

GOSSIP IS NO GAME

SOURCE
#12



Place: TimeTravel Games, Inc.

Characters: Deja Howard, President; Kate Floyd, Artist; Rudy Tanner, Artist; Camila Hernandez, Artist

[Rudy and Kate talk in a room by themselves.]

Rudy: Hey, Kate, I need to talk to you for a second. I saw something I wasn't supposed to see. It was left by accident here in the copy machine.

Kate: Really? What is it?

Rudy: It's a list of who is on the team Deja is putting together to produce our next game, *Journey to Planet Rutrao*. There's tons of art to be done for that game. But, uh, the list has only our names on it, not Camila's.

Kate could have told Rudy that she did not want to hear about something he was not meant to know.

Kate: Maybe Deja is giving her another job. I heard Camila was doing touch-up art on the math game, *Invasion of the Number Snatchers*.

Rudy: I thought that, too, but she'll be done with that work tomorrow. No, something else is going on.

Kate (annoyed): I think you're trying to tell me something, Rudy, so just come out and say it.

Rudy: Okay. I think Deja didn't put Camila's name on the list of staff that will work on *Journey to Planet Rutrao* for a reason. She's going to fire her.

I saw Camila talking to Deja with the door closed and they looked very serious.



Kate: You know Camila and I are friends, right, Rudy? If she were about to be fired, she would have gotten some clue from Deja. And she would have brought it up with me, for sure!

Rudy: Let me just say that, uh, there are things you don't know.

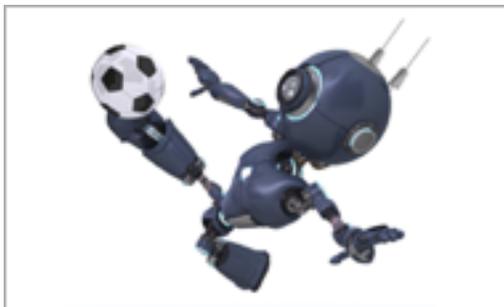
Kate: Okay, I believe you because you always seem to know the most about what's happening around here.

[Rudy and Kate go back to their desks to get on their Twitter accounts.]

Rudy and Kate go back to their desk and get on social media.

[Rudy and Kate's Tweets are projected so that the audience can see them in real time.]

@RudyTimeTraveler Whoa. I think my coworker Camila is about to get fired!



@KateGamesRMe All: Check out this cute drawing my friend Camila did of a robot playing soccer on Planet Rutrao! She's so talented. Yet she's about to be fired!

[Two hours later. The whole staff has gathered in the hub for a meeting with Deja, the President.]

Deja: Good afternoon, everyone. It has come to my attention that a couple of people on staff have been spreading a rumor that I am going to fire a staff member. As I understand it, this rumor began in the office and quickly spread across social media. I just want to remind you all that spreading information about people that can't be proven can do a lot of harm. It hurts a company's reputation. It causes trouble for the

people starting, or passing on, the rumor. And, most of all, it hurts the person at the center of the gossip.

Now for some good news. I'm pleased to announce that Camila Hernandez has been promoted to lead artist here at TimeTravel Games. Rather than work on *Journey to Planet Rutrao*, Camila will direct her own team of artists on our new game, our biggest yet, *Intergalactic Soccer War*.

Rudy to Kate: Whoa we better delete our Tweets the moment this meeting is over -- I goofed big time!