

Astril had finally managed to pull themselves out of the inner workings of the portal as they shut the hatch, their fur covered in patches of dirt, dust, and oil as they did so, however they didn't seem to mind much. As they walked around to the front of the portal, bushing themselves off. They saw Black Jack walking towards them, he was clearly exhausted.

“Hey! Where have you-”

“Don't ask.” Black jack cut Astril off as he rubbed his temples. “Is the stupid portal fixed yet? If I have to sort another package or letter I'm going to lose my damn mind...” He pulled out a cigarette from his pocket as he grumbled, but Astril only beamed with pride.

“Of course, I'm the best there is!” They said as they trotted over to the side panel. “All we gotta do is flip this switch and our problems will all be solved!” Astril said as they pulled down the lever. Only for... nothing to happen. Astril paused before lifting the lever up and pulling it down again, repeating the process several times over, each getting more aggressive. Black Jack snickered, which caused Astril's head to snap around towards him.

“The best there is huh?” Black Jack mocked as he lit his cigarette. Astril fumed at this as they lifted the lever once more.

“I AM The best there is!!” They shouted as they pulled the lever down again with force, and this time, the portal whirled to life. With a loud hum the portal sparked a few times before finally igniting.

As Black Jack went to put the cigarette to his lips however, it was quickly pulled from his hand. He looked up, feeling a rush of air run past him

“...uh oh...” Astril muttered as they stood at the portal's side, watching as the portal began to suck in packages, letters, and envelopes. People were scrambling to not only get away from the portal's grasp but also to protect as much of the mail as they could from the portal's grasp. Black Jack adjusted his stance as to steady himself as to not get sucked in himself, ducking to dodge a box flying right past his head.

“Turn it off Astril!!” He shouted as he tried to back up, finding it increasingly hard to do so. Astril was struggling to lift the lever up.

“I-I'm trying!” They shouted they scrambled to pull the lever up, but they simply couldn't. Black Jack huffed as he slowly made his way over to Astril, fighting against the portal's pull, as he got closer he found his legs pulled out from under him, having to sink his claws into the ground as he

crawled his way over to Astril. Finally, as he got close enough, he stood up, grabbing the lever with all his force, he pulled hard on the lever, pulling it up, and shutting the wild machine down.

As he did so, everything stilled, boxes in mid flight fell to the ground, while letters slowly fluttered. If the post office wasn't a mess before, it sure was now. Both Astril and Black Jack stood there for a moment, looking at the chaos. People were starting to slowly emerge from hiding, or get up on their feet again. The scramble soon continued, only much more frantic as people didn't even know where to start. Black Jack only slowly turned to Astril, his voice concerning calm.

“Astril... please tell me you know where all that mail was sent to?” He asked, his voice strained with fake kindness.

“So... funny story-” Astril had to duck as Black Jack swiped a hand trying to grab them, as Astril scurried away.

“GET BACK HERE ASTRIL AND FIX YOUR MESS!!” Black Jack screamed as he chased his sibling around the mailroom. Others watched on, before returning to the task at hand... sorting this mess and seeing what had been lost.