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Derek's head was splitting. Not literally. But Metaphorically. The headache that he kept being reminded of stayed with him even after he went through the golden gate when he went back to the door at the left of the crossroads.

It's almost become easy to get used to such a pain. He knew the moment he tried to leave the overworld he would likely perish. The earth crystal and orb of dominance in his inventory were kept apart, hoping he would never have to use them to leave again. With all the knowledge in the world, he knew what he needed to do. Stop this THING from getting Avery, who he foresaw coming into this very world with his own crystals.

He had to stop it. The answer had to be in one of these many dimensions beyond the hall of gates. The first stop had been the Sky Mountains. Admittedly Derek was worried. Whenever he stepped on certain mountains. He swore another just…vanished. Instead of panicking however the Lord in the gold armor took notice.

“Interesting.” He said as he stepped onto an island with no neighbors, another mountain randomly generated.

Then he found something rather interesting. One island that spawned had an Enderman on it. He had an idea. So he killed the Enderman with a rather devious strategy by stacking really high and then killing the Enderman with his Pickaxe and then managed to get lucky enough to snag an ender pearl. “Cool. I can use this to save myself if the mountains do something new” Derek said as he stashed it in his armor.

Derek mined all the blocks he could reach until there was only one left up there. He pondered for a moment. Then. he placed a Cobweb under the block. “It’s a hunch but It might pay off…” He told himself with a shrug of his shoulders.

After a close call with a honey block clutch upon continuing, Derek saw it in the distance. A Grand Tree. floating in the sky. No leaves and yet could cast a shadow as magnificent as can be. That had to be where the exit was, he had this hunch.

Before he could approach however. “D3rlord3?” A familiar voice came from behind him.

He swiveled around. There, standing behind him on the pathway he had built, was Avery. The One he saw would be roped into this mess. Avery’s Minecraft Overworld Form after having used his own earth crystal and orb of dominance he found in a storage locker was very slime-like. If a slime was hit by a Beam of anime and then put on a Hawaiian shirt with flowers on it. But there was just one problem. Based on the knowledge painfully crammed into Derek’s head, he knew this couldn’t be Avery. The way he spoke felt off. Like he was reading off of a manuscript.

“Avery? How did you get here? Why are you here? Didn’t you read the book?” Derek asked after a moment's pause, picking up that something wasn’t right as the hairs at the back of his neck stood on end and hid by his helmet.

Avery then chuckled, a singular jump of his shoulders. “Heh, I wanted to find you. I had to make sure you were alright.” He said still standing in front of Derek without moving his head an inch, not even a little bit of slime wobbled on his bowl cut.

“You need to leave, Avery.” Derek declared what Avery should be doing by now…but then a beat.

“You didn’t see it, did you.” Derek said as his eyes narrowed a fraction, not the twitch of a headache but the twitch of suspicion.

“See what?” Avery questioned.

“You need to leave and destroy that earth crystal.” Derek pushed for Avery to leave again, knowing what would happen if Avery got to the end of this path.

“What about you?” Avery tilted his head, a globule of slime fell from the rounded gummy of a haircut and fell into the bottomless pit below never to be seen again.

Derek's forever yellow brazened eye tracked the globule as it fell. Then. A Daylight Sensor went off in his head. "I'll be okay…You just need to go." Derek said waving his aurum clad hands in front of him before pointing back where the entrance to this Sky Mountain World was located.

Avery proceeded to walk up the steps and then up in front of Derek. Pivoting again to face him. It was as if He had remembered he's in the overworld and can pace when talking to another holder of the Earth Crystal and Orb of Dominance. But his position blocked the sight of the tree. Now Derek understood what was going on. But he didn't say a word. "Don't you at least wanna look around at least? What even is this place?" Avery asked but didn't even turn his head to survey the endless expanse of rocky peaks.

"You need to leave." Derek tried again to get Avery to go.

He didn't seem to budge. "We can't look around?" He asks if that option was unavailable for some reason.

Derek cocks an eyebrow. “You want to explore?” the lord crosses his arms, metal clicking into place.

“I mean, yeah.” Avery insisted.

“Ok.” Derek let his arms drop to his sides again, then he turned on a dime.

He side eyed the Suspicious Slimy Sapience behind him. “Let me show you something cool then.” Derek entices Avery to follow him as the corners of his mouth rise on his tanned face.

The Lord and the Empty headed Amoeba in sandals run across the narrow plank pathways for some time. Until Derek reached a familiar spot. The singular shadow of the 1 meter cube several blocks in the air signalled the mountain that they were headed to. Then the two outposted there. Derek begins to talk to this so-called AverytheMayo.

“Avery. Do you know how this world works?” Derek questions what Avery knows about this dimension of liminal latitude.

“Okay. There are three rules.” Derek said as he held up three fingers, then brought his other hand’s pinky finger to the index finger held up.

“If a mountain has more than one neighbor and you step on it, a random neighbor gets deleted.” Derek said while pushing down his index finger, the finger count went to two.

His pinky migrated to his ring finger next. “If a Mountain has One neighbor and you step on it, It gets deleted.” Derek said as he pulled the ring finger down, coincidentally leaving his longest finger still pointed up.

Avery nodded his head, sounding like a Milkshake in a car crash. “Right” he addressed what D3rlord3 was saying.

Derek balled his fists next to his wrist as if he was about to start cranking a jack in the box. “If a Mountain has no neighbors and you step on it, it generates new neighbors.” Derek explained while moving his curled hand in a rotating pattern while pulling down his middle finger.

Avery nodded again. “Yea.” it was concise and to the point but not that overly interesting.

Derek folded his arms again with a clink and inclined his head forwards. “What do you make of that?” He asks Avery his thoughts on the enigma of this world.

“I mean it seems consistent. It makes sense to me. It reminds me of that one thing…like-” Avery starts drawing parallels between the way the world worked and a specific reference.

“Conway’s game of life?” Derek finished his sentence before he could go any further with slanted eyes.

“Yeah, that, heh heh” Avery replied after a brief two shoulder jump laugh.

Derek closed both eyes for a moment. “Close…But you’re wrong.” Derek said as both a means of guiding the conversation to something else, but also subtly calling out the Impostor before him.

Derek opened his eyes again. “There’s actually a fourth rule as well.” He let the suspense of the fourth rule weigh on the slime boy.

Avery’s face seemed to short circuit for a moment. As if what he could call a brain was comprehending that there was something more. “There is?” He fell for it.

Seeing that this lord has his hooks rooted deeply in this phony’s squishy noggin, it was time for him to proceed. It was around this time Derek noticed that his hunger bar was getting lower. This told him that upon stepping through the gold gate he had once seen The King, his earth crystal had converted his difficulty to survival when previously he made it Adventure mode. His eyes slanted further, the

fact this was happening now confirmed without a doubt this was a setup to get him away from that leafless tree. “You can actually make every single mountain disappear at once.” Derek said to Avery, making up a fake rule.

“What…? Would that not go against the logic?” Avery questioned without moving an inch from the nether block he had been lounging on.

“Maybe. But this world is illogical. It’s simply too limiting to think like that” Derek said with an almost theatrical shrug.

Avery leaned forwards, but only his upper body, the lower jelliform didn’t even so much as wiggle. “So how do you delete all of the mountains at once?” Avery asked for further context.

“Simple. If you can’t touch a mountain at all despite being near one then after four seconds each mountain will disappear.” Derek explained with a grin.

“Oh. Can we try it?” Avery asked, his black eyes for a brief moment dilating.

“Alright. Look up there.” Derek said to Avery before pointing his chin up directing Avery to look up.

Avery paused. Then. He looked up. The shadow of the block several meters up casted a square shadow onto his green translucent face. “Uhhhhuh…What?” Avery seemingly didn’t know what he should be doing right now.

“There’s a Block and Cobweb from a previous set of mountains at a higher altitude. It’s what’s left of the previous mountain range. That Cobweb there, It can allow for the four seconds you need to make all the mountains disappear.” Derek explained to Avery who was now looking back at him after listening to that.

“Oh. But how to get up there?” Avery questioned how they would even get up there.

Derek dispensed the Ender Pearl from his inventory and held it out in front of him. “Pearl up there, it will catch you on the web for several seconds. Try it.” Derek said, as his other hand slinked behind his back and crossed two fingers.

Avery took the pearl from Derek’s hand and then threw it up at the web. Purple Particles poof up there as Avery gets indeed tangled in the web and was slowly but surely moving downwards. Derek meanwhile goes over to the Netherrack block and stands on it whilst removing his gold plated armor for what comes next. “It’s a gamble but it’ll have to do.” Derek muttered as he waited below.

Avery’s green see through legs and barely clinging sandals started to poke out of the adhesive cobwebs, sinking down through them with the speed of a printer. It took more than four seconds. Avery took note. “D3rlord3? Why aren’t the mountains disappearing?” Avery questioned, voice kind of vague since he was up so high.

Derek did not respond. Instead, he had this devious look on his face. As if he had just captured the queen in a game of perfectly

played chess. “Checkmate” He said before he proceeded to open his mouth.

Wider. Wider. Until it was wide and slimy. There was one truth here. This fake Avery was going to fill those hunger bars of Derek’s. “What are you doing, what are you doing, what are you doing?” Avery kept repeating as he kept sinking through the web, as if whatever eldritch drive that had been autopiloting it didn’t quite expect this response and couldn’t form a sentence.

Derek could see the masks slipping from this faker’s metaphorical face inch by inch. It was honestly very satisfying. Then. Avery fell. Despite his Overworld form being slime-like, he fell like a brick. Right towards Derek’s Accepting Face.

What had been poorly imitating Avery caught his last view of the Lord’s mouth rushing up to greet him like a pit of muscle.



Because Avery was falling so fast, Derek didn't even have to so much as hold him down or swallow more than once, the force of him and his globular gelatinous body falling down his waiting throat caused his throat to bulge widely with a distorted creak against the armored plating around his neck and then back down a moment after before his belly stretched outwards with a dramatic thud, forcing him to sit down on the Netherrack block from the force of the descent.

Derek's belly was a spherical pulsating mass that forced the black undersuit Derek had been wearing to stretch and ball outwards in a determined effort to break free but there was no escape for that jiggly gut.

Eerily, the balled up form of Avery was not seen in the broken knight's deformed organ, faint curled outlines of knees being forced against where a head should be simply didn't exist.



“Idiot.” Derek said while attempting to put his chestplate back on, it didn’t work, so he just stashed it in his inventory and freely let his bouncy belly free.

“Be a better convincing Avery next time…Oh wait, there isn’t a next time” Derek roasted the faker stewing in his stomach before hoisting himself up.

The Phony was struggling in there, he could feel his stomach giving off the sensation of a shield blocking damage with each weak tap inside. Derek figured that what he had seen behind those gates, The King, must have been used as a proxy to attempt to lure him away from whatever was in that tree. Now that it was being reduced to a Jelly Soup he could finally go over to it.

Derek carefully made his way across the oak pathways again, making sure the additional squirming weight in his middle didn’t teeter him over the edge, and came to a point where the mountains didn’t lead anymore oak bridges. He was gonna have to build it across with blocks in his inventory. In order to not fall, he crouched while placing blocks in a line towards the tree.

Upon crouching like that, his innards coiled and crushed inwards. Restricting Fake Avery’s space with a Vice unshakeable. Had this Phony had bones, they’d be surely breaking into sharp little bits as Derek built across the way to the tree, each squat step scrunching the swell of his belly against the tough blocks he had been placing in his way.

The Struggling Stopped. Digestion seemed to have been taking proper effect because Derek felt his hunger bar starting to go back up one tick at a time.

“About time, You Freaking Idiot” Derek knew it was corny to say to a phony impostor already starting to leak into his colon, but he said it anyways, not like anyone was here to listen in on him.

Once he had a proper range to jump from block path to tree, he took it. With the grace of a bowling ball off a roof, Derek landed on his feet, a hard slosh from his stomach threw the weight already stewing in his insides downwards. It made for a moment's pause from the momentary ache Derek felt in his lower stomach from too much sludge trying to go down his duodenum at once. “Hrrfff, Even when I’ve outplayed him he’s still a nuisance…” Derek winced as he shuffled over to the large bark of the sky tree and rested a hand against it, giving his stomach a few shakes to attempt to dislodge the blockage.

Though, a thought hit Derek. Maybe it wasn’t slime and digestive muck that was stuck. He proceeded to put both hands under the large gut and then shove upwards. The blockage unplugged and he felt instantly better. Whatever had been clogging his intestines was solid.

“I think…I have a gut feeling” Derek pondered for a moment before he proceeded to gulp random gusts of air to make himself burp after a rhythm.



Indeed coming out of Derek’s rippling lips was a black ripped Hawaiian shirt, partially digested sandals, and something else that he hadn’t noticed.

The Underside of the left sandal had a very unnerving symbol on it. It sends terrible memories shooting up and down the knight’s spine. Speaking of shooting, downwards was plummeting the rest of the Phony Slushie that left his hunger bars completely filled again.

“I don’t want this to go noticed.” Derek knew leaving this gunk here was not a good idea, so he picked up the wet items and then threw them into the everlasting sky below.

He didn’t look back to see if they hit anything. He didn’t need to. Instead, he looked upwards. His gut instinct wasn’t just telling him he had a blockage. It was also telling him that he should check the top of the tree. So he began to tower up, climb the tree, and break the blocks in an attempt to hide his path. He knew Avery was coming through, he had seen him in the infinite expanded knowledge forced into his tiny human mind, any way to keep Avery at bay long enough to figure out a way to stop this…Thing was worth the extra blocks.

Then. As he climbed further, he saw it. A Gate that was above the one at the base of the tree. “I knew it.” Derek’s smirk returned as he confirmed the gut feeling was correct on this one.

By the time Derek passed through the Skip Gate, the remaining pudge on his gut had disappeared. Absorbed all the way into his person. The road ahead was going to be a hard one even after having jumped way ahead in the hall of doors, but he just had to see it all.

The Book he placed in that chest that warned Avery clearly wouldn't work, how would it? So he kept on the search. Padding his way to the next gate, he went through. Blackness gave way to an eerie place with grass, trees, a small pond, a few graves, a well made of brick, and a large chapel in the middle. He cringed when he saw the symbol inside was the same as the one under the sandal of the Fake Avery. It reminded him of what he needed to do after he checked out the book at the altar.

He had two signs in his inventory, so he'd use them. He placed them nearby and wrote two messages on them. Then. As fast as he had ventured here, he left the land of the lost into the next gate.

Elsewhere. In a Different Time. In a Different Place. An investigator named Wifies finds two mysterious Earth Crystals with recorded history on them. One of them had previously belonged to AveryTheMayo as the symbols implied…and the other…to a Name Not Spoken. He felt compelled to…Search for the World that Doesn't Exist.