Galaxy Hunter Online Chapter 117: Massive Leak

Logging out, I was dead in the water. It was still mid-afternoon, and I was just dead in the water. My brain was fried from the interviews, and I hated that part of the game. It was like a real-world fucking job, and I chuckled to myself. Many things about this game reflected reality, and that was the Issue when you became a professional gamer in Guilds or Corporations in this Galaxy Online.

There were a lot of parts of the game you would have to engage in properly that no one playing casually would ever want to engage in. Genuinely having a human resources department was common among the larger guilds in past games, and I felt my eyelid twitch at the thought that I was one of those people now.

I sighed, stopped pitying myself, and got out of my pod to go stretch. I put the time to two to one so that I can enjoy four hours to recover, but it is not really enough to do much else. I really needed to go back into playing the game and shooting some shit, though. Although being out in the jungle or Forest was stressful, I was having a blast at the time, even if I was on the knife's edge.

My play style in Call of Duty was that of someone who ran around quickly and caught people off guard. I had a fast play style that I would be extremely strategic with, and I had problems with teammates not being able to execute with me. It made me extremely strong when facing people of a lower skill level, but without good teammates, my fast, strategic play came apart when facing those of a similar skill level.

That was one of the reasons I started to lose when people realized my teammates were my weak point. Now, I was going for a more deliberate and slow build for Galaxy Online. I was excited to reach the main universe where I could revive and bounty hunt without as many issues. I would still have to play the same, but the respawns would take that hardcore aspect out of the game.

I yawned, grabbed some food, and started to cook a real meal. My mind slipped a bit, and I looked at my gym and nodded. I would take some time to work out, and I could plan something with that couple in a day or two to release myself as a top. Then again, I still needed to finish up my tutorial.

Cooking and thinking made me zone out, and I decided to work out for an hour after browsing the internet. I had not really looked into the forums too closely. Many people were coming up with build theories about the game and what traits were for. Some people were even getting into the main universe, although many were keeping their mouths shut. I knew someone would leak something soon.

I finished cooking my lunch and started eating it at the counter. I quickly devoured it and cleaned up my kitchen so I would not have to deal with it later. After taking some time to clean, I grabbed a drink and headed to my computer. I turned it on and put up my feet. I sighed in relief and waited for the moment when my computer started up. Once it was going, I went to the Common Pro site, and my eyes widened at the front page news.

“Verified, Galaxy Online is a massive Quantum Computer with real-life artificial intelligence!”

What?

I clicked the link, my heart thumping in my ears, and I was brought to a News site. The American Truth Tellers had an IMMACULATE image after the huge issues over a decade ago with the News media being too opinionated. American Truth Tellers told Verified FACTS only. They went out of their way and told it in a neutral way so that it would not try to sway your opinion. I had an article with them when I was young and on the rise in the gaming industry. I could trust their journalism, and I started to read.

“Last week, after the Major Update to Galaxy Online, which was welcomed happily by all who played the game, we received a Tip from someone working in Gabin Corporation. The Leak informed us that Gabin Corporation had reached a new level of Physics and Chip technology and needed massive amounts of energy to run its new model computers.

“The tip-off had us digging deep, and we learned from another source that Gabin Corporation, in the face with a team of scientists and European and United States Scientists, created the first QUANTUM chip technology, which is incomparable to the current chips we use. Using this latest technology, they began creating a game and programming a world for players to enjoy and fight in around the universe.

“Following this, a Programmer by the name of Katie O’Connor programmed the base AI for the NPCs. From what our sources inside Gabin Corporation all say, these AIs are, in fact, INTELLIGENT! Have their own thoughts, much like humans!

“All our Sources say Galaxy Online has full emotional artificial intelligence, and they have been hiding it from gamers!”

I froze, and I did not know what to think.

Ura was an intelligent Artificial intelligence? Not an NPC?

I shivered, and I did not know how to feel. I was frozen, staring at my screen. I continued to read the text again and again and reason about how Gabin Corporation brought out more and more new tech with Quantum Chips and used that to generate and create the universe of Galaxy Online.

I shook my head, feeling stupid reading this as it started to go into detail.

“There has to be more information!” I exclaimed. I looked it up and saw a video on YouTube of an interview with Gabin's CEO related to this press leak. It just came out thirty minutes ago!

I quickly pulled it up and noticed the length was long, but I hit play.

The video started with Gabin, CEO and owner of Gabin Corporation. Well, she was the daughter of the company's founder. She walked out with D-cup breasts in a very neat blouse and a Black suit jacket and skirt. She looked like the perfect Corporate employee, and she came out with her blonde hair up in a bun and two knives coming out of it. She was known to be eccentric, and the two Bowie knives were conspicuous.

“Greetings, everyone. I am here to address the recent Leaks from American Truth Tellers. What they have reported is one hundred percent true,” she began, and my eyes widened. “Our company has created the first truly sentient Artificial intelligence in our world. We accidentally came across them when Katie O’Conner created a learning program in lockstep with our Procedural universe machine.” She stopped, looked into the camera, and sighed.

“This is obviously a major discovery, and we did not know what to do at first. We could enslave these sentient beings, allow them to thrive in our world, or we could give them a place to live.” She paused, “When we were creating Galaxy online, we were using top-of-the-line Quantum computers to bring a new universe to life and all the people that lived inside it. We were expecting a next-level experience where it would be DIFFICULT to tell if the person was a human or an NPC. Instead, as we uniquely created the universe, we discovered that the NPCs were thinking for themselves. Moving in ways outside our code, and seemed to be life-like. So,” She paused and sighed. “We panicked and finished creating the universe with all the rules that are in the game world intact. That is also why there is a tutorial just in a phase outside the main universe. There is much for you to learn, but the key point is that artificial intelligence is human or free thinking in its own philosophical ways. They do care about those they love. They care about their mothers and fathers, love, and care for those around them. They can also die, just like there are ways for the NPCs in the universe to come back from death, you can. But you can also die like an NPC. Not in the real world, but in the main universe, which does not mean it is free from things that make it impossible for your character to revive.” She looked into the camera, and I shivered, “Now, one last thing before I open up for questions. We have made it so that we can update and even bring a Proleague into the Universe. But we have cut off ALL WAYS for the NPCs to interact with the real world outside interactions with you inside the game!” She paused again and repeated, “Again, we have cut off all ways for them to interact with humans in the real world. So now you may ask questions!”

My mind was blown, and I was shaking.

“Ms. Gabin! Ms. Gabin~! How do you feel about trapping a bunch of intelligent beings and trapping them in a game world?” A reporter shouted, and my mind shivered.

“Better than the implications of them in the real world, with no real bodies, and destroying our lives because we have no idea how to live our lives. This is also our technology, and we will not be releasing the code for it. In order for these lives to live, they need an insane amount of power and a certain level of technology that cannot be found anywhere else. On top of that, we believe that releasing these intelligences would be the same as releasing a plague on the world. Therefore, we have even set kill switches on the tech to destroy the game, the intelligence, and the code on every computer, and Air has blocked all the important running servers. We have done our utmost to protect ourselves from these intelligences and vice versa. We are their creators and Caretakers. They might not know we exist, but we will protect them from humanity even while we use them as a game to fund keeping them alive.”

Silence took the reception for a couple of moments, and I stared blankly at the screen.

“Ms. Gabin, what would you do if a government tried to get the technology through legal means?” A reporter asked.

“We would evacuate the building and blow it up. Those who are inside at the time would die. I do not care if the government wants to arrest me for this. This was an accident, and I believe, and the same do the people working under my company, that our world is not ready for real Artificial Intelligence. So we will be martyrs and kill them all before we allow the human race to go extinct because of greed.”

“Ms. Gabin, you have spoken a big game and said that you are the best at controlling this technology, but what makes you not greedy?” I balked at the good question, and Ms. Gabin's smile grew.

“Who said I wasn't greedy?” Was her reply, and she laughed, “We are making shit tons of money off the energy we are producing and the game while keeping this intelligence alive. Scientific research into Artificial life studies will bring forward tons of new technologies. What do you think I am running? A fucking charity? We are in control of this technology because WE CREATED IT. Fuck anyone who thinks they can take it. The American army will come and collect the scrap microcircuits if they even attempt it. We have backups on backups. We will destroy everything before anyone else is allowed to touch it, and that includes the knowledge to create the things.” She grinned savagely, “Next Question, please.”

The reporters began a campaign to make Ms. Gabin out to be the bad guy for keeping this technology from working, but I decided to stop watching because I was lost. Was Ura an actual person and not some advanced Virtual intelligence that just simulated feelings, and was I projecting feelings onto her?

I got off the computer, stripped, and got my workout clothing on.

My mind was a mess, and I did not know what to do. I just started working out hard and started to feel the sweat drip off me, but it wasn't enough, so I kept going.

Ura was an artificial Intelligence that apparently could think, feel, love, and hate.