

EXT - 810

SERAH and MIA arrive at 810. They stand outside.

SERAH

Finally. I'm starving.

MIA.

You are *not* starving.

SERAH

Mia, it's called hyper bowl.

MIA

Hnnngg... hyper bowl... That sounds so good... Can you get in there already?

SERAH

It's my turn to choose tonight?

MIA

Yeah...!? Your memory really does suck. Get the hyper bowl if they've got it!

SERAH

Hyper bowl isn't a food Mia, it's a turn of-

MIA

GETMEAHYPERBOWL!

SERAH

OK! Relax...

INT - 810

SERAH enters 810. She circles the kiosk and surveys what's in stock.

SERAH

Enriched Shroomcubes and Mixed Seeds. /Tastes like home!/

SERAH

Uh... my room does *not* taste like shroomcubes...

- DIALOGUE BREAK -

SERAH looks elsewhere.

- DIALOGUE BREAK END -

SERAH
Fortified Fish Cooked In Fish Oil... /Absolutely de-fish-us!/

SERAH
Huh... I wonder if they cook the shroomcubes in shroomcube oil...

SERAH
Or the seeds in- Nah. That's ridiculous.

- DIALOGUE BREAK -

SERAH looks elsewhere.

- DIALOGUE BREAK END -

SERAH
Borscht. *Soup*.

SERAH
Whoa. The color... Mia's favorite...

- DIALOGUE BREAK -

SERAH places herself in front of the kiosk.

- DIALOGUE BREAK END -

SERAH
What to choose. What to choose...

SERAH		
Shroomcubes and Mixed Seeds set has_shroomcubes	Fish Cooked In Fish Oil set has_fishfish	Borscht set has_borscht

SERAH
Yes... excellent choice, Serah...

EXT - 810
MIA stands patiently outside 810.

MIA
Hnnngg... Hyper bowl...

??? approaches, slowly, from off-screen.

MIA

Hey! Get outta here! Can't you see we're done for the day?

??? continues its approach.

...Seriously? Aren't you guys meant to-

???

HI. MIA.

MIA

...At least you remembered my name... SCRAM!

???

NO. PLEASE. LISTEN.

MIA

...Wha-? I've /reached my quota/ today, idiot. You're meant to leave when I say-

???

NO. I AM DIFFERENT TO THE OTHER DERIVATIVES. I WAS DECOMMISSIONED.

MIA

I don't know what either of those words mean- SERAH! CAN YOU GET OUT HERE?

???

DO NOT BE AFRAID, MIA.

???

I HAVE SOMETHING YOU WANT. YOU HAVE SOMETHING I WANT.

MIA

How do you know my name? What do you mean I have something...

MIA

If you're going to play a game with me, can you not be all weird about it?

???

KNOWLEDGE.

MIA

What?

???

I HAVE KNOWLEDGE. YOU HAVE KNOWLEDGE. LET US SHARE.

MIA
...Uh... I don't have any of that... You sure you aren't looking
for Serah? She's got way more-

???
YOU HAVE A HOME!

MIA
...Yeah?

???
IT IS KNOWN AS EARTH.

MIA
...

???
A FAMILY.

MIA
Serah is my fami-

???
MORE.

MIA
More?

???
PARENTS.
/BROTHERS.
/SISTERS.

MIA
...Like... in the books?

???
NO DERIVATIVES.

MIA
I still don't know what that means.

???
NO DERIVATIVES. NO DATASCRAPING. FREEDOM.

MIA
I'm- I'm confused...

???

ESCAPE THIS CAVE.

MIA

Can you stop being so weird?

???

THERE IS A LIFE YOU WERE MEANT TO HAVE.

MIA

...

???

YOU CAN HAVE IT.

MIA

...I...I'm confused.

???

REAL LIFE. THERE IS MORE THAN THIS.

MIA

That... that doesn't-

???

PLAY WITH ME.

MIA

... You're one weird companion. I /knew/ you just wanted to play.

MIA

...Get it over with then.

???

NO. YOU PLAY ME.

MIA

...?

MIA

Why can't you...?

???

JUST DO IT.

???

IT'S THE ONLY WAY.

???

I CAN GIVE YOU SOMETHING.

MIA

...Uh. Ew. No.

???

WHAT IS THERE TO LOSE?

MIA

...Well... it /sucks/ and /hurts/ to lose...

???

YOU WILL NOT LOSE.

???

I WAS DECOMMISSIONED BECAUSE OF MY LOW η VALUE.

???

I HAVE NEVER WON. I WILL NEVER WIN.

MIA

What the frog is an η value?

???

YOU WOULD NOT UNDERSTAND.

???

YOU PLAY ME.

MIA

I said, I don't-

???

IF YOU LOSE, YOU ARE SCRAPED. SUCH AS YOU ARE MOST DAYS.

???

IF YOU WIN, YOU MIGHT YET LIVE A LIFE UNIMAGINABLE TO YOUR LIMITED MIND.

???

PLAY WITH ME.

MIA

...Okay... harsh... but convincing.

MIA

Fine.

- DIALOGUE BREAK -

MIA approaches ???.

- DIALOGUE BREAK END -

MIA
Not quite sure how this works.

MIA
Do I...?- Oh!

MIA initiates a minigame.

MIA wins the minigame.

MIA
So... what now?

MIA
Can't exactly... uh... datascape? Can't exactly datascape you,
can I?

???
YOU HAVE SOMETHING NEW. SIGKILL.

MIA
What? How did you give me... what is it?

???
WE HAVE RULES OF EXCHANGE THAT WE MUST OBEY. OFTEN, WE HAVE MUCH TO
TAKE. RARELY, DO WE HAVE ANYTHING TO GIVE. BUT, I DID.

???
WITH IT, YOU CAN TERMINATE ANY DERIVATIVE.

MIA
Like... kill them?

MIA
Sweet. That's actually... really awesome. Thanks.

???
DERIVATIVES CANNOT BE KILLED.

???
DERIVATIVES DO NOT POSSESS WHAT IS NECESSARY TO BE KILLED.

???

YOU MUST FIND GEMINI'S SOURCE, AND TERMINATE IT.

MIA

...Am I not going to get in trouble or something?

???

THERE IS NOTHING WORSE THAN THE LIFE YOU ALREADY LIVE.

???

PUNISHMENT EXISTS ONLY IN THE ABSENCE OF SUFFERING.

MIA

...

MIA

I wish you'd speak normally.

???

ME TOO.

???

... I WILL KNOW WHEN GEMINI'S SOURCE IS TERMINATED. I WILL MEET YOU
AT GEMINI'S STATION.

MIA

Can you not... explain this a bit more?

???

NO.

MIA

Nice, thanks, super helpful.

???

YOU WOULD NOT COMPREHEND.

MIA

See, like, why didn't you say 'understand'?

???

...YOU WOULD NOT UNDERSTAND.

SERAH

Ooooooh, Mia!!!

The doors to 810 slide open.

???

...I MUST GO.

??? begins to leave.

MIA

Hold up! What's your- uh- name? What do I call you?

???

WE DO NOT HAVE NAMES.

???

BUT THEY CALL ME...

???

DAEMON.

DAEMON leaves.

MIA

...Isn't that what a name is...?

MIA

And who's... 'they'...?

SERAH exits 810 and walks up to MIA. MIA stares down the corridor that DAEMON left.

SERAH

if has_shroomcubes So... no hyper bowls, but I did get shroomcubes! I think these were pretty good last time. I feel like knights would eat it. Not sure why. MIA ... /Huh? Oh... yeah. Knights are definitely mushroom guys.	if has_fishfish So... no hyper bowls, but I did get us fish! Did you know you can oil a fish? How weird is that? MIA ... /Huh? Oh... yeah. That is really weird. Maybe there's like, volunteer oil. SERAH ... /...What.	if has_borscht So... no hyper bowls, but I did get us borscht. It kind of matches your outfit, Mia. I wonder if there's soup that's the colour of my clothes... dorscht... jorscht... vorscht... MIA ... /Huh? Oh... yeah. It does kind of match my outfit...
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	MIA ...Uh, I don't know.	
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SERAH
...!
You feeling okay?

MIA
Uh... yeah...

MIA
Just hungry. Let's go back to my room.

SERAH.
Suuuuuuure.

- PLAYER CONTROL RESTORED TO MIA -

END.