

The Place

written by

Rachel Tang Co-Written By Kenya Anand

New Media 10
Mr. Barazzuol
Room 115

INT. BEDROOM - AFTERNOON

ARA YOON is in her bedroom laying on the bed, listening to music (coming from her laptop), and scrolling through media on her phone when her MOTHER knocks on the door.

MOTHER

(she walks in with a package in her hands, stopping at her doorway)
Ara? This came for you today, I didn't know you ordered something.

ARA YOON

(she continues to stare at her phone for a few moments while answering before getting up to get the package)
Uh, actually I didn't, *pause* um I'll take it though?

INT. BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

(music keeps going at the same spot)

Ara walks back to her bed and sits down putting the package in her lap. She lifts the box up and looks around for a return address, she doesn't find one. She opens the box anyways. She finds a VR (virtual reality) headset is in there, she tries it on wondering if it fits, not expecting anything.

Transition Explanation

As she puts on the headset and black film will begin to cover the camera at the same pace until fully covered. Black film will continue to go down as the camera pans up to Ara in a white room with a person standing in front of her. Some glitch effects flicker as she looks up.

INT. LOBBY(WHITE ROOM) - DAY

Ara dramatically opens her eyes, adjusting to the new lighting. She finds herself in an empty white room, she frantically looks around the room wondering where she is. She tries to take off the headset but it was not on her head and out of her hands, nowhere to be found. Confused out of her mind she yells out-

ARA YOON
WHAT THE HELL?! WHERE AM
I???

GUIDE
(Unfazed by Ara's
shouting, Standing
straight, talking with a
bubbly voice)
Welcome to The Place, where
anything can come to life if you
imagine it. I am the guide, ask me
any questions.

ARA YOON
(Confusion plastered on
her face)
Where am I???

GUIDE
The Place.

ARA YOON
(She stares at the guide
looking for answers as she
begins to calm down)
Why am I here??

GUIDE
(The guide tilts their
head slightly to the side
saying the last word)
You put on the headset, no?

ARA YOON
(rambling, speaking
quickly)
I mean yeah, but I wasn't expecting
anything to happen! I didn't
connect it to a program or even a
computer! WHAT-

GUIDE
(cutting Ara off, speaking
calmly)
Invalid question. Cannot find
answer.

ARA YOON
(squints her eyes in
irritation, breathing in
deeply)
Alright, how do I get out of here?

GUIDE
 (saying this with a
 friendly smile)
 By getting killed.

ARA YOON
 (bewildered she says)
 IS THAT EVEN SAFE??

GUIDE
 What is?

ARA YOON
 This little- BOT. WHY DID I GET
 THIS PACKAGE?

GUIDE
 You were one of the chosen ones to
 test this program before release.

ARA YOON
 BUT WHY?

GUIDE
 Invalid question. Cannot find
 answer.

ARA YOON
 (Frustrated she turns to
 walk away after first
 couple words)
 Forget this, I'll figure it out
 myself.

Transition Explanation

Half-way through opening the door to leave, the shot cuts to the other side of the door to when she steps out into a scenery filled with trees, mountains, and streams.

EXT. STARTING CHECKPOINT(OUTSIDE) - DAY

Ara's hands are sweaty and her hands are fiddling together, she sighs out of frustration. There's no guidelines, no clear way to get home, safely at least. She racks her brain trying to think of a way out. She comes face to face with a buff, middle looking man, seemingly waiting for her.

???

(Standing in a power stance, hands on his hips, he jabs a finger in Ara's direction)

HEY YOU!

ARA YOON

(With a very confused look on her face; she looks to her right and slightly to her left before pointing at herself, eyebrows getting turned down as she does that)

???

(Saying this in a hostile tone. He puts an emphasis on "me", jabbing his thumb into his chest as he says that)

YEAH YOU. IF YOU WANT TO CROSS THIS BRIDGE BEHIND ME, YOU'LL HAVE TO GET THROUGH ME FIRST.

With a confused and bored look, Ara scratches her head while staring off into space. Imagining how nice it would be to relive just 10 minutes earlier when she was warm and comfy in her bed. In her mind she promises to be a better student and daughter when, and if she get out of this unknown world. "I miss you mom". She thinks while looking down solemnly. The sadness is subsided for a moment when a screen pops up in her vision, "Do you accept Dale Morow's challenge request?".

DALE MOROW

(He looks up after sending the request)

I EXPECT YOU TO PRESS YES.

No armour, lacking in experience and skills, Ara still selects accept. She nibbles on her nail, she's unsure of what else to do.

EXT. STARTING CHECKPOINT(OUTSIDE) - CONTINUOUS

ARA YOON

(She looks around expectantly)

Soo... what happens now? Also, what are you doing?

Ara stares at Dale as he gets into another pose. This time with an extended arm across his body, flexed, giving a thumbs up, with a sly grin. Her vision is forced to focus on a character card of sort when he begins to charge towards her.

"<Dale Morow, Rank B, Age: 36, Guild: Shatterflags, 42 Deaths>"

ARA YOON (CONT'D)
 WAIT WHAT? NO I'M NOT READY, THIS
 IS FOUL PLAY-

The surrounding world freezes for another character card pop up. The freeze frame looks blurry as the card appeared as Ara was mid-talking and frantically waving her hands in front of her defensively, "<Ara Yoon, Rank E, Age: 17, Guild: N/A, 0 Deaths>". A third voice spoke into the air as she comes out of the momentary pause.

ANNOUNCER
 YOU MAY BEGIN.

queue battle music that resembles the energy of Super Smash Bros Ultimate music

Dale lets out a war cry while rushing towards Ara as she shrieks in fear and confusion because multiple pop-ups appear in her vision all too suddenly (health and stamina bar, opponents health, etc). Dale throws a powered up punch straight to her forehead, blue flame chaotically dancing around his fist as it lingered still for a second before the impact threw Ara's head back.

ANNOUNCER (CONT'D)
 (Speaking before the
 battle music fades back to
 regular happy-go-lucky
 adventuring music)
 K.O

EXT. STARTING CHECKPOINT(OUTSIDE) - CONTINUOUS

Ara stays grounded like a starfish for a few moments, confused as she felt no pain from the punch.

DALE MOROW
 UH, WHAT THE HELL? WHY DIDN'T YOU
 DIE?

Ara squeezes her eyes tight, hoping for it to all be gone when she opens her eyes again.

INT. BEDROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Ara opens her eyes to finally see a familiar setting. She's back in her room, in front of her bed. She hears footsteps and her eyes light up.

ARA YOON
(Rushing in front of the door to greet her mother)

MOTHER
(Walking into the door with a bowl of fruits)
Ara? You here? Did she finally get out of the house? That silly girl never tells me anything now.

ARA YOON
(Reaching out to her mom)
M-Mom? No wait I'm here! Just put the bowl on my desk I'll have it!

Her hands fizzes right through her mother upon contact. Ara's mom turns walks back out with the bowl closing the door on the way out. Devastated and shocked as to what just happened, Ara's arm swings down to her side as she collapses to the floor on her knees.

ARA YOON (CONT'D)
(Begins to bawl her eyes out)
Why is this happening? I'm so tired... Why did this happen to me?

FADE TO BLACK.

CREDITS - BLACKSCREEN - ???

Narration of paragraph read out loud while scenes of Ara living as a non-existent being plays. Cutting to black after finished, then going to after credit scene.

Ara continues to "live" as an existence, but also a not so existent being, like a ghost. Moments later after the last scene she got many pop-ups, "MALFUNCION. MALFUNCTION. MALFUNCTION...". She partially exists in both worlds. Her body remains in the VR world, still vulnerable to touch, it was later to be removed to another place by adventurers or system workers, she doesn't know. Ara's sight, hearing, smell, and "mobility", as a ghost, lives in the original world.

She's heartbroken by her family and friends because they are all devastated from her disappearance even though she's right there, trying to reach out to them.

After credit scene

EXT. STARTING CHECKPOINT(OUTSIDE) - CONTINUOUS

Dale stares at Ara's body confused as to what to do because she isn't responding in anyway. She should be dead but remains there. He cautiously approaches her to see her eyes are still wide open.

ARA YOON

(Tears stream down her
emotionless face))

M-Mom? No wait I'm here! Just put
the bowl on my desk I'll have it!

DALE MOROW

(jumping back, he falls on
his arse, he covers his
face with his hands)

AH! DEMON!

END