

Chapter 3: Aftermaths and Prospects

April 1, 2013 *Partially Cloudy. Low Humidity. High/Low: 9/4°*

Time: Around 6pm

[Back in the Room]

Henry walk back up the stairs to the room that they had Alex in. When he left Trevor was getting a shower which by this point should be done. Just to make sure he knocked on the door to make sure everyone was decent.

"Come in?" Alex replied to the knock

Henry entered the room as soon as he heard Alex's voice.

"Hey, Guess what I just found out." Henry said slumping into a chair.

"Erin is the mastermind behind all of this?" Alex tried to guess with the most outrageous answer he could come up with in several seconds.

"That could be one way of seeing it. I have to say I have a lot of information but I can't figure it out. So it would seem that bugs got here and attack the hospital. But only where Erin was staying. She was in bug form when I found her and attacking people. Knocked her out and kicked the bug. The bugs outside that were flying then went nuts a few minutes later. During that time they moved Erin down stairs. I just came from there and they have a police officer standing there because it is an active crime scene. Seems that all the doctors were killed and the bugs made off with something and there is no Erin. So I think I know what they took." Henry explained the best he could.

Alex tilted head to side, "Well, this doesn't seem any good," he stated and looked down, "The bugs seem to have a way of communcation with each other that does not use audible sounds... And is on pretty big damn distance, judging by the fact that the kill of queen in the forest caused the bugs in hospital to go haywire..." Alex started explaining to no one in particular, "And then they went after Erin... With a queen... If they had to bring queen out it seems that their communication distance might be limited... Or they wanted to make a hive in the center of city... One thing for sure - Erin shifted to bug form, and after that she became a beacon to the bugs. And they managed to take her away, paying big price for it. And eerily enough, willing to pay the price. They wouldn't really pull out "Saving Private Ryan" thing for a mook, so..."

"If they are bugs, is it really a price?" Trevor cut in. "I mean, they have the hives and queens."

"They've sent a bunch of bugs and apparently a queen with them into a disadvantageous location for a hive. Unless it's a coincidence." Alex looked down, "Yeah, probably a coincidence. I should stop playing smartass..." his ears dropped down and he went silent.

"I don't speak bug," Trevor muttered frustratedly. "I don't even speak cat well."

//I wonder if Alex heard some radio disruptions while in combat (to figure out if this communication channel is using radio frequencies)

"That would make some sense though that they were going after Erin. The first attack was only in that one room. After the queen died is when they started to attack everything." Henry added in. It did make sense that they would be going after her.

"Don't speak bug? Did they even speak?" Alex asked, "So they did went haywire after the queen death. This means that they were kind of "connected" to the said queen and it was supposed to be some sort of juggernaut extraction unit (pardon my terms) and a communicating thing as well... I wonder what they use to communicate if they had to move a queen with them... Their communication lines are far reaching, but apparently not far enough."

"Crap... this whole mess got worse because we took out the queen, isn't it?" Trevor said, burying his face in his hands.

Alex shook his head as Trevor asked, "I doubt it. We took out a major advantage of bugs and instead of coordinated damage and task completion they ended up panicking and rushing around, becoming a lot easier to dispatch, although they did cause crap in process..."

"And causing them to attack people is a good thing?" Trevor snapped. Then he groaned. "Damn... remember when Henry burned down Erin's place? They said they felt the queen in their heads..."

"They would have attacked people otherwise too. But more efficently. It's like causing a squad of snipers to run out of their hiding spot with submachine guns. And wait... Queen in their heads? Oh right, it's also a brainwasher on legs."

"Well here is something. We found a kind of outpost nest thing down stairs. They had caught six people and webbed them up down there. But they carried Erin off. That is something different from what they do. Those other people were dead, killed by the bugs. They also left all their injured bug buddies behind. So why would they take Erin with them? She was the only one they did that to." Henry felt like a thought was trying to form.

"Well, first of all, Erin is the first human-bug hybrid known to us, so it's a pretty rare unit. Brainwashing her will have a long standing advantage to bug infiltration stuff..." Alex said, "In the worst case she might as well be a good queen-like bugwoman (good for bugs I mean), capable of doing whatever the queens are doing and having a human brain to add better strategic thinking. Gosh, this sounds more like a rambling of paranoic... Either way, they took her with these losses, there is no goddamn way that she is not extremely useful to them, we need to bust her out! ASAP!"

"You're thinking like a person, not a bug, Albie," Trevor said. "They could have just wanted a replacement for the queen we took out. All the rest of it sounds like Starcraft."

"I did say that they might consider Erin a possible queen tho," Alex said, "You'd never believe me, but I didn't even play Starcraft. Do we have a clue to where they took her?"

"Either way it would seem they want her alive. Either as a replacement or something else." Henry said and then thought. "Could they have taken her to where ever they came from?"

"We didn't see any bugs on the way back into town," Trevor said, raising out of his chair. "And I was watching. Unless... Do you remember where your people in ACR have been finding nests? And where the bugs turned up in that first big swarm? They came out of the sewers."

"That is where they came out to attack us the first time. Would make sense. So the question comes down to are we going to go in their after them?" Henry asked openly. It would be a dangerous thing for them to try and pull off.

"Smelling them won't be the best idea, eh?" Alex chuckled, "I can try to figure out if they use radio waves to communicate and track them down by the cluster of radio noise, if there will be any. That'll be an auxiliary plan though, because they might use some other medium altogether..." He closed his eyes after that and sighed. They did seem to communicate on pretty big distances... What if they do so now? He might as well hear something.

Alex rolled a die for notice (radio, for bug speech if there is any) with 20 sides. The die showed: $9 + 4$

"You know radio signals isn't exactly a thing organisms use, right?" Trevor asked.

"Exclude me from organisms then," Alex replied, "What else could have they used then?"

"Anything," Trevor said.

"Light? Not for these distances. Ultrasonic comms? Not for these distances. One of us might have even heard them, cats have ears tuned to that from what I've heard. What form of communication is capable of wireless travel on such distances that is not an ear shattering kaboom?" Alex replied and twitched his ears, trying to listen to radio spectrum again.

Alex rolled a die for notice (radio again) with 20 sides. The die showed: $18 + 4 = 22$

"How do bugs normally communicate? I figure that this would be something that has been studied before." Henry offered. They might know. He never really cared enough to find out. Normally a shoe or a can of chemicals was all he needed to deal with bugs.

"Pheromones and chemical signals... dance..." Trevor said, thinking of things he read in his bio classes. "They can sense sound, but I don't think they normally use it."

"Pheromones travel too slowly. Dance has same problems as light," Alex replied

"Giant mutant bugs," Trevor said.

"Giant mutant bugs still abide laws of physics."

"Says the guy trying to listen to radio waves. The Bang changes everything," Trevor sighed.

"Still worth a shot. Besides, if the radio waves aren't the bug's way of communication, this would probably mean that they use something else that is more awesome and would be good for science," Alex said, zoning out for a moment to ping the area for radio again. He ain't giving up for now.

Alex rolled a die for notice (radio again) with 20 sides. The die showed: $18 + 4 = 22$
[HE's gonna get a headache from all the radio mess. It's like sitting in the middle of a concert.]

"So my question still stands. Are we going after Her or not?" Henry repeated his question.

"We are. I make no promises about whether I punch her or not when we find her, but we go after her," Trevor said.

Alex shook his head. This radio scan idea was going nowhere. Too much stuff already... He can try to jam the radio next time he sees the bugs to get a final nail for the coffin of his theory. Or not. "We should go. Whatever bugs have in mind for Erin, it's not good."

"Should we call the others for this? If we are taking it to the bugs on their home turf might be nice to get some back up." Henry asked standing up.

"Definitely. Definitely. And none of your lone ranger hero stunts," Trevor side with narrowed eyes.

"Marina might help. Haven't Jezelle hit a limit and broke down or something?" Alex said

"Hey now. I sent out a call for help before the whole bug thing turned south. You two were the only ones to show up. I couldn't just stand by and let the normals get torn to pieces." He retorted.

"So... When do we get on all of this?" Alex asked

"So... When do you get out of the sick bed?" Trevor counterquestioned.

"I can get out any moment now!" Alex said, "Doctors wouldn't like that though"

"If we keep doing what we've been doing, we're gonna end up in here again," Trevor sighed.
"Can't have the doctors get all mad at us."

"Well this might actually be the first time that we can have a game plan going in. Normally we are just reacting to what has happened. At least that is teh case with me." Henry offered.

"Yeah, well..." Trevor headed over to the window and worked at getting it open. Might as well try saying something cool and movie worthy. "If we are gonna be putting a rescue party together, we should get ourselves some dates, shouldn't we?"

"I don't have a girl friend but I figure that we could call some of the people that we know." Henry said sheepishly.

"You-... Ah-..." Trevor sighed after those aborted thoughts. "You know what... just... I'm gonna go grab Jez. You can go see if Marina's home, you," he pointed at Albie, "play nice with the doctors. We'll meet back here afterwards since it's the only place we know to start searching."

"Sounds like a plan. You have your phone on you in case we need to contact each other?" Henry said heading toward the window.

"That I do," Trevor said, holding his hand out and focusing on reforming the platform beside him. "So we can at least keep in touch better this time. Uh... stuff happened why I didn't have it with me earlier."

"I feel that I don't want to ask. See you soon." Henry said waiting for Trevor to take off so that he didn't knock him over on his way out.

At least one good thing came from the queen fight. Those first harrowing moments of the fight led to terror induced familiarity with the skill he had been developing. So the platform was stable and he was slightly more confident standing on it. He was still a bit more uncertain with the steering part.

"Okay... I think this is working..."

"You can fly? I thought you were going to jump out of it." Henry made the statement trying to figure out how he was doing it.

"I could, but I need to get more practice with.... steering this thing," Trevor said, maneuvering out the open window.

Henry followed Trevor and then waved. "See you in a bit!" Henry then took off full speed toward Marina's home.

"Show off," Trevor muttered as he made his own much slower progress in the other direction. Actually, he headed up so he could get some bearings, *then* he flew off towards Jez's house. He was used to navigating from ground level. Stuff looked different the higher you got. And the wind increased. Which was scary. Very, very scary when you were standing and riding around on a relatively small platform.

Trevor at the River/[insert Roomates Name here]'s

Trevor was pretty sure he was at the right place. Yep, same place he picked Jez up from before the con. It just took a while to get their flying instead of driving and he'd gone past it once already without realizing it. It was already getting dark too, so that didn't help. With a bit of maneuvering, he got himself under the window he figured was Jez's from what he knew of the floorplan and rapped on it.

Jezelle was about bored to tears leafing between psychology and ethics text books, largely frustrated with the events of the Big Bang causing such a giant disruption to her daily schedule. It was probably going to take her months to properly get back into her rhythm considering how little time she had before, and even now with these new-fangled powers she wasn't certain she was going to catch up any time soon.

But then a tapping on her window broke her reverie, both curious and a little threatening as she felt like she'd lose it if it was a bug or something.

She tossed the book aside and went to the window, pulling back the curtain with a suspicious glance only to find Trevor outside. Jezelle had to pause and blink a few times in surprise. She then slid the window open and leaned on it.

"What the heck are you doing here all unannounced?" Jezelle queried, looking rather puzzled.

"Well it's nice to see you again too," Trevor said blandly. He carefully pulled his platform up a bit higher so they were more or less at eye level. He peered over her shoulder at the books she had scattered about and raised an eyebrow. "Wanna go punch some bugs?"

There was an expression of mixed feelings on Jezelle's face at that notion, as part of her wouldn't mind something different even if it was that ridiculous, but then there was the ambivalence from the convention centre... and bugs...

"Uhhh..." Jezelle said awkwardly, uncertain.

"Look, long story. Erin bugged out again, at the hospital for some stupid reason. Bugs went to hospital. Cats kill queen. Bugs attacked hospital. Bugs nap Erin. We go punch bugs and punch Erin too," Trevor said grumpily. Yeah, that about summed everything up. "You in?"

Jezelle just stood there for the longest time simply staring at Trevor, half looking like she hadn't heard a thing he just said and sort of wondering if he was joking or something.

"...What...?" Jezelle said finally, blinking and coming back to reality, "I uh... the hell... Alright, alright, I'll get my stuff -I don't suppose we know where we're going?"

"For someone with super speed you sure take a while to make up your mind," Trevor observed.

"I have a weakness to ridiculous statements," Jezelle responded tartly, flinging open her cupboard and dragging out a box, "I still find it crazy we do this sorta crap; we're not worried pet owners tracking down a dog, we're doing stuff that police or something should be handling."

Trevor sat with one leg dangling off his platform and drifted into Jez's room. He looked around curiously because it wasn't a place he'd been in very often. He should have brought a camera...

"Did you just compare Erin to a stray dog?"

"What? No! I was just stating one of the few situations a normal person might actually go out and do stuff themselves," Jezelle said, opening the box and hauling out an armload of bulky clothes of some kind, chucking them on the bed before pushing Trevor back out, "I need to get changed, just wait a sec."

She drew the curtains and went to the bed where the pile of kevlar vestments lay, a bit of a stuttering step out of her garments as she teleported free and went to strap on the costume at considerable speed.

"Hey! That's not fair! You've seen me naked!" Trevor protested. "You did the stripping too!"

"That was an accident and I didn't even really see anything," Jezelle replied tartly as she pulled on the jacket, zipping up the front.

"It happened three times!" Trevor said.

"Three? I had it at two," Jezelle said, a little puzzled, "Unless you're offering..."

"What, a 'I show you mine if you show me yours' deal?" Trevor asked.

Jezelle snorted a little with laughter as she shook her head nonsensically, tugging on her mask and passing her hands over her hair to change it to a navy blue before opening the curtains.

"Where'd that deal come from?" Jezelle asked a little sardonically, "I never said anything like that, I was just making sure you felt free if the urge ever struck you."

There was an impish grin in her voice in lieu of being able to actually see her expression now, considering there was a stiff layer of kevlar in the way.

"Hey, why should I be the one to always give you the... free.... sho...." Trevor started to protest, only half serious, turning as the curtain opened, his sentence trailing off as he got a full peak at Jez's outfit. "You and Henry go on dates like that, don't you?"

"A suit of kevlar is only sensible," Jezelle remarked a little dryly, "This isn't exactly a comic book where I can run around in my underwear and not get gutted like a fish."

It was getting dark outside so Jezelle attempted to remember where she put her torch; after that incident at Erin's old residence she had made sure to purchase a handy one.

"At least you didn't have to fight a queen in your birthday suit," Trevor muttered. "Also, no comment about the flying box?" He gestured at the mostly invisible platform he was sitting on and drifting around with.

"I still remember you making an elevator with your boxes, flying box doesn't seem like much of a stretch," Jezelle said plainly with a helpless shrug, disappearing for a moment, some noise off near a bedside table before she reappeared at the window and closed it, teleporting outside onto Trevor's back.

"And besides, I think we're all a little jaded to superpowers at this point," Jezelle remarked.

"Hey! Careful! I haven't done that much field testing with it yet!" Trevor warned as the platform momentarily pitched before he got it back under control. "And were's the fun in that? The thrill of it all?"

"Okay! I admit, the flying box is pretty awesome all things considered," Jezelle relented, "Flying is kind of cool -almost wish I could do it somehow but I'm afraid it'd make even less sense than my powers do at this point."

"Sure. 'Cool'," Trevor muttered. "I swallowed a bug..."

"You really have a horrible relationship with bugs," Jezelle said with a small smirk.

"Shut up..." Trevor muttered as he took them back off to the Hospital.

Henry at the Fischer's

Henry flew across the town in a quick fashion. Once again, you can get to places quicker when you don't have to worry about stop signs, traffic lights and roads. He was able to find the street pretty quickly. This high up the city looked just like all the maps he had. Once he had figured out the street the house was simple. He then dropped from the sky. The wind rushed in his ears as he came to stop two feet off the ground.

Once he stopped he dropped the rest of the distance and was facing the door. He then, very carefully, knocked on the door. He wanted to get their attention, not break the door down.

Marina's mother Teresa opened the door cautiously and stood in the doorway. Her daughter had smashed someone's roof that morning, she was upset about that. "Hello...how can I help you.", she said to him. She wasn't expecting visitors, but he didn't look too threatening. She hoped he wasn't a cop. Her husband had gone away on business for a short time. He'd be back in a week.

Marina was curled up into a ball on her bed, well if you can say rolling yourself up like dough, ball-like. Regardless, she was still reflecting on what she did. She needed to be much more careful.

"Um, yeah, Mrs. Fischer. I wanted to know if Marina was home. I went to visit her at the hospital today and they said she left. Is she around?" Henry asked.

"She arrived home yesterday...Henry right?", Teresa asked.

"Yup." Henry replied. He didn't have much else to say beyond that.

"She's in her room. She can't come and see you now.", Teresa said to him.

"Can't or isn't allowed to?" Henry replied.

"Isn't allowed to, she broke someone's roof today, I swear getting powers has made that girl way too reckless", Teresa said.

Henry shook his head. "Reckless or just plain dumb. I don't even want to know how she could manage to break a roof. Well, that sucks for her and more for the poor person who just gained an

unwanted skylight. I wanted to tell her that Erin was kidnapped. But if she isn't allowed then she isn't allowed." Henry said shrugging his shoulder. Parents.

"Erin is kidnapped? That sounds urgent, kidnapping cases are always serious....maybe we should let her know.", Teresa said, "Knowing her, she'd just sneak out anyway, after she got those powers I can't contain her."

Marina fell out of bed, after checking the text...So bugs rampaged through the city when she was in lock up. She was upset, and just beating herself up over screwing up with the roof. She trudged downstairs her head down, dejected. "Mom, I'm just getting a drink...Oh, Henry, what are you doing here? I just saw your text."

"Just saw it? I sent that thing out hours ago." Henry wondered why he bothered sometimes. "Anyhow I was stopping by to say that Erin was taken by a group of over grown insects. Thought you might like to know with your current. . . relationship that you have going." Henry really didn't want to breach that topic at all.

"They confiscated my phone at the police station...anyway...what! I told her not to bug out after the convention. And you say bugs took her...Any idea why?"

"Marina...have you forgotten what you did this morning.", Teresa said to her firmly. She was conflicted, she understood that it was an accident but Marina was still going to pay dearly for it.

"They did not leave a note. All I know is from the police officer that told me what was going on. Seems like you have an issue here too." Henry said pointing out the obvious, even to him.

"I'm never hearing the end of this.", Marina sighed, walking up to the door.

"She should be taking it easy after everything's that happened.", Teresa said.

"She's my girlfriend...I need to help rescue her.", Marina said.

Henry wasn't stepping into this argument at all. He would wait to figure out what was going to happen.

"You should let the police handle it dear.", Teresa said.

"But only I know what she's become, and people didn't take her, giant bugs took her.", Marina said, "Only I can help her."

"Let's not forget the last time you said you were going to help, the explosion at the convention and the incident at the aquarium. I can't let anything happen to you.", Teresa said with an air of concern.

"I'll be fine, my goo body absorbs impacts.", Marina said, "I know Erin, I simply must save her."

"You've always been stubborn, even before you got these powers...And how do I know you can control it, recent events have proved otherwise.", Teresa said.

"Then give me a chance.", Marina said to her mom, "I know I can change."

"You were in the hospital after the convention, then jail for your recklessness.", Teresa said.

"I saved people's lives that day. The roof was an accident.", Marina said.

"The roof you busted buster was negligence, pure and simple you are not leaving this house young lady.", Teresa said.

"I guess...Henry...where are you headed after this?", Marina asked.

"Don't you step a foot out of this house missy.", Teresa said sternly.

"I am going home and getting cleaned up. I need to wash this crap off. After that I plan to check on Alex at the hospital." Henry answered.

"Um ok.", Marina said.

"I can't allow you to give my daughter any more ideas...she's staying here got it?", Teresa said to Henry.

"Lady all I said was that I was getting a shower and visiting a friend in the hospital. Sorry if I give your daughter ideas on friendship and hygiene." Henry said setting his jaw.

"Sorry, it's hard to keep track of Marina especially after what happened. I apologize.", Teresa said, "It was good to meet you....and if she does end up sneaking out...keep her safe please, I ask you as a parent."

Marina slinked back up to her room, her mom wouldn't budge, but the situation was an emergency. She returned to her room. There was nothing more she could do there.

"Mama, I am not going to tell you how to raise your kid because that would be way the hell out of line but if you are worried about her getting out then keep a close eye on her. Or hope that you raised a child that respects your wishes. I know I always did what my mother said." Henry looked off to the side, gathering himself. "I have things to get done. You have a good night." Henry said waving.

He made his way away from the house. Once he was about a block or two away he would make his way back home via a faster mode of transportation.

Teresa closed the door and locked it. Marina would not be leaving the house tonight.

True to his word Henry made a quick stop at his apartment. He took the clothes off and dumped them in the trash. They were a cut up mess and covered in grossness. There was no saving them so he picked out an old pair of sweats and a long sleeved shirt. He tossed those on and grabbed his flash light. He had no clue how dark it would be down there but he was going to bring some light with him. He grabbed the cheap mask that he bought and headed to the kitchen.

He made a detour to the kitchen. He figured that he had the time to make a quick sandwich. He pulled out a sub roll and a knife to make a long cut down the side. He then proceeded to stuff it with meats and various types of cheese. Some mustard and tomatoe topped it off. It would have been hard to put the thing together but he managed to clamp it and flatten it out. He grabbed a paper towel and took off back to the hospital eating along the way.

It was about ten-fifteen minutes later that Marina gathered up the nerve to sneak out. She felt responsible for Erin's kidnapping in a way. If she hadn't covered Erin that day in her house, they might have been able to fight off the bugs. She and erin wouldn't have been mind controlled by bugs. and Erin's old dorm wouldn't have burned down. The bugs must have done something that caused her to bug out in the first place. Marina couldn't be sure. But she knew her mom was going to check the room soon so she left a note explaining why she had to defy her mother's wishes and begged for forgiveness when mom finally discovered she snuck out. Then she made her way out the window and slid down the side of the house before rushing off towards the hospital. She had morphed into a nondescript featureless appearance, a thin disguise, but enough that people wouldn't recognize her.

[Franklin Memorial Hospital: A Staging Ground]

Since Trevor just headed to Jezelle's and back, he managed to beat Henry back to the hospital, even with his lower flight speed. Of course, it was also because he didn't think of swinging by his house and picking stuff up. He'd really just been jumping into situations as of late. He dropped himself and Jez off on the roof .

"I wonder if they're going to introduce flight regulations and such for metas," Jezelle pondered airily as she touched down and moved to the edge to look over the area a little more thoroughly now she wasn't moving about.

"Wouldn't that be fun... having to get a license to fly..." Trevor said, hopping down to ground level. "But do enough people fly for them to do that? Maybe we'll get treated like helicopters..."

"Well, there are a bunch more metas now since the con explosion..." Jezelle said with a hint of gloom creeping back into her mood, leaning a little more heavily on the rooftop's edge, "I'm sure more are going to crop up."

"I'm sure there are other things aside from flying that will happen," Trevor said, abstaining from the view to see if the roof access was open. Which it wasn't. He stared at it blandly for a while, then jiggled it a bit more. "Well... that was certainly nice of you..."

"What was the plan anyways? Meeting up somewhere specific? Got a lead or anything?" Jezelle asked, turning about to look at Trevor and lean on the roof railing.

"We're supposed to be meeting at Albie's room," Trevor said. "But this door is locked."

"Albie's room?" Jezelle said, puzzlement in her tone, "Wait, he's in the hospital?"

"Yes, he is. How he got there is totally unimportant though," Trevor said quickly. "He's fine though. They just wanted to keep an eye on him."

Unfortunately Jezelle's expression of epic suspicion couldn't be seen through her mask, but she relented and turned about to lean over the edge to see if she could find a place to teleport to. "Think you can find his window?" Jezelle queried.

"It's a window! The hospital is filled.... with..." Trevor's voice trailed off as his considerations overrode his initial protests. He knew which floor it was, and which side of the building it was one. And Albie might have left the window open. "Probably..."

"Well, let's go then?" Jezelle said with a shrug.

"Doth are aware of how noticeable such a course of action wilth be?" Trevor inquired.

"We already flew through the sky here..." Jezelle said a little blandly.

"Over rooftops. People don't look up." Trevor joined Jezelle by the railed and pointed down. "Windows. People do look out them."

Jezelle facepalmed.

"So a catperson and a chick in kevlar isn't suspicious waltzing through a hospital?" Jezelle asked.

"Well, I'm not. I've been here for the past three days. I'm normal," Trevor said cheerfully. He eyed Jezelle's war clothes with a grin. "You on the other hand... yep. Stands out."

Jezelle grumbled and double facepalmed, unsure of how to respond to that with including a frustrated groan and a possible loss of a few points of sanity, deciding to instead just start climbing over the roof railing.

"You have fun up here," Jezelle managed as she started her climb down.

"Are you seriously scaling the side of the building?" Trevor asked as if he were inquiring about the weather. "Actually... how are you managing that? You don't have claws or anything..." It had been almost a month. His thinking adjusted.

"Ever heard of rock-climbing?" Jezelle replied tartly, "I've improved it."
She only dangled down a little bit before teleporting over to another handhold to dangle from it for awhile to look around.

Trevor grinned and made a box a couple feet below Jezelle and hopped over the edge and experienced a momentary gut wrenching period of freefall. It was one thing to know you made an invisible box, it was quite another to jump towards it because it was, obviously, invisible. Still, his fur was only slightly puffed out when he landed on it. "You do know you look like a cat burglar, right?"

"As opposed to the cat standing on thin air?" Jezelle replied, teleporting to another handhold much further down.

"Touche, I guess..." Trevor shrugged. "Do you know where you are going?"

"Unless you tell me where Alex's room is, I'll be running around aimlessly, obviously," Jezelle replied blandly, "Don't make me teleport you."

"You just want to strip me again, don't you?" Trevor asked her suspiciously. On the other hand, he did look around trying to spot the room he left from. Well, the window, anyway.

Greykit rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: *15+2 Room found*

"Woo, back to this subject already?" Jezelle said with a bit of a spark and smirk to her tone, "If you insist, I wouldn't be against obliging."

"Ha! I knew it!" Trevor said smugly, and a slight bit accusatory. "I knew it all along! You just want to see me naked!"

"I think you're just an exhibitionist," Jezelle replied smartly, lazily hanging from an eave, "You found Alex's window yet?"

"Yeah, when you've got it, you've got it," Trevor grinned back. "Six windows over, two levels down. Want a lift?"

"Psh," Jezelle almost mocked, leaning out from the wall and arching her back to get a look at where the window was, "Why fly when you can just-"

Her sentence was cut off due to the lack of her being there any more, with only a flicker of her image halfway between her leaving point and the window ledge where she ended up hanging from.

[move down.]

Henry flew back toward the hospital as a good speed. One of these days he would need to find out just how quick he was going. Until then it was just speed up and land behind a building.

Which is just what he did. Fly fast and land behind the building as quick as he could. If you float down people have longer to see you. Drop quick and slow down about seven feet off the ground and then it isn't as bad.

Once on the ground he started to make his way around to the front of the building. He pulled his mask down and stuffed it into a side pocket. The sandwich stayed in his hands. Entering the hospital once again and heading for the stairs that would take him back to Alex's room.

When the intrepid teleporting athlete finally hung onto the ledge of the window Trevor had indicated, Jezelle was struck with a slight privacy dilemma; this wasn't exactly Trev or Heidi, and she couldn't entirely risk knocking -though that seemed the best choice.

For a moment she just sat there grimacing, wondering how to proceed.

Jezelle (Notice) rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: $14+6$

Marina's Misadventures

Marina had reached the curb near the house before realizing she needed to go back for her phone and money. She really should just store that inside her or something. Regardless she quickly stole back into her room to pick up her stuff and stored her purse inside her claylike body.

[toss up some rolls]

mew77 rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: 1

Acrobatics: **mew77** rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: $14 + 6 = 20$

Marina's attempts at stealth left much to be desired. A whole lot. There was an enormous clatter when she climbed back into her room, which didn't take much effort, probably having something to do with her knocking over the entire contents of her desk when she climbed back in.

"Just what is going on up there, young lady!" Her mother's voice rang up.

"I'm trying out extreme yoga stretches to relax...I accidentally bumped my desk...", she called back. Frantically she placed stuff back onto her desk, in the process getting her cellphone and wallet into her purse and her purse into a sideclay pocket.

"If I've told you once, I've told you a thousand times; don't do yoga stretches in your room!"

"Sorry.", she called back. She remembered her mom's face when she saw the first extreme yoga her daughter did. Marina had to admit walking in on your daughter trying to turn herself into something akin to a rubberband ball was disconcerting.

//graphical representation

http://th02.deviantart.net/fs43/PRE/f/2009/087/9/b/Mel_contortion_by_Kidd_P.jpg

She considered leaving a life body double in her bed when she left, but after losing weight during the convention due to a mishap. She was wary, and the amount she would need to leave would probably halve her size. Unless she inflated it like a balloon, but that was too weird, even for her.

"Young lady, if you get yourself in anymore trouble..." her mother left the threat hanging in the air.

She knew relatively what her mother meant. But the life of her friend was at stake. Well more than just a friend...She realized she wasn't that good to Albie or Trevor either, she hadn't talked much with Jez or Henry either. That had to change. She made her way quietly out the window and down the side of the house. She flowed like water until she landed in the yard. From there she reformed her disguise and left to catch a taxi to the hospital.

Her disguise held, but it was really just a modification of her hairstyle and eye color, with some minor changes in her face and a pink leotard and skirt...trying to morph normal clothes was hard on her skin unless she went all the way. She had ideas in mind for a secret identity. Taffyetta, maybe, rubber maid (ooh, she could get a maid outfit hah), Elastigirl (already taken), Mrs. Fantastic(boring...) She settled on Taffyetta or Rubber Maid.

She sat down in the taxi and said to get to the hospital. With that she was on her way. She felt a little bad about defying her mom, but a life was at stake...and when bugs were involved she felt personally responsible, if it wasn't for her they wouldn't have been mind controlled, Erin wouldn't have turned into a bug creature, and she wouldn't be missing now. She had to do something about it.

Marina called Trevor.

[Henry here. With all the climbing and such, he might beat them to the room]

When you enter a building and know where you are going less people pay attention to you. Standing around wide-eyed caught more attention. He headed back to the stairwell that he used in the first place to look for Erin. A quick jog up took him back to the floor that they started off on. This was the second time today that he was walking down a hospital hallway going to see a friend. Although this time he had a sandwich instead of flowers.

He neared the door to the room and knocked. Once again he didn't know what Alex would be doing but he would at least show him the courtesy .

Trevor rode over to hover behind Jezelle and waited for the response from inside.

If they would come at least 20 minutes earlier, they could have caught Alex doing something that they shouldn't have seen. Thankfully, Alex handled the dilemma and spent the rest of his time in the room practicing his light thing, already managing to control the intensity of light and the location of its emission (yay, shiny arms, backs, eyes and other body parts)

"Come in," Alex said, playing around with the lights. Seems like they weren't actually dangerous, because if they were, the lightbulb that he tried the visible light on out of boredom was still fully functional.

Henry opened the door to Alex's room once he was given the go ahead. Looking around he saw that the others had not gotten there yet. It was just Alex and he was messing with some kind of light.

intel check **necar1** rolled a die with 20 sides. The die showed: $18 - 1 = 17$

It was familiar enough that he remembered it from before. Walking over to the chair by the bed Henry sat down and took a bite of the sandwich. With a semi full mouth he brought something up.

"That was you with the light burst thing during the first bug fight wasn't it? I didn't know you could do that." Henry said and then swallowed.

When she started hearing Henry's voice coming from the room, Jezelle figured it was clear and went to peek to get a bearing, although she had this funny feeling in her head like she kind of already knew roughly what the inside was like.

She just shrugged and decided to teleport in a few inches above the foot of the bed to be safe, letting her easily land on it.

Alex stopped spreading the lights around and shrugged, "Seems so. Don-- WAT"

He jumped up from sudden Jezelle drop nearby. Among the things he had seen, the teleportation wasn't the most common one and thus it startled him a bit, "Oh hello Jezelle," he said, figuring what was that.

Trevor muttered under his breath and pushed past the curtains and rode into the room. "Seriously Jez... I told you breaking and entering would turn into a bad habit. Knock first."

Henry almost choked on his bite of sandwich as Jez appeared out of no where. It seemed like the group as all here.

"You people really wanted to enter from all the directions... I won't be surprised if Marina would sqeese out of air vents," Alex replied

"I don't think she will be coming with us. She is on lockdown since she apperantly was arrested this afternoon. Her mom said that she was to stay inside and even yelled at me for 'giving her ideas' when I said I was coming here to see you." Henry added in the air quotes for Marina's mothers words.

"...welp. Why was she arrested?" Alex asked

"I think she's still planning to show up," Trevor added. "Got a missed call from her. I was driving an experimental flying box."

"I haven't a clue. I tuned out during the argument mother and daughter were having." Henry thought on that for a moment. "Interesting that she called you. I Never told her that you were involved. Didn't feel like explaining everything while her mom was getting angry."

"Then maybe she called me to complain about something," Trevor shrugged. "The inner workings of a girls mind are beyond male ken."

"Welp," Alex stated, "I believe you don't want to call her again now?"

"Meh..." Trevor didn't give anything close to an articulate response.

"I went to her house and got my head bitten off. I have had my fill of the Fischer women for one night." Henry said eating more of the sandwich.

Trevor eyed Henry's sandwich. "I haven't eaten since yesterday..." Then he realized something. "Crap... I haven't called home since yesterday! Be right back!" With that he rushed out and headed down to the common room.

Alex followed Trevor rushing out of the room with a confused look. "Oh right..." he muttered as he figured it out.

[Happens somewhere after trevor leaves the room]

Trevor called his mother. Because it would be a much nicer conversation than his father, who no doubt go into a rant. The phone rang a few times before his mother's voice, slightly stressed sounding, rang instead. "Trevor!" "

Uh... Hi." He was more than just a bit sheepish. He started walking slow laps around the room, being the type of person who could not sit and talk.

"Where have you been? We came home and say the car gone, called the hospital and found out you left on your own... then there was the attack at the hospital on the news today..." The concern in her voice was tactile, though it was slowly fading.

"Sorry... I just felt that something bad would happen if I stayed. So I headed out to the woods to... let it blow off..." He tried a neutral way of saying it.

"What happened?" she asked, the concern coming back.

Trevor winced. "Remember after the... thing? When I went wild? That happened again. I was in the woods though, so nothing really happened." He decided not to mention the part about Albie.

"But because of that a friend and I were around to stop some of the bugs. But Erin's missing and we think they took her."

"Oh No..."

"Yeah... so and couple of us from the group are going to see if we can find her. Sorry for not calling..." The call sorta wound down from there and lapsed into the regular inanities that ran between himself and his mother.

[end of happening]

[Things continued to Happen]

"And everyone is running around." Henry looked at Jez. "I don't suppose that you have some place you have to run off to at the moment?"

Jezelle kind of shrugged, idly adjusting the fittings of her kevlar suit trying to get a little comfortable. She was a little bit concerned when Trevor had mentioned the food issue, as she

was trying to recall the last time she ate and was coming up with a blank, and yet her stomach wasn't complaining like it was supposed to.

"Not like I got any prior commitments or anything, Trev said we were going bug hunting so I jumped on the bandwagon," Jezelle said easily, "Apparently Erin's captured again? I don't suppose we have any ideas where to start looking?"

"We are going to search the sewers. It seemed like that is where they came out the first time and Trevor and Alex dropped a queen from the forest hive. I don't get it but it sounded like a good idea." Henry replied as he watched Jez adjust her outfit.

"Nice outfit. You are going to have an issue with it versus the bugs though. Kevlar is great against blasts and what not but slicing and acid will destroy that pretty quick. Plus it won't stop much in those regards. Unless you got the other kind that is only good against knives and what not." Henry actually knew about this stuff since he spent a few hours at the library looking it up when he bought his.

Jezelle's smirk went unnoticed through her mask, realizing she probably should have done some research on kevlar herself when she was building the outfit, but her main concerns had been elsewhere.

"Heh, well to be honest I was more afraid of bullets when I bought this, not sure how well it'll fair against bugs but I'm pretty sure very few armours are acid resistant in any case," Jezelle said a little sheepishly.

"I fear that they will cut it to shreds. I lost pretty much a whole outfit today already to them. Only thing left were my shoes. And cleaning those is going to take some time. I can just imagine what the sewer is going to do to these. Although I brought my worst pair that I can just throw away when we are done." Henry then finished the sandwich.

"Ehehehe..." Jezelle chuckled a little nervously, scratching a cheek and glancing off to the side, thankful her mask was concealing the blush creeping into her cheeks. Just his shoes huh... She looked at her own shoes and grimaced a little, since she very well may be losing a pair of faithful joggers. Jezelle really needed more money, she was practically almost out of all her savings because of her darn copies.

"We should buy a hasmat one day," Alex suggested

"Not sure those come in an armoured variety..." Jezelle said a little grimly, personally wondering how she could solve this particular dilemma herself; short spending millions of dollars having new armour materials developed...

"We will have to go with the don't get hit strat. Or just has clothes you really don't care about. But either way it is a price that we pay for the things that we do. I want to hit these things before they can get set up anymore. We should go as soon as Trevor comes back." Henry offered.

Not getting hit was both a good idea and a little unreasonable now; Jezelle's little tricks in the not-so-distant past had nearly gotten her killed or something without ever taking a hit, she wasn't about to try that stunt again.

"God knows what's happened to Erin while we're sitting around getting ready," Jezelle agreed with nod, a little concern in her disposition.

"Perhaps it will be like last time. She might turn on us again so we will have to be on our feet. I am more concerned about the insects. They have the numbers and can do a whole bunch of things that I had not seen before." Henry replied as his phone started to buzz. He checked the phone and saw who was calling. He felt like this was going to be call about Erin.

He took the call. "Hello Marina what can I do for you? If it is about breaking you out of house arrest that isn't going to happen. I think your mother has been through enough."

Marina called Henry while she sat in the taxi.

ring ring

He took the call. "Hello Marina what can I do for you? If it is about breaking you out of house arrest that isn't going to happen. I think your mother has been through enough."

"I know, I left a note to apologize to her for what I was about to do...I'm headed to the hospital now...I can't just sit by...her affliction is my responsibility...", Marina said to Henry over the phone. "Oh and is anyone else going to be there besides you and Alex?"

"You must really enjoy trouble. Either that or hate your parents. I am leaning more to the second one at this point. And how is her affliction your responsibility. She changed and the bugs took her. Unless you are still part of the swarm and you two have just been saying that you have been fixed." Henry said the last part a little more harsh then he meant.

"Not that, you guys beat the mind control out of me and her...I was with her when the swarm first caught us two. I'm not as powerful as you guys...had I been I might have been able to prevent what happened the first time...and...I know mom deserves better than a superpowered daughter who can't stay out of trouble...", she said. What happened today was an accident.

"The fact that Erin was attacking a woman when I found her at the hospital before the bug attack doesn't help any of this. You will have to deal with your mother on your own as well. It seems like you have burned those bridges now. As for who is coming Trevor just brought Jez a few moments before you called. Alex is here though I guess he is injured being that he is in the hospital and all." Henry said shaking his head.

"I'm fine, doctors said I can go now," Alex remarked. He figured that he just needed to eat, since his feelings became much better after he had a relatively good meal.

"She what?? I told her not to try bugging out after the con....err...Is the woman okay?", Marina said. She didn't need to speak about her mom to Henry...for all she knew by the time her mother

finds out about what she did, she will be disowned. Regardless, she knew the consequences before she snuck out, but for now she had to do what she could to help.

"After I kicked the crap out of Erin for the second time the woman was ok. Scared half to death but she is physically ok." Henry wondered how she was getting on now.
//Henry hogging all the Erin kicking...

"That's good", she said though her voice grew concerned when Henry mentioned kicked the crap out of Erin, "...and how did Erin get taken?", Marina asked Henry.

"Same way that I told you at your house. Bugs got her. I wasn't there but the police said they took her." Henry answered.

"I see, I worry what the bugs want from her...", Marina said.

"Well we will find out soon enough" Replied Henry.

"Where should I meet you guys once I get there?", Marina asked.

"We are in Alex's room right now. How far out are you?" Henry asked.

"Probably just a couple minutes away. Depending on traffic.", Marina replied.

"We are in room 307. We will see you when you get here." Henry gave her the room number and then hung up.

Trevor wandered back in shortly after Marina's call ended, looking slightly relieved.

"Get everything fixed?" Henry asked.

"Huh? Oh, yeah," Trevor said. He gave Henry a thumbs up. "So we ready to go on a bug hunt?"

"Marina is on her way. says she is a couple minutes out still so we have to wait on that. Could try to figure out how we are going to do this." Offered Henry.

"Yeah, that might actually be a good idea..." Trevor said. He thought about it. "We agreed on the pipes, right?"

"I haven't been in the sewers. Are we going to fit in there? Isn't it just pipes or is it larger then that?" Henry had no clue. He was running off of what he knew from cartoons.

"History lesson time," Trevor grinned. "The city is on the flood plain, and back when it was just starting up about two hundred years ago, the river north of use got diverted during the spring thaw and it washed away a couple places. When they rebuilt it, they made some pretty impressive flood tunnels beneath the city. It's seperate from the modern sewer lines. I did a project on it in middle school. And the class took a tour in the old control rooms for it."

"Then that sounds like a plan. Plenty of room and it sounds like it wouldn't be disturbed that often. I brought a flashlight so if it is dark we can atleast see a little bit." Henry offered.

Trevor opened his mouth, then sheepishly stuck his knuckle in it and gnawed on it for a second. "I totally forgot about that... Welp... I can see in the dark. Mostly." Yeah, that explained everything. "On the other hand... it's likely to stick done there... I don't know if Albie's nose or mine will be of any help."

"Hmmm, Jez, you can duplicate your clothes. Can you duplicate other things? Like flashlights?" Henry was just giving opinions out loud here.

"Well, yeah, but I mean, the stuff disappears when my duplicate does," Jezelle explained, "So it'd be a bit silly to pass 'em around. I have had some inconsistencies though, sometimes stuff I pick up doesn't get copied... there's probably a pattern to it but I haven't experimented enough to know exactly."

Alex sighed as he heard people discussing flashlights when he figured out how to do something like that, but better. He pointed his palms at door and ceiling and made the light appear. It was quite bright; probably shining it into someone's eyes would cause a nasty blinding effect, "Eh, people, lights are not a problem I hope. Not sure how would it impact my microwaving, but at least I can do light," Alex said and switched his lights off.

"That just means you don't need a light," Trevor said. "The rest of use still do. There's literally no lights down there."

"I have a few road flares in my truck. We could use those once we find the bugs. Other then that I think the two lights and the glowing Alex could be enough. We will just have to stick together." Henry offered.

"Yeah, I doubt we'd need a lot of light sources unless we'd be splitting up," Alex said, "This is going to feel like the part with Moria from Lord of the Rings..."

"Except we have a Henry that could probably beat the troll to death with an orc -and then beat the balrog to death with the cave troll," Jezelle pointed out somewhat thoughtfully.

"...oooooor bugs mind control him and turn him into Balrog and thus we are all boned," Alex replied.

Trevor muttered. He supposed to be the one making refferencs people didn't get. He really needed to watch that show. Time for a subject change. "You know it takes about half and hour or more to check out, right?" Trevor mentioned to Albie.

"Gosh dang buerocracy... How's it done, remind me?" Alex replied

"You go tell them you're checking out and let them tell you what to do?" Trevor said.

"Eh... Meh..." Alex replied, not liking the fact that he'd be going mostly blind. "Whatever," he added, "Gotta do it then" and left the room to check out.

"I guess we should sort out a basic strategy while we wait," Jezelle suggested with a shrug, "I'm all for not getting hit, but a way to do that would be nice; I'm sure our gaming nights will help us figure something out -like Trevor has area denial and crowd control, might be able to block off the tunnel?"

//I wonder if I should have Alex roll for master plan (probably coming up with a reserve strategy or a Broken Wing Gambit)

"Trevor has those fancy boxes. He can block stuff off that way. I can take a up a front position if needed be. Just needed to keep them from swarming over me." Henry added.

"I would be meanwhile shining, microwaving bugs and figuring out if they are actually talking through radio, because if they do, I could try to jam the transmissions," Alex said

//thought alex left?

//so when can marina show up

//she should be arriving at the hospital about now. So into the building time.

Marina paid for the taxi service and entered the hospital. She asked for the room for her friend Alex and was on her way. She considered a new disguise but was concerned they would ask for an ID. So she just used her discoloration of her natural face.

"You're just enamoured with that 'they talk with radiowaves' idea, aren't you?" Trevor commented blandly.

"Again, it's not disproved yet, I might as well just check it. If they don't, I'll just assume they are communicating on some weird medium," Alex replied.

"Okay let's just focus," Jezelle persisted, "Trev can wall off the battlefield, I can move us around it, Henry and Alex can be our main source of damage. What else we got?"

"I can pull double duty. I've got weaponized ice blasts," Trevor paused. "Well... not ice blasts. More like... that solid blast of cold that hits you when you swing the door open in -30 weather. Only worse. The bugs don't like it."

"I can drop a lot of bugs if they are close enough to me. It is when they spread out that is becomes an issue. Plus we are going to need something to protect us so that we don't all get webbed at the same time." Henry added in.

"Assuming we can see them," Trevor added as well.

"We have a living spot light. I think that would cover it." said Henry.

"Last time we ended up fighting a swarm, we were a bit distracted from keeping multiple things going at the same time..." Trevor said slowly, thinking about how one of his boxes lost its moxie when the queen showed up.

"Can you change the size of the boxes once you make them? Like catch a bunch of bugs then smash them in the box." Henry threw the idea out.
//OOCwise, I'm not sure.

"Ah... maybe?" Trevor said. He honestly wasn't sure. Normally he just made the boxes then move them around.

"I could even help with the compacting part if need be." Henry said getting a sort of idea. It would be like one of those car crush he had seen in a movie.

"I'd of thought you'd just get two boxes and vice them together," Jezelle said, making a motion of squashing something between her hands, "Or maybe a piston deal."

"You guys... have a lot of confidence in my boxes, don't you?" Trevor sighed as Henry and Jezelle started talking about them as if they were worth their weight in gold. And easy to make. (Actually... did his boxes weight anything? He didn't think so...)

"The other option is that we just go in swinging and run down every bug we come across. Kill them before they can kill us. It can work but I figure that you all were tired of hospital stays." Henry said.

"Not like we have any other rock solid plan for dealing with the buggers if we get zerged," Jezelle said in response to Trevor.

"Boxes aren't that easy to make apparently, so throwing them around isn't a good idea. Trevor could just make them a mobile cover for us. Seems like he managed to make it partially opaque to my heatrays and I could shoot the poor bugs right through the box," Alex said, "So he'd just use the box as a frontal tank-protection, sealing the frontal access off. When it'd get broken, Henry could be smashing bugs that attack through it while Trevor rebuilds his box. If Marina arrives too, she could work as a buffer for a while too, although I am not so sure if using her as a literally a meatshield is a good idea. Also, we could totally tell cops about that and I could radio them that we found bugs, if we found bugs."

Marina looked around for the room. She maintained her thin disguise as she made her way towards the room the nurse told her Alex was in. She would switch to her secret disguise...she had no idea how it'd look, but taffeyetta was in pink, and rubber maid was in purple.

"I think the ACR guys would be more helpful. They have the tools and the information to take them out. Downside is that they might try and take out Erin in the process. I figure they are a good back up plan if things go terribly wrong."

"Hmm..." Jezelle issued, actually sounding as though it was promising, "As long as we stayed on our toes I don't think it'd be too hard to snatch Erin while the ACR guys do their job, I'm pretty sure I can teleport at least two people, so I could snap both Trev and Henry in next to Erin; that way Trev can box out the ACR guys and Henry can smackdown Erin."

"Should we wait until we are sure that the bugs are in the old sewers before we call the ACR guys? I don't want to draw them all down there only to find out that they are in a building somewhere else and attacking." Henry questioned.

"Well yeah, we should make sure the bugs are there before calling in the cavalry, then we can pick at the bugs and play for time while we wait for them to show up," Jezelle reasoned.

"Sooo....." Henry started. "When are we going to go and do this?"

"The moment Marina turns up?" Jezelle said with a shrug.

"Then we wait. I hate waiting." Henry complained. Waiting made his feet feel itchy and made him want to move.

"Someone still needs to check out," Trevor pointed out.

"...darn, right," Alex said and stormed out, this time not getting stuck in the conversation.

"Or just step out in case things go south so that you can just come back. Or so that we all can come back." Henry offered up a solution.

"I just got out... I don't wanna come back..." Trevor sighed.

Marina rushed into the room. "Hey guys...sorry I'm late!", she said to them. She had ran all those stairs to get up here in time

"Wow... you have NO class at all, do you?" Trevor said after he got over the start of he just bursting into the room. "You didn't even check to see if this was the right room... You do know there are a lot of shared rooms in hospitals, right?"

"Not the time, Trev, Erin's in danger, any personal problems between you and me can wait till after she's safe.", Marina said to Trevor. This sort of situation and he was still focusing on the wrong things.

"Hey, she is here. Does that me we can go now? Or do we have to wait for paper work?" Henry asked standing up. He was ready to go.

"Knocking. Very important," Trevor added.

"Do you want to walk out and knock this time and waste everyone's time, or do you want to save her Trevor?", Marina said to him. She really wasn't in the mood for this.

"First Jez with the breaking and entering now Marina with barging into private rooms... I weep for your morals..." Trevor sighed, shaking his head. "Oh, Albie's fine. Thanks for asking."

She was glad Albie was fine, but she couldn't imagine what they were doing "That's good...", she said to Trevor. Turning to Henry, "So how's it going...you said you faced her today in the hospital.", she asked him, ignoring Trevor.

"It has been a rough day. And I wouldn't really call it facing her. I kicked her literally across a hall and that was the end of it. " Henry replied with a shrug.

"Again..." Trevor added. "It's getting to be a habit. Hate bugs so much right now."

"I told her not to bug out again....what happened to you Trev?", Marina asked in a more serious tone.

"Went to the woods after yesterday, sorry 'bout that, again. Managed to get a better handle on it. Worked out a way to chase Henry. And oh, fought a queen and half a swarm with Albie this morning," Trevor said blandly. "So nothing major."

"Oh wow...glad Albie and you made it through...", Marina said to him. Her mom couldn't know she was here...but she knew that her mom would find out anyway. And she dare not risk another split marina after what happened at the con.

"Turned into a cat, attacked at a hospital (twice), stuck in a tree, attacked by a mountain lion, swarmed by bugs (twice), punched in the face (which almost broke my nose) by two crazy girls, kidnapped, attacked at the con, attacked by a queen and a swarm and now this..." Trevor listed the things out wearily before shaking his head. "I don't even care anymore. After all this is done, I'm hosting a game night. Bring your dice and pizza fare."

"We can share sob stories then...but I'd like if Erin was at the gaming table too.", Marina said to Trevor. "Henry, do you guys have a plan?", she asked Henry...seeing as Henry's the one who got everyone together.

"Our plan is to hunt them down and kill them. Then get Erin out. I don't think we have much of a plan past that. Find, grab, and go." Henry told the plan as best as he understood.

"Where are we headed?", Marina asked, "Those bugs will not keep her.", she said.

"Underground some where. Trevor said he knew where to look. And I am pretty sure that they keep her for now. Seeing as they have her." Henry replied.

"At least she's alive.", Marina said to him.

"We hope," Trevor said, feeling it wasn't the time to let too much false hope hang around. Even her being in the sewers was a guess. A logical one based on empirical evidence, but a guess nonetheless.

"This should be like last time right...the queen would rather mind control her than kill her...after all she's part bug now.", Marina argued.

This time Trevor didn't say anything. Most hive based bugs killed invaders, especially rival queens. So he just shrugged in a noncommittal fashion.

Marina sighed, but knew she was alive...a bug-human hybrid was too valuable for them. "Anything else you guys have learned about the situation?", she asked. She wanted to ask why they weren't leaving yet, but didn't want to be too rude.

"Honestly I have no idea, I've just been following Trev's lead since he plucked me from my house," Jezelle said with a shrug, looking at Trevor, "So lead on?"

"And remember, I knocked on your window. I didn't just climb into your room. Because I'm a gentleman," Trevor said sagely.

"I'm about to gentleman you out the window," Jezelle said flatly.

Trevor managed a grin. Now was the time for levity. Serious matters were literally looming over their heads. They wouldn't be able to joke easily once they started. "Now that wouldn't be very paragon of you. And it's unbecoming of a young lady."

It was around here that Albie returned to inform them that they had to get out before the nurses came and kicked them out since he successfully checked out.