

Premise: The following script is an excerpt of tutorial dialogue from an in-development MFA thesis project from USC. It has been designed to narratively familiarize the player with the game's mechanics and briefly introduce them to a few future plot elements.

Characters Present:

Nohla (Protagonist): Guarded, but sassy: A 26 year old vigilante who wields her parents technology to freely shift between the utopian world, Atraxia, and the dystopian landscape, Nether in order to progress through the game.

Axel: Quirky and upbeat, the tech savvy navigator. A 24 year old jokester that's rarely serious unless his friends or family are in danger.

The Collective: A corrupt organization that's hyper-focused on expanding their technological supremacy over both known worlds.

Player begins the game in Nether, the Dystopian Society

AXEL: Nohla! Hey what's going on? You stopped answering.

NOHLA: I'm alright... It's just weird being here. Brings things back.

AXEL: Yeah, I bet. Then let's make this quick. No more zoning out, okay?

NOHLA: Alright, I'm on it.

*(A few moments pass and Nohla reaches a seemingly dead end- intro **PEER + ALTER**)*

AXEL: Head's up, there's a dead end up ahead, but it's open on the other side. Make sure you Peer before you Alter.

NOHLA: Way ahead of you.

(Press LB to Peer. Press LT to Alter.)

*(Successfully Altering allows for her to switch to **Atraxia, the utopian environment.** After she switches over):*

NOHLA: *sigh* I always wonder what life would have been like if my family had stayed here... If things would have been better.

AXEL: I know... but hey, if you had, you never would've met me!

NOHLA: That's true. So it would have been WAY better, huh?

AXEL: Aw, you know you love me.

NOHLA: Heh, you're okay.

(A drone flies overhead)

NOHLA: What's that sound?

AXEL: I don't know, but it's getting closer. You better duck just in case.

(Press LS to crouch.) [behind a nearby crate, corner, etc.]

THE COLLECTIVE: Citizens of Atraxia, we are in pursuit of a dangerous criminal. A mandatory curfew has been instituted until further notice. Remain in your homes or you will be apprehended. Thank you for joining the infinite order, The Collective.

NOHLA: Well that's new. Talk about a warm welcome.

AXEL: No kidding. Hey, if you're a 'dangerous criminal' I wonder what they think about me?

NOHLA: Y'know you could always join me in the field if you want to find out.

AXEL: Ha. Ha, very funny, but I think I'll just stick to what I'm good at... Speaking of which, the weapons on that drone are no joke. You better be careful if more show up.

NOHLA: I'm always careful.

(A bit of time passes as Nohla continues progressing- the 1st Atraxia portion is very short)

(Nohla finds an area where she needs to Alter back to Nether to proceed. Once there, a more aggressive drone sound is heard overhead.)

AXEL: What? They're here too? You need to hide, NOW.

(Nohla detects the shift in his voice and doesn't bother arguing- she quickly finds a place to hide as a drone flies across)

NOHLA: Hmph, they're persistent I'll give 'em that.

AXEL: Yeah, but it's weird. Nether's the kind of place I'd expect to find the Collective. But Atraxia too? Seems like they're getting closer to you, Noh.

NOHLA: Maybe... They haven't caught me yet, though.

AXEL: I'll be watching your back to make sure it stays that way.

NOHLA: Thanks, Axel. I'm counting on you.