

**ZERO FICTION**  
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**Act 2 Scene 4**

A miscalculation by Nick lead to the newly made platform shatter to pieces. Luckily enough, Judy was able to increase Nick's reaction time, allowing Nick to jump back across to the previous ledge and pull Judy up in time. The used to be platform fell into the seemingly endless abyss.

Nick let go of Judy's hand and sighed, "Looks like thirty seconds is still the max amount of time I can do."

Breathing hard from the near-death experience, Judy replied, "I told you not to overestimate! I would prefer 'not' to die currently."

"But if it worked, we would have made it already."

The crystal seemed to taunt them, floating in the distance. The only reason it could float was because of the container holding it. They had made no progress in the experiments, and the crystal was still one kilometre off.

Nick waved his hand, the property display magically appearing in front of him. Looking at the numbers scrolling across the floating screen, he moved his hand downward near the screen, opening the keyboard. Nick began typing away at it.

Somewhat bored of Nick continuously trying new things, Judy checked her cellphone. No messages still.

"Judy, can you go check on Richard to see how he's currently doing?" Nick asked, eyes still fixed on the screen, the code scrolling across at a constant rate.

Without responding directly, he chose Richard from her contacts and started the call.

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CELLPHONE:

RICHARD: Hello?

JUDY: Hey, it's Judy. Any luck on your end?

RICHARD: Not a lot, I don't have a lot of materials to work with, and I can't change properties like Nick can. You guys?

JUDY: We almost died. So, nothing new really.

RICHARD: Sounds about right. Any news from the others?

JUDY: You mean Mark and the twins? No response.

RICHARD: Good then. Either means they made it, or they're all dead.

JUDY: Very nice Richard.

RICHARD: I try. Anyways, crystal isn't red yet, so we still got some time.

JUDY: I thought the luck of pairing with Nick would make this easy, but he's too busy being an idiot and trying to gamble everything in one go.

RICHARD: At least you're not with Mark.

JUDY: True.

RICHARD: Anyways, good luck, I'm going to keep trying, and I'll try to contact the others again.

JUDY: The twins are reliable.

RICHARD: But they were with Mark.

JUDY: True, anyways good luck and peace out.

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The pieces of the once might cliff continued to fall. Mark opened his eyes to find himself facing toward the sky, wind pushing against him below. The pieces falling at the same speed as him. Peering to his left, he saw the crystal fall right past him.

“Fucking shit!”

He began to turn his body downward to chase it.

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Richard decided to survey the area once more. He needed to find all the possible options. The world that they travelled too was annoyingly light on actual materials. The only thing it really consisted of was the blue cliffs and mountains. There were possibly more objects down at the bottom, but it was impossible to see, and checking would take too much time. In the air, barely in sight, was crystal right above him. At the very least, the sky was blue and there was enough light to see compared to the previous world.

“Alright, let's try this out.”

Putting his hand out, his palm facing upward, a small orb of the world appeared. He selected the location he could select, and started to work. The clouds in the area started to merge together in an almost tornado like fashion. As they circled around his, the clouds started to stretch upward. When they reached what seemed to be the maximum height, the clouds started to take a shape of spiral staircase.

Looking at his new creation, Richard put his foot on the first step, stepping right through it, destroying that stair.

Richard sighed, “Like I thought, still can't solidify objects like Nick.”

Richard considered calling Nick, however he knew that Nick couldn't hold the property for more than thirty seconds, and there was too many stairs to climb in that amount of time.

“If only there was something solid to...” Richard stopped as he looked around his feet. The mountain he was standing on was around only two times his diameter. Not a lot of material to work with, and he couldn't even dissect the mountain by himself without putting himself in danger.

“Dammit, where's Lucy when you need that bitch. Easily create me something to work with.”

Richard sighed, and decided to survey the area once more.

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“No, Judy, that's a stupid idea.”

“But listen if you-”

“No, it's completely and utterly stupid. Even if you do make it so I can fly and carry you, if I touch the crystal you'll end up dropping anyways. And I doubt you have the reaction time to grab it while you're falling.”

“Don't belittle me. Anyways if you're that worried for me, I can grab the crystal first.”

“Then I won't be able to fly anymore, and I'd drop and die.”

“And what's the flaw in that plan?”

Judy and Nick continued to argue over the plan. Nick put the palm of his hand to cover his face.

“Honestly Judy, if your power wasn't so goddamn specific on me only, we could be able to do more. Like, honestly, why do you obsess over me so much that your power ended up being specific to me.”

“It was because I either loved you or hated you so much, I forget,” Judy calmly responded. Nick's phone began to vibrate.

TEXT: RICHARD

I need you to do me a favour. Lock into my location, and make the ground around me crumble into pieces. Please don't get me killed, only around me got it?

Nick looked at his display, and found Richard's location. Not knowing what was exactly under Richard, he decided to gamble and change the properties of what he assumed what he meant.

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A giant dust cloud floating around. With one hand holding onto the cylinder that was once a mountain, the other displaying the globe, Richard hanged onto the ledge now his diameter.

“...well shit.”

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Nick couldn't think of anything else to do in the situation. The thirty second limit was really a hindrance. If not for that, he could just make the platform the two were on float toward the crystal easily.

Judy sat on the ledge, looking over over the world. They were extremely high up from wherever the ground was, if the ground existed. She didn't really know at this time. She was bored, extremely bored.

“Nick, why don't you just make the crystal float to us or something.”

“I'm not stupid, of course I thought about that. I can't get the properties of it, or even find it's existence. Apparently, according to my display, it doesn't exist at all.”

“Yet it does. Isn't that fascinating?”

“Shut up for a second. If you find that 'fascinating', I'm pretty sure the whole travelling dimensions and being able to control realities quite fascinating compared to that, but maybe that's just me. Wait, don't make me explode or something, I apologize. Please don't do anything...”

“Too late.”

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Now falling after the crystal which head a tremendous head start, Mark made himself as aerodynamic was possible. He didn't want to know if the crystal shatters on impact or not, he'd rather not know.

“Fuck, fuck, fuck! Come on, go faster! Why can't I...oh wait I can,” Mark commented in realization.

A circle appearing at his feet, Mark prepared himself. The circle went from blue to red, and finally, in an instant, Mark cannoned downward, toward the crystal. Mark continued to use this to accelerate downward. He felt an interesting burning sensation on his way down.

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Richard, now barely standing on the cylinder of ground, he started to manipulate the dust that was once the rest of the mountain. Redoing what he did with the clouds, he created a new floating staircase out of the ground. He stepped on the first stair to try it out, it didn't dissolve. However, his weight started to push it downward. Realizing this, he pulled his foot off and repositioned the staircase. At least it stayed together.

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CELLPHONE:

NICK: Yeah, what.

RICHARD: I need another favour.

NICK: Depends.

RICHARD: I need you to target what you did before, and make it so it floats.

NICK: Why?

RICHARD: I made a staircase, but it falls whenever I step on it. I need it to stay solid so I can reach my crystal.

NICK: You know I can't do it longer than thirty seconds right?

RICHARD: Your power is like a coding thing, can't you just make it loop?

NICK: ...well, fuck.

RICHARD: Do it.

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Hanging up the phone, Nick spoke, "So apparently it might be possible to have us float there after all, just by looping the program."

"Good, now we have a plan. Did Richard ask something?"

"Yeah, so I just have to help him, and we should be good. Can I be a male again by the way?"

"Fine."

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Richard waited for awhile. Looking at the stairs, he saw it shift slightly. Thinking that his may be the signal, he went onto the first step. It didn't dissolve, and it stayed floating.

"Sweet."

Richard began walking up the spiral staircase toward the goal.

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Mark realized that he may have hit terminal velocity. Only staying pace with the crystal and not actually catching up, he realized that there was no way he could make it currently.

Not thinking straight, his mind raced, but was stopped for a moment. There was an issue now. He could now see the ground. There was a ground that they were falling toward at high speeds. Now the stakes were higher.

Mind no longer clouded, he realized just to change his terminal velocity to something else. A circle appearing below him, he started to speed up once again.

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*Being able to control things has its limit, unless you can make it limitless. But what will you do with limitless power? Will you use it for good? Or will you use it for evil? But isn't all that just relative? Maybe it's for the better for all of it to crumble. Who would argue against that, and what says they are right?*

*The world you believed was correct was actually false, but false was also true.*

*Where you learn what reality is, and what "reality" is.*

*In the darkness, you will not find light. In the light, you will find darkness.*

*If the world decides to consume you from below, then meet the end from above.*

*Grow and learn what makes things as they are. You can't save what's already dead, but you can save what lives forever. You can't look back anymore, you must move forward. See what's at the end, where the end is, and take it.*

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Nick was watching the wonders of a loop. It worked perfectly, time limits were no longer an issue as long as he looped it. He worried slightly if there was any negative repercussions, but the wonder that it actually worked kept him from dwelling on that topic too long.

“Nick!”

“It works Judy! Easy win this time I guess.”

“It's red”

Nick, realizing what Judy meant, looked at the crystal. It was now glowing red.

“Alright Judy, I understand. Setting timer to three minutes. Text Richard that I can't help him anymore, we need to get going ourselves. Like right now.”

TEXT: JUDY

Prepare yourself, Nick is dropping the program. It's started already. Hope you get out, and good luck.  
XOXOXO

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Richard was now running up the staircase. He no longer had time to waste if the program was being dropped at this moment. He only had thirty seconds to cover the rest of the way. It was impossible.

With a sudden jolt, Richard, found the staircase to start falling downwards. He was barely climbing it, even while running.

“No! Not now!”

The top of the staircase was barely reaching the red crystal now. As Richard climbed, it no longer reached the crystal, even if he did run to the top. With quick thinking, he started to disassemble the bottom of the staircase he already went up and started to use the materials to build the top. It was now a race against the clock and if he could continue the progress.

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The platform Judy and Nick stood on made it's way to the crystal.

“Can't you make it go faster?” Judy shouted anxiously.

“Any faster and we'll fall off.

Judy decided to check the timer.

2:12

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Mark saw the crystal turn red, however he didn't care for it. He had to catch the crystal either way at this rate. He was more concerned about the upcoming ground that he will eventually hit if he doesn't touch the crystal.

1:23

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Richard continued to run up the spiral staircases, destroying and rebuilding on the way. He was still quite far off. His globe listed the as he ran.

0:46

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“Not enough time Nick! Here, magnetize this,” Judy said while throwing a ring onto the platform.

“You sure?”

“Just do it!”

Nick agreed without questioning.

“Hold on Nick, time to fly! Repel!” Judy said excited, grabbing onto Nick's arm. With a strong force, Nick and Judy were launched at extreme speed toward the crystal.

0:11

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Mark was near the ground and the crystal. It was a eyelash away from his finger. The ground was also a eyelash away from the two.

0:08

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Richard was near the crystal, he reached his hand, causing the globe to disappear, the staircase to collapse completely. His finger touched the crystal.

0:05

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Both flying toward the goal, Judy reached her hand out, still holding onto Nick. With her hand, and one quick movement, he grabbed the crystal and smashed it into Nick's head.

0:02

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Mark's hand felt the ground for a moment, but he also felt a small lump. His body glowing, he started to vanish, and so did the rest of the entire world. Disappearing, the crystal lied in pieces before everything completely vanished.

0:00

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*You continue to learn, continue to prosper. You will only get stronger as things go on. But the trials only get harder. As you move forward, complete existence behind you continue to disappear, to never exist. Destruction of existence, what is it? Can you see it, feel it? How can you see absolutely nothing? Is existence itself a version of nothing? Maybe the answers are at the end, maybe not.*

*The world you believed was correct was actually false, but false was also true.*

*Where you learn what reality is, and what "reality" is.*

*In the darkness, you will not find light. In the light, you will find darkness.*

*If the world decides to consume you from below, then meet the end from above.*

TEXT: UNKNOWN

You will move forward constantly, you have no need to worry. People depend on you, or oppose you. You will save them all, you will kill them all. These gifts, these curses, you must bare them all. You have a answer, you just need the question. Will you answer be correct...

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ERROR

ERROR

ERROR

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### Act 3 Scene 5

The purple crystal continued to float above them to. Blocks were floating around the black sky. Even with no apparent light, they could see. They were the last two, and they knew what the crystal meant.

"Richard."

"Don't start it Mark, you knew this was coming."

"I know, but..."

"Just don't think, Chris didn't think when he killed Lucy."

"He didn't kill..."

"I don't care what the technical term is. She's gone. Forever. Now one of us will have to make it through, the other will...I don't know. But only one of us will continue."

Both Mark and Richard stood still. Richard had the look of acknowledgement, he knew what he had to do. Mark was hesitant, almost begging Richard not do this.

"So, Mark, shall we start in five?"

Mark stayed quiet, but nodded silently.

0:05

0:04

0:03

0:02

0:01

0:00

Mark quickly used his ability to jump upward. Seeing this, Richard responded by increasing the gravity in Mark's area. Mark's propelling stopped, and he crashed downward.

Collecting himself, he looked and saw that Richard had already started creating a path upward toward the crystal. Using the existing blocks, he quickly paced upward.

Richard continued to fluidly place each block and climb at the same time. He knew he didn't have a lot of free space to use when Mark got up again. Unfortunately, Mark got up faster than expected. Feeling an impact from below, the blocks started to collapse. Richard braced himself on one of the blocks, and saw that Mark had increased his strength to destroy the base of the block tower. Not wanting to hurt himself from the fall, Richard increased the air density, allowing a somewhat more softer fall.

Mark started leaping from blocks sides, using them to wall jump upwards. As he progressed, he found that a block he was aiming for had moved. Looking up, he saw that the blocks were now around him with no exit.

Richard used the blocks and accelerated Mark to the ground, caging him inside. Hopefully, it will take awhile for Mark to break out. Time for a new plan.

Richard started to manipulate the air around him, creating a strong tornado. The tornado lifted him upward. Using his perfect control, he found himself heading directly toward the crystal. Something was coming.

Dropping control of the tornado for a moment, Richard found a block flying upward, almost colliding with him. Mark was at the bottom, aggressively kicking each block toward the sky. Richard changed the focus of his ability to deter the blocks from his paths. Distracted, Mark used this moment to cannon upwards again.

Richard, knowing that he could not stop Mark and his fall at this rate, quickly brought out something from his pocket he was holding onto.

Mark was getting closer to the crystal, goal was in his reach at this rate. Feeling pity for this whole match, he was tempted to look down. All of a sudden, he felt a sharp pain in his side. The distraction caused Mark to forget to grab the crystal and continue propelling upward. A butterfly knife tied to a string was stuck into Mark's side. Richard was following upward from the other end of the string. Mark's velocity pulled Richard upward.

"Ha ha, didn't think that I'd be used like that," Mark tried to joke, seeing Richard go straight toward the crystal. He no longer had the will to fight.

"Me neither. I'm sorry."

Richard touched the crystal.

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*Do you remember why you started this whole thing? Why it started? Do you hold in your hearts the comrades you once had? The enemies you have created? There are no constants in*

*alliances, everything will change. What does it feel to be forced into this situation? You are the ones who are persevering, showed that you will continue onwards. Maybe you have a glimmer of hope that they're safe, maybe you wanted them to disappear. The journey near it's end.*

*The world you believed was correct was actually false, but false was also true.*

*Where you learn what reality is, and what "reality" is.*

*In the darkness, you will not find light. In the light, you will find darkness.*

*If the world decides to consume you from below, then meet the end from above.*

*The elements are against you, but they are under your jurisdiction.*

*Enemies were once allies, allies were once enemies, who will you sacrifice to continue.*

*Save the inside, sacrifice the outside. Save the external, watch the internal eat itself alive.*

*Work together to save yourself, unity will selfishly give independence.*

*We are destroying ourselves in order to save what's left.*

*The collapse of what you believe in, to deny the truth.*

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ERROR

ERROR

ERROR

### **Final Act Final Scene**

TEXT: UNKNOWN

You are one of a kind, aren't you? You are at the end, you can see it. Tell me, did you learn anything from all of this? Do you remember anything at all anymore? Will you remember after all of this ends? Please, continue and finish what you started.

ERROR

REWINDING

ERROR

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### **Act 1 Scene 1**

With a sigh, Nick arose from his bed. It was already late in the afternoon. He had slept most of the day away already. Nick's messy black hair went everywhere. Too lazy to comb it, he decided to go downstairs.

Nick was 5'10, medium build. He was currently wearing a white t-shirt and brown shorts. He usually wore jeans and various different jackets depending on his mood. He lived in a small apartment by himself, he preferred to be alone when working on things. He was an independent coder, coding different programs for small companies or for his own use.

He decided just to eat some cold pizza, being too lazy to actually heat up or cook anything. Going to the fridge, he found mail at his front door. It was the usual bills and random mail that he couldn't care about.

He sighed, as nothing new ever happened to his routine. Although nothing did ever happen, it liked simplicity sometimes. A constant in things allowed him not to think, just act as he did every day.

His cellphone he forgot on the coffee table was acting up. He got a text from his friend Judy. Girl seemed a bit obsessive, constantly bugging him. It was a bit weird, at first he thought she liked him or something, but she didn't act like it really. She seemed to enjoy insulting him every chance he gives an opening. He learned to not give openings, or at least to minimize the times.

He checked the message.

TEXT: JUDY

You forgot your wallet at Rick's place you idiot. If you want it back, I require compensation of some sort. Actually, I already took a bit of compensation, so come pick it up whenever.

That bitch. Nick knew that she would do that, and that he'll never know what exactly she took as compensation ever. Mind games are what she was good at. Now he'll have to worry about that. He decided to worry about it when the time comes instead.

With a sigh, Nick decided to go to his computer and continue a project he started three weeks before. It was making progress, but slow progress. His messenger was acting up.

CHAT:

ALLFICTION: oi,u awake yet?

NICK45: No

ALLFICTION: of course ur not

NICK45: Whatever. Anyways, did you get your part done?

ALLFICTION: of course, i get my shit done on time. sent it to u awhile bak ago

NICK45: Got it, I'll grab it later

ALLFICTION: man, this is extremely boring

ALLFICTION: something new gotta happen soon

ALLFICTION: u kno what imean? anyways ttyl

NICK45: Peace

Nick closed that chat. This ALLFICTION was someone who he met on the internet who's been helping him on different coding projects. He wasn't the best coder, but he did get things done fast. Just had to tweak a few things for efficiency and his code would be perfect. Or she, Nick didn't really know, just assumes it's a guy.

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ERROR

SKIP

ERROR

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## Act 1 Scene 4

Richard checked his phone.

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ERROR

REWINDING

ERROR

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### Act 1 Scene 1

Nick hated dealing with Judy overall. Wallet back in his pocket, he was able to buy food again. It's been five days since he bought groceries, three since he got his wallet back. He really didn't like dealing with Judy.

With a sigh, he looked up at the sky. The sky seemed to look orange and red, probably the sun setting early. He spent too much time dealing with Judy. Unfortunately coding would have to wait another day, be useless to try it now. Nick decided it would probably be best to pick up some groceries before going home.

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ERROR

SKIP

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### Act 1 Scene 4

Chris and Lucy decided to read the message.

TEXT: UNKNOWN

Do you know what's happening with reality? Do you know what reality really is? The truth? Would you like to know?

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REWINDING

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### Act 1 Scene 4

Things were about to change. It lingered in the air, something big was about to happen, definitely. There were no signs of this, but the lack of signs could be a sign itself. The world was ready for this, it had no choice but to be ready. But was reality ready? Was what existed and didn't exist ready? Everything will change, whether it be for the better or the worse.

A text message was sent.

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Nick felt his phone vibrate. He checked his message...