odd hangs onto it.

Chris

Hm?

Chris pulls, drawing Odd closer to him. Odd looks into Chris’s eyes, and they’re perfectly normal.

Chris

What’s wrong? You want an autograph or what?

Odd lets go of the CD.

Odd

Uh…sorry, Chris, but I uh…!

Jim

Beat it, you two! Scram!

Odd and Ulrich walk away.

Jim

And I suggest you watch your step, I got my eye on you! We’ll discuss this later!

##### Ext. Admin Building – Day

Odd and Ulrich walk down the stairs and stop at the bottom.

Odd

I just don’t get it. If he didn’t kidnap Aelita, then it must have been…

Odd and Ulrich

…a polymorphic spectre!

They look at each other.

##### Int. Scanner Room – Day

Chris-clone carries Aelita into the room and places her in a scanner. It then reverts to spectre form and then flies up into the ceiling. The scanner closes.

##### Int. Lab – Day

The virtualisation procedure is launched. Jeremie and Yumi arrive in the lift and run over to the terminal.

Jeremie

Huh? But what’s going on? Aelita…!

Jeremie types something in, but the virtualisation completes.

Jeremie

Too late…!

##### Forest Sector, Lyoko

Aelita is virtualised, still unconscious. She lands flat on her back and lies there for a moment before finally opening her eyes. She blinks and slowly stands up.

Aelita (groggy)

What am I doing here?

Right in front of her, XANA-William and two Krabs approach at running speed.

##### Ext. Park – Day

Ulrich’s phone rings while he and Odd run through the park.

Ulrich (breathless)

Yeah, Jeremie. I’m listening.

##### Int. Lab – Day

Jeremie

You can stop looking for Aelita. She’s on Lyoko.

##### Ext. Park – Day

Ulrich

We know. There’s a polymorphic spectre on the loose.

Ulrich and Odd reach the manhole.

Ulrich

Ok. We’re on our way, we’re at the secret passage.

Ulrich hangs up and crouches down to lift the manhole cover.

Jim

(triumphant laugh)

The two boys look up in surprise. Jim and Chris walk up to them.

Jim

You guys are as easy to track down as caribou in the Great North. Stay where you are! We have a few questions to ask you.

Ulrich stands up.

Ulrich

Er, sorry, Jim, but we don’t have time. We have to…

Chris

Well we happen to be in a hurry, too.

He shows Aelita’s CD to Odd.

Chris

Are you the one who put this together?

Odd

Well, yeah…uh, no, uh, f…it’s a friend of mine. Aelita!

Chris

What’s her…last name?

Ulrich (impatient)

What’s the difference? She’s in danger, and that’s why we’re in such a big hurry!

Jim and Chris exchange a look.

Chris

What do you mean, “in danger?” What’s this all about?

Jim (strict)

Take us to her immediately! Unless you’d rather settle this in the principal’s office!

Ulrich and Odd exchange an uneasy look.

Ulrich

Ok then, come with us! But let me warn you about two things: try to avoid asking any questions, and get ready for a workout.

Jim

Works for me, Stern! There’s no work that I like better than working out.

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

Yumi is in a scanner.

Yumi

Jeremie, I’m ready.

Jeremie

Ok, here we go.

The scanner closes.

Jeremie

Scanner, Yumi. Transfer, Yumi. Virtualisation!

##### Forest Sector, Lyoko

Aelita backs away from the oncoming enemies. The Krabs stop and XANA-William slows to a walk. Aelita forms an energy field in her hand.

Aelita

Energy field.

She throws it at XANA-William, who slashes it with his sword. XANA-William forms smoke in his hand and throws it at Aelita. She holds her arms up to shield herself, but the smoke starts wrapping around her body. XANA-William smirks before looking up as though he’s heard something.

XANA-William

Huh?

Yumi’s fans fly towards XANA-William. He dodges the first and slashes at the second, then turns around to find Yumi walking up not far behind the two Krabs. The Krabs turn around as well. Yumi catches her fans.

Yumi

You may be possessed by XANA, but you’re still a rookie on Lyoko, William.

XANA-William

Attack!

The Krabs start firing at Yumi. She cartwheels to the side and does spins on the spot to dodge the lasers. Aelita takes advantage of the distraction to run away along one of the paths. XANA-William turns and notices her escaping.

XANA-William

Follow her.

The Krabs take the path Aelita took, leaving XANA-William and Yumi alone.

Yumi

Hey, William!

She takes out her fans, starts running, and throws each fan one at a time. XANA-William blocks the fans with his sword, but Yumi gets right in front of him and kicks him in the torso, sending him flying backwards. He flips in mid-air and lands in a crouch, sliding backwards a little and kicking up dust. He immediately runs back towards Yumi and slashes at her. She jumps straight up and lands on his back. She then jumps off, pushing him forwards onto the ground.

Yumi

Jeremie! Where are Odd and Ulrich? We’re going to need some backup over here.

##### Int. Lab – Day

Jeremie

They’re on their way. Meanwhile, try to get to the activated tower.

Purple electricity starts flying from the cables in the corner behind Jeremie.

Jeremie

It’s bearing south of your position.

A spectre exits the cables.

Jeremie

I’ll bring you up a vehicle.

The spectre takes Chris’s form.

##### Ext. Bridge – Day

Odd and Ulrich lead Jim and Chris across the bridge at a run.

##### Forest Sector, Lyoko

Yumi backflips away from XANA-William’s two attacks, which both hit the ground, damaging the surface. Once at a safer distance, Yumi throws her fans again, but William blocks them both and runs towards her. Yumi jumps up and catches her weapons.

##### Forest Sector, Lyoko

The Krabs start firing at Aelita. She zigzags while she runs. She soon reaches the end of the path. The only way forward is to jump across a gap of several metres to the next pathway. With the Krabs still approaching, Aelita backs up a few paces for a running start and jumps for the next platform. She barely makes it: one foot slips, but she keeps her balance. She turns to face the Krabs, which are looking at the gap with uncertainty, one of them shuffling around as though it’s looking for the best spot to jump from.

Aelita (mocking)

What’s wrong, ladies? Having a bad leg day?

A laser flies past Aelita, shot from behind. She turns around to find a third Krab walking up behind her. She turns and runs down the path, covering her head as the monster shoots at her. It gives chase.

##### Int. Lab – Day

While Jeremie is concentrating on the computer, Chris-clone’s hands suddenly reach out and grab him by the shirt, tossing him onto the floor. Chris-clone approaches him again.

##### Forest Sector, Lyoko

XANA-William chases after Yumi. He’s no longer carrying his sword.

Yumi (breathless)

Jeremie! Where’s that vehicle, huh?

Yumi stops and turns to face XANA-William.

Yumi

The old William was hard to get rid of, but this one is a lot worse!

Yumi takes out her fans. The shot makes it obvious that she now summons her fans from her wrists directly into her hands, instead of stashing them in her obi. She throws her fans and activates her telekinesis, making her upper body glow white. When the fans reach XANA-William he swipes at them with his sword, but they suddenly curve upwards. The fans then fly back around and hit William in the back, knocking him to the ground.

##### Int. Lab – Day

The lift door opens. Jeremie’s screaming is heard. Suddenly, he falls to the floor in front of the lift’s occupants, surprising them. Ulrich and Odd run to Jeremie’s side.

Ulrich

Jeremie!

Jim

What is this place, a mad scientist’s hideout?

They look up and see Chris-clone standing there.

Chris

Who’s that guy over there? A stunt double or a clone?

Ulrich

A polymorphic spectre!

Chris walks forward.

Chris

Yeah, well spectre or not, he’s not getting *my* autograph.

When Chris gets close enough, the clone grabs him by the shirt and tosses him to the floor. Jim goes up to the clone.

Jim

Hey! Hands off my nephew, pal!

Jim puts one arm around the clone’s neck while holding its arm behind its back with the other, restraining it. The clone starts flickering and reverts to spectre form.

Jim

Now you’ll see what it’s like to mess with an old Special Forces agent!

While he talks, the spectre easily winds its way out of Jim’s grip and goes between his legs. With nothing there to hold anymore, Jim ends up on his knees, looking surprised. The spectre takes Chris’s form again behind Jim while the man looks around in confusion.

Jim

Huh?! Wha?

Odd (scared)

Hey… We really need you, Einstein, so wake up!

Jeremie starts to sit up and holds his head. Jim gets thrown into the wall next to the lift.

Jeremie (shaken)

Get to…get to the scanner room! Aelita, she’s in trouble. Hurry up!

Chris-clone approaches the three boys menacingly. Suddenly, its image warps and reverts to spectre form as Chris whacks it in the side of the head. The spectre forms a cloud-like shape on the floor and shudders. Odd stands up.

Chris

Hey, what’s going on around here?

Ulrich stands up.

Ulrich

I told you not to ask any questions!

##### Forest Sector, Lyoko

Aelita runs away from the Krab. She suddenly stops.

Aelita

Oh…

Another Krab is approaching from in front of her. She waves her hand over her bracelet and summons her wings, smiling. She flies over the second Krab, zigzagging. The first monster stops and tracks her with its aim before opening fire. Eventually Aelita is hit in the lower back and falls to the ground, wings disappearing. She lands right on the edge of the platform and bounces off it, managing to catch herself on the edge (not by her hands, but her arms). She looks up, looking at a loss.

Aelita (small voice)

Jeremie?

##### Int. Scanner Room – Day

Odd and Ulrich run into the scanners.

Ulrich

All set, Jeremie.

The scanners close.

Jeremie

Ok. First let me program an Overwing.

##### Int. Lab – Day

Jeremie programs the Overwing.

##### Forest Sector, Lyoko

Aelita scrabbles for purchase on the smooth platform, but she ends up slipping. She screams as she falls. She lands on the Overwing just as it finishes appearing underneath her.

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

Jeremie

Transfer, Ulrich. Transfer, Odd.

##### Forest Sector, Lyoko

Aelita stands up on the Overwing.

Aelita (shaken)

Thanks, Jeremie. That was a close one.

Jeremie

Move out, Aelita! Hurry up!

Aelita

Alright.

She flies the Overwing back up over the platform, going straight over the two Krabs and away.

Jeremie

Virtualisation!

The Krabs’ attention is drawn when Ulrich virtualises in front of them. He lands right in front of a Krab. Odd then lands on top of the Krab.

Odd

Hey there, you little Krab cakes! Did you miss us?

He aims and shoots a few arrows into the monster’s eye.

Odd

Hee-yeah!

Odd jumps off just before the monster explodes.

Odd

YEEEAH!

He lands in a roll and then does a handstand, allowing Ulrich to trampoline off his feet and flip up onto the second Krab. He draws one sabre and stabs the monster’s eye.

Ulrich

Impact!

He lands on the ground and sheathes his katana as the monster explodes. He doesn’t even flinch at the explosion.

Ulrich

You can have the last one. Supersprint!

Ulrich Supersprints away. Odd squares off against the final Krab as it approaches him.

Odd

Great! I love having seconds!

##### Int. Lab – Day

Chris-clone reforms behind Chris, catching his attention. Jim comes to his senses on the floor.

Jim

I’ll get rid of that impostor now! No one does that to me and gets away with it.

Jim gets up and runs towards Chris and Chris-clone.

Chris

Huh?

Jim

Geronimooo!

Growling, Jim tackles Chris.

Chris

No! Uncle Jim!

Jim tackles Chris to the ground, knocking him unconscious. Jim looks from him to Chris-clone in surprise. Chris-clone approaches and flickers. It takes spectre form briefly before taking on Jim’s image.

##### Forest Sector, Lyoko

Yumi backflips away from XANA-William’s many attacks. Again, they all strike the ground. Yumi stops and takes out her fans. She throws them and XANA-William blocks. Right behind Yumi, the path leads to a platform with a lake, a small island and several log bridges over the water. Yumi catches her fans and runs onto the platform, avoiding another sword attack. She flips up onto a log and flips across it. Right before she reaches the end, XANA-William throws a burst of smoke at her, knocking her down. XANA-William walks up and slashes Yumi, devirtualising her. He then looks up suddenly.

XANA-William

Huh?

Through some sort of black-and-red vision power, XANA-William sees that Aelita is approaching the tower on the Overwing, far away from his current location. He turns around to find Ulrich Supersprinting up to him. Ulrich stops on the other side of the log.

Ulrich

If you’re trying to get a date with Yumi, I’m not so sure that’s the right way!

##### Int. Scanner Room – Day

Yumi exits the scanner, growls and balls her fist.

##### Forest Sector, Lyoko

After a dramatic pause, Ulrich unsheathes his weapons and runs at XANA-William.

##### Int. Lab – Day

Chris wakes up. Jim steps around his clone, fists up.

Jim

You don’t have to be a maths genius to know that there’s one too many Jims here!

Chris finds a metal bar right next to his head and picks it up.

Jim

Reminds me of the time I fought against Hurricane Windstorm in Vegas, back in ‘94.

Chris stands up and swings the bar at the clone’s head.

Jim

In the third round, I just wha-

The clone ducks to avoid Chris’s attack and the bar hits Jim in the face instead. He falls to the floor. The clone stands to face Chris.

Chris

Uh? Oh… I’m sorry, I uh…

He looks up at the clone in fear.

Jeremie

How are you guys doing?

Jim-clone backs Chris into a wall.

Jeremie

W-we’ve got our hands full here and if this keeps up, the Subdigitals are gonna need a new drummer!

##### Forest Sector, Lyoko

Odd runs away from the Krab on all fours, under fire.

Odd (breathless)

We’re doing our best, Einstein!

Odd runs up a tree. The Krab stops at the foot of the tree to shoot up at him.

Odd (breathless)

Ok! Let’s get down to business!

He backflips off the tree and aims down at the Krab.

Odd

Laser arrow!

He shoots three arrows into the monster’s eye. He lands nearby just as it explodes and briefly glances back before taking off at a run.

##### Forest Sector, Lyoko

Ulrich dodges and blocks XANA-William’s attacks. He swipes at XANA-William’s chest but misses. XANA-William jumps up and points his sword straight down in another attack, but Ulrich evades it in time. The blade becomes embedded in the log. XANA-William tries to free it, but it’s stuck. Ulrich Supersprints over to attack and XANA-William uses Supersmoke to avoid it. Ulrich continues for a few paces due to his momentum, walking over his enemy. XANA-William reappears behind Ulrich and kicks him, making him fall on his face and slide along the log until he falls off the end of it.

Ulrich sits with his back against the log and shakes himself off. Suddenly aware of something, he brings both his katana up in front of his face to block William’s sword as it comes down on him. Blue sparks fly. Ulrich finally kicks the sword away and gets up onto his feet away from the log.

XANA-William

Manta!

Ulrich

Huh?

The Black Manta flies up from underneath the platform. XANA-William jumps down from the log and the Manta flies up behind Ulrich, putting an enemy either side of him. XANA-William advances and Ulrich backs away. The Manta shoots a laser as Ulrich blocks XANA-William’s sword. The laser hits the ground, but Ulrich is wary of the threat. Suddenly, the Manta is destroyed. Odd flies in on the Overboard.

Odd

Surpriiiise!

XANA-William

Uh?

Ulrich takes advantage of the distraction to jump away. He slowly stands upright, seemingly fatigued from the fight.

##### Forest Sector, Lyoko

Aelita flies the Overwing down to the ground and runs inside the tower.

##### Int. Lab – Day

Jim-clone picks Chris up by the neck with an electrically-charged hand.

##### Tower, Forest Sector, Lyoko

Aelita enters the code.

Aelita

Tower…deactivated.

##### Int. Lab – Day

The clone suddenly releases Chris and he falls to the floor, clutching his neck. The clone flickers and Jim’s image disappears in a burst of pixels. The spectre flies up towards the ceiling. Jim sits up, holding the back of his neck.

Jeremie

Huh?

Jim

Huh?

Jim looks at Chris, who’s sitting in a pretty similar position to him, holding his sore neck. Chris shows his teeth and laughs nervously.

##### Forest Sector, Lyoko

XANA-William looks in the direction of the tower.

XANA-William

Uh?

He relaxes out of his fighting pose. Ulrich follows suit, but still keeps his blades held up.

Ulrich

Don’t worry, William. I’ll fight you every step of the way!

XANA-William

Supersmoke!

XANA-William enters smoke form and darts across the platform and off the edge.

##### Int. Lab – Day

Jim and Chris walk over to Jeremie.

Jim (angry)

Belpois, I want an explanation right now. What is going on? And what in the world is all this equipment for?!

Jeremie

I would, but…I’m getting tired of explaining it to you, Jim, ‘cause in ten seconds, you won’t remember any of it anyway!

Chris

Not so fast. First, tell me who Aelita is!

Chris holds up the CD, looking a little desperate.

Jeremie

Hm. Return to the past now.

Jeremie casually hits enter, launching the return to the past.

##### Ext. Gym – Day

Odd, Yumi and Ulrich are back in line for the auditions, behind Sissi, Nicolas and Herb.

Odd

I finally figured out what was wrong with my demo. I didn’t push the second break with a series of scratches!

He does some record scratching motions.

Odd

You’ll see. I’ll do a lot better next time.

##### Int. Jeremie’s Room – Day

Jeremie and Aelita are back where they were before, with Aelita on the bed with Jeremie’s laptop.

Jeremie

Well I guess in the end, XANA’s attack ended up giving us another free afternoon to work on our virtual ship! Huh, Aelita?

Aelita nods.

Aelita

Mhm.

There’s a knock at the door.

Jeremie

Come in!

Chris opens the door.

Chris

Excuse me, I’m looking for Aelita…Stones?

Aelita smiles and raises her hand.

Aelita

Uh…that’s me, but uh…

Chris (excited)

I’m really glad to meet you, Aelita.

He holds up Aelita’s demo CD.

Chris (excited)

I heard your demo and I think it’s really great! Can we go over to the gym? I’d love to hear it live!

Aelita

I’d like to…but I’m not sure I can.

She looks at Jeremie.

Jeremie

Go on! It’s an offer you can’t refuse!

Aelita puts the laptop down.

Aelita (excited)

Ok then, let’s go!

She runs over to the door. Jeremie watches her with a smile.

Aelita

By the way, how did you get a hold of my demo?

She closes the door behind them.

Chris (off)

Oh! One of your friends gave it to me!

Still smiling, Jeremie turns back to the computer.