

THE IGNITION POINT.
NOW.

YOU WERE NEVER SUPPOSED TO BRING HIM HERE, RYAN!

YOU'VE DOOMED US ALL!

DOOMED?! BUT--BUT DR. AULT WAS HELPING YOU!

 FROM THE NANOJOURNAL OF PROFESSOR RAYMOND PALMER, PH.D.:

I ALWAYS LIKED SOLVING PROBLEMS. PROBABLY TOO MUCH.



IVYTOWN.
YEARS BEFORE.

SOLVING OTHER PEOPLE'S
PROBLEMS WAS MY PROBLEM.

MY WIFE, JEAN, SAID I WAS MARRIED
TO MY WORK. THAT WE DESERVED
EACH OTHER. SO SHE LEFT US TO IT.

AND FOR A WHILE,
THE WORK WAS
ALL I HAD.

YOU
MOUTH THE
ANSWERS EVERY
TIME, MR. CHOI. YOU
KNOW THIS
STUFF.

IF YOU
EVER WANT TO
TALK, MY OFFICE
HOURS ARE
OPEN.

MONTHS BEFORE.

FINALLY I
SHARED IT.

I'VE GOT
TO SAY, I WOULDN'T
HAVE CRACKED THIS
PROJECT WITHOUT
YOU, RYAN.

WEEKS BEFORE.

UNTIL I DISCOVERED
SOMETHING TOO
DANGEROUS FOR
ANYONE BUT ME.

A WORLD BENEATH OURS.
A NEW FRONTIER...



AND IT WAS IN TROUBLE.

⚡
FZZT?--THIS MESSAGE IS CODED FOR ALL KNOWN AUDIO AND VISUAL, AS WELL AS THEORETICAL OLFACATORY TRANSLATIONS--
FZZT?

YOUR WORLD... WHAT I CAN ONLY CALL THE MICROVERSE, IS THREATENED BY A DISRUPTION IN ITS TEMPORAL NANOSTRUCTURE. I NEED TO STUDY IT. I NEED MORE DATA.

FZZT?-- IF ANYONE'S LISTENING DOWN THERE, MY NAME IS PROFESSOR RAY PALMER...THE ATOM.



...AND I WANT TO HELP--
FZZT?

<ANOTHER WORLD...ONE BEYOND THE IMMENSITY...>

<INCREDIBLE.>*

*TRANSLATED FROM UNIVERSAL UNIFIED. --BRIAN

THE MICROVERSE.



<AND ANOTHER WORLD DOOMED...>



WHAT?

¿FZZT¿--
NAME IS...DR.
ARON AUT--
¿FZZT¿



¿FZZT¿--
RECEIVED..MESSAGE--
¿FZZT¿

I DON'T BELIEVE IT. IT'S REALLY DOWN THERE.

AUT WAS A SCIENTIST NATIVE TO THE MICROVERSE. THE ONLY ONE TO DECODE MY MESSAGE.



WE SHARED OUR FINDINGS ON THE MICROVERSE'S DAMAGE, PASSED OVER A SUBATOMIC FILAMENT.

IT SOON BECAME APPARENT THE PROBLEM REQUIRED ON-SITE RESEARCH.

THERE WAS NO GUARANTEE OF SAFETY, RYAN HAD FRIENDS. A FAMILY, A LIFE OF SUCCESS AHEAD OF HIM.



HE COULDN'T AFFORD TO BE LOST IN THE UNKNOWN. BUT I COULD.

VMM

VMM

VMM

SO I TUNED IN TO AUT'S COORDINATES...

...AND I TOOK THE **SMALLEST LEAP** IN HISTORY.

