What Remains However Improbable

Initial Brief

Whatever brought you to the casino, you certainly weren't expecting opportunity to fall into your lap. Perhaps you were at the slot machines, perhaps at the High Fold tables, but you couldn't help but overhear a Vyixian in a red coat and a hat whispering urgently to a heavily built human.

"Look," she says, "I don't know how it happened but when I went down there it was gone. I don't know how, I don't know when, I just know it's gone."

"That's not possible," says the Human who you recognise as Ace's head of security, Seven Broad, "that Vault is impossible to get into unless you're you, Ace, or the Doctor-"

"I know that, but it's gone, and I've checked your cameras-"

"You've checked our cameras?"

"-and nobody leaves with it after the Doctor leaves. It's gone - you have to look into this!"

"I don't have to do nothin', Nine," says Broad, "Ace did that as a favour to you and we've got enough going on. You can hire a private investigator or something all you like, but this is your problem – yours and the Doctor's."

Broad walks away, and you see the Vyixian's ears fold in defeat, but you've sensed the opportunity and for whatever reason you offer to investigate...

Characters

- Deepest Fathom James
- Heightened Serendipity Tamsin

Summary

- Dr Fathom hires on Serendipity to assist with investigating the loss of the Ship Heart *Fractured Dawn* from Fathom's secret vault on Ace's World.
- When they look into the Vault it becomes clear that *Fractured Dawn* had some sort of surge of power and rolled off down a vent.
- In the vent they find a number of creatures Sprats that seem to have been elevated in some way by *Dawn*'s presence. This is fascinating and concerning in equal measure.
- They follow *Dawn*'s trail into an underground facility run by robots that appears to produce and launch vending machines containing loot and challenges to locations in the system. It appears that *Dawn* got into one of these and was launched to Kylal.
- The pair follow suit and land on Kylal where they are released from the machine and follow Dawn's trail to release it from its own machine.
- With Dawn in tow they learn that some other presence spoke to Dawn and decide to pay a visit

to the boss of the vending machine facility, Honoured Guest.

- Guest, it transpires, is one of Serendipity's targets a powerful Startouched who has lost touch with reality after enacting cataclymic destruction on the moon Vyix 9a. Guest has decided that with the great power they displayed in doing so they are more powerful than Ship Hearts themselves, and bedeck themselves in shards of Ship Heart Relics.
- The party manage to overpower Guest, and the shards of Hearts magnetise to Dawn who becomes crusted in powerful relics that are communing with each other.
- The facility is left to continue its bizarre work, and *Dawn* returns to the Vault.

Aftermath

- Serendipity debriefs to Spectre Vyix 9a Honoured Guest was in fact Overstayed Guest, and has been successfully pruned. They were the one that actually caused the destruction of Vyix 9a, and have been growing ever more mentally unstable since. I'll pass over a full copy of the journals, and also mention that Fractured Dawn ending up in the vending machine was the suggestion of Immersabilis II, and was intended to summon help, not actually a plot to destroy
- Serendipity reports the existence of the Vending Machine facility to her contacts in Aspexx. They are thrilled to discover an opportunity beneath the nose of Ace, and negotiations begin in earnest to give Aspexx control of the facility.

Consequences

- The Vending Machine facility continues to pump out Vending Machines and launch them around the system.
- Aspexx are now showing interest in the underground caverns beneath Ace's Place, giving them a reason to pay attention to the conflict with *Her Glorious Command*.

All Characters

Consequences

Character 1

Consequences

Heightened Serendipity

- New Target: Ninth Life final conspirator of the Vyix 9a terrorist attack. Known to be in system somewhere under a new name, associated with Dazzling Amethyst, a presumed dead Altarian.
- One pending Elegy boon for accomplishing contract.
- +2 Clout with Aspexx for alerting them to the Vending Machine facility.

Be sure to add tags for the characters

mission, character 1, character 2

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