
It is quiet in the Whit's End office as Connie sits at Whit's computer. Connie is nervous.

CONNIE:
Oh, boy...Five-forty-five. I
hope I'm doing this right.

Abruptly, there is a knock at the door.

CONNIE:
(OVERLY SURPRISED) Aaaaa!

ALEX:
(THROUGH THE DOOR) Hello?
Connie?

Connie opens the door to find Alex on the other side.

CONNIE:
Alex!

ALEX:
Sorry, but Nick said you were
up here. Do you have a sec?
I really need to talk to you.

CONNIE:
In a minute. I need your
help using the Instant
Message program. How can I
tell if I'm online or not?

ALEX:
Haven't you ever used Instant
Messenger?

CONNIE:
Of course I have. I just
want to be really sure.

ALEX:
Okay...Right there, see?
(READING)
"Status: Available"

CONNIE:

Oh...Thanks. Do you think you can stick around for a minute?

ALEX:

Sure, but I have a few questions for you. It sounds like a lot of weird stuff is happening around here.

CONNIE:

Weirder than usual, you mean?

ALEX:

My mom works at the college and I heard her telling dad about Eugene. Dean Rogers is her boss and he said Eugene took off with a bunch of research files.

CONNIE:

What?

ALEX:

But then I got here and Cal said he overheard David say that he found out that Nick said he heard from Whit that you got a mysterious e-mail from Eugene saying that he was safe.

CONNIE:

W-what? Wait. Who said who was safe?

ALEX:

And then I heard that Doctor Icobodia was holding Eugene captive in his lair until he gave up the secret location of Powerboy's stash of shining arrows.

CONNIE:
Where did that come from?

ALEX:
Wooton.

CONNIE:
(BEAT) Maybe you should go,
Alex.

Suddenly we hear an instant message from AREM!

CONNIE:
What's that?

ALEX:
Uh, oh. It's an Instant
Message from AREM!

AREM:
Hello, Connie. Glad you made
it.

ALEX:
I'm outta here.

CONNIE:
No, wait. Please don't
leave, Alex. You've dealt
with him before.

ALEX:
I'll get in trouble.

CONNIE:
No you won't. I'll take full
responsibility. Stay for
just a minute, okay?

ALEX:
But, Connie—

CONNIE:
(TYPING)
Please go away.

ALEX:

Exactly what I wanted to do
in the first place.

CONNIE:
I was talking to AREM.

AREM:
Mitch sent me.

CONNIE:
Mitch wants me to talk to
AREM?

ALEX:
Why would Mitch want you to
do that? Arem's nothing but
trouble.

CONNIE:
(TYPING) What do you want?

ALEX:
Don't say anything to him!
He's probably trying to
delete Whit's End.

AREM:
Tonight at 5:50 P-M the
Campbell College computer
system backs up their data.

ALEX:
5:50? That's like one minute
from now.

AREM:
The Radio Wave research staff
will send a report to
Andromeda Headquarters in
Chicago.

ALEX:
Andromeda again?

AREM:
I'm going to reroute a copy
of that report to you.

CONNIE:
(UNSURE) Okay...

ALEX:
What are you doing?!

AREM:
When the computer asks you to
accept the download, click
"yes."

CONNIE:
(UNSURE) I don't know...

AREM:
Remember what Mitch said.

ALEX:
Don't do it! It could be a
virus or an exploding program
or something.

CONNIE:
Mitch wouldn't do anything
that could hurt us. And if
he sent AREM-

ALEX:
AREM-who put the self-
destructing modem in this
office?

The computer makes a "boing" sound.

CONNIE:
(READING) Do you wish to
download? Click yes or no.

ALEX:
No! Say "no."

CONNIE:
But... I...well...Mitch said...

ALEX:

Come on, click no. The longer you talk to him, the more chance he has of hacking into the system.

CONNIE:
But Mitch said to trust him.

ALEX:
Can you trust Mitch if he hangs around with this guy?

CONNIE:
(FRUSTRATED) Oooh...I don't know.

AREM:
Connie, time is short. Click "yes."

ALEX:
Don't do it. You'll regret it.

CONNIE:
Mitch wouldn't hurt us...I don't think.

AREM:
Hurry, Connie.

CONNIE:
I don't know.

AREM:
Trust me.

ALEX:
No, no. You can't trust AREM.

CONNIE:
But I do trust Mitch. (SIGH)
Here we go.

Connie clicks the button definitively. Alex groans.

CONNIE:

Yes.

The computer starts making low noises as we cut to...