

The Echoes of Eternity



I stood at the crossroads, gazing out at the familiar infinite paths leading to various parallel worlds. At this point, I believed I could jump with my eyes closed without missing the right portal. As the 4th navigator elected by the 8 Solverse councils (each representing the different timelines that make up the Solverse), my role was to travel across the worlds, preventing evil and keeping the infinities - all living beings across the 8 timelines safe.

But as I stood there, I felt the weight of the realms on my shoulders – my responsibility. I'd noticed a strange pattern that was getting exhausting. For every danger I averted in one world, a ripple effect would occur in another, causing a much worse disaster. I was yet again about to save another Solverse realm, my origin world - Veridoria; but I feared I was endangering another universe. "It is what it is", I said and let out a low breath and jumped.

I had the habit of visiting parallel versions of myself for every world I visited, but I'd only found one with a nice personality which makes me feel good about myself. I'd never met them face-to-face, though. The other six versions were either dead from rippled disasters or unknown, like the ones from Shaman and Anomaly. It was as if I was non-existent in those worlds.

On this day, I tried my luck again among the Shamans and was surprised at what I found. A note from myself, left for myself, and it read: "They're manipulating the timelines. Someone is causing the chain reactions. Be careful, act quick, or the doom of the realms will be in your hands." I felt a surge of adrenaline rush through me as I realized the implications. I needed to find the culprit and end this once and for all. Maybe then the 8 timelines could merge together as one Supreme Solverse.

As I traveled through the multiverse on my new quest, meeting parallel versions of people I knew in my world, some nice, others hostile, I found a cryptic message scrawled on a wall in a deserted alley. Something some rebellious teens would do, but the message kept reappearing in my head: "The Architect is not what you think." Why couldn't I unsee the text? Was this connected to my quest? And who was the Architect? All these questions with no one to answer but myself.

Finally, after traveling across worlds over and over, I tracked down the mastermind to a desolate landscape in Veridoria. The cryptic message had helped a lot. A figure stood in the distance, hidden in the shadows. "Welcome, Navigator," it said. "I've been expecting you."

The figure stepped forward, and to my shocking surprise, I saw a distorted version of myself facing me. It was the Architect. I was the Architect, or at least, a version of me. I wondered if there was perhaps some evil within me too. But this figure looks like an anomaly. No, definitely one but what was he doing in Veridoria?

"You're the one who's been manipulating the timelines," I accused.

The Architect smiled and replied, "I'm simply trying to unite the timelines while accelerating the evolution of the Solverse."

"You're playing with lives!" I roared, feeling that familiar adrenaline rush. A pang of fear struck my heart as I thought of the countless innocent lives at stake.

"You either stop or I'll end you myself," I threatened.

It laughed. "You can't, for when you do, you kill yourself too."

"Come on, work with me, and let's make Solverse one again with you ruling by my side," it added.

I instantly knew there was no convincing the Architect out of it. And it was right, any version that murders its replica would also be committing suicide or so the legend says. But it was for a just cause, I thought to myself. It's for the good of all. I steeled myself, knowing that this decision might be my end. The anomalies are a powerful force and cannot be defeated easily.

I tapped into the powers bestowed upon me by the 8 Solverse councils... Each magic coming together to create a loud roar that shook the 8 universes. I unleashed it on the Architect. A look of surprise, hatred, and betrayal was written on its face, and it faded into the shadows.

Then I saw... blank. The silence was deafening, and I wondered if I had just made a terrible mistake. I opened my eyes and the dread washed over me. Veridoria is gone and I caused it. Maybe my interpretation of the message was wrong. Maybe the Architect had a good reason. Just maybe...

Prompt: You discover that parallel versions of our world exist, each slightly different from the next. While you can freely travel between them, every time you prevent a disaster in one reality, something worse happens in another. Today, you found a message from yourself warning that someone is deliberately causing these chain reactions.

References:

Infinites - <https://infinitylabs.fandom.com/wiki/Infinites>

Anomaly - <https://infinitylabs.fandom.com/wiki/Anomaly>

Veridoria - <https://infinitylabs.fandom.com/wiki/Veridoria>

Shamans - <https://infinitylabs.fandom.com/wiki/Shamans>

Lore Thread:

<https://twitter.com/oghogho023/status/1899281859986526639?t=zsxdL6twBO1vYvY8gz7xPA&s=19>