TRON 3 END OF LINE

WRITTEN BY

MARK S LOWE

HTTP://MARKLOWE.COM/ WGA REGISTERED EXT. GRID - TRON LEGACY STYLE

We fall through the winding river of the Disney castle logo. We descend deeper as layers of virtual reality slip by. Our descent finally rests on the grid floor.

Two lightcycles burst into view. The camera lurches to match their speed. A race is on. Two massive walls of bright energy ribbons follow as their engines howl into the dark sky.

The bikes engage a series of mind-bending stunts.

The lead bike takes a wild turn and leaps from a building, bounces off a passing Recognizer and completes an impossible jump unscathed.

The second bike follows effortlessly.

The two are inseparable.

EXT. GRID - KERNEL ALTAR

The lead biker, one mid-30s Sam Flynn, hunkers down into his seat and looks back at his opponent. He's lost her for a brief moment as he turns back to line up for a cliff ahead.

Sam leaps off a cliff and transforms into a base-jumping wingsuit followed quickly by the second racer. They cut through the sky at incredible speeds. Obstacles whip by their positions risking sure death. They activate parachutes and land comfortably in front of an altar pulsing energy.

Featured on the altar is a beautiful medallion feeding the grid all of its programming. Sam looks back over his shoulder to see Quorra, a late 20s program turned human, as she performs a perfect landing atop the altar itself.

QUORRA

I win!

SAM That's so not fair.

Quorra laughs as she hops down. They join hands looking over the grid filled with a bustling population of programs below.

QUORRA

There it is.

A beat.

QUORRA Are you sure about this? SAM Four years is a long time without an update.

They look over the grid.

SAM I just can't risk losing...

A beat.

SAM I just wish he was here.

QUORRA He would be proud of you Sam.

Sam smiles.

Sam turns to the altar. Atop is a large slab containing a central program known as the KERNEL feeding the grid its existence. He grabs it from both sides then looks to Quorra.

SAM

Ready?

Quorra nods excited.

Sam pulls firmly on the altar removing the kernel. The grid goes black. Programs freeze in motion.

Sam withdraws a shape from his back, presses a sequence of buttons, and the object materializes into a new kernel. He carefully positions it over the altar and looks to Quorra.

> SAM Here goes nothing.

Sam plugs in the new kernel sending a burst of redesign throughout the grid. The new world is bright blue with varying shades of complimentary colors. Buildings reform. Programs reanimate. Programs upgrade. Recognizers vanish. The grid is reborn.

> QUORRA It's beautiful Sam.

SAM I wasn't sure I could ever come back here.

Quorra takes Sam's hand.

SAM

At first I was afraid to change a single line of code, but I know he'd be more angry if he found it the same.

QUORRA I look forward to his opinion.

A beat.

QUORRA We should be getting back.

SAM One last thing.

Sam pulls a device from his belt and kneels to the grid. He presses a sequence of buttons materializing four grid bugs held in place by a central node. He adjusts their direction as they build up power begging to be released. He presses a button in the middle and the bugs scream into the distance sounding like tiny high pitched lightcycles.

> QUORRA Do you think they'll find him.

> > SAM

We'll see.

Our view pulls back as we observe the grid bugs cutting four lines in a giant plus sign. We continue to pull back through digital clouds and into the ENCOM hallways.

INT. ENCOM CORRIDORS

A young Edward Dillinger, early 30s is seen carrying a small box of his belongings. He passes the laser bay and notices a flash of light, then silence.

Sam and Quorra exit laughing and bump into Edward.

SAM Hey! How goes it?

EDWARD You guys working late?

Sam covers.

SAM We just came by to grab some things. You on your way out? EDWARD

This is the last of my stuff.

Sam nods regretfully.

SAM

Well, as I said before, we're grateful. I know you'll do amazing things across the street.

Edward looks annoyed by the phony well wishing.

Awkward beat.

EDWARD

Well I better get going. I'm already late for my first meeting.

The two men shake hands as Quorra follows with a hug.

Edward continues down the hallway. We see his face smirk.

EDWARD Good luck tomorrow.

Sam looks at Edward suspiciously.

## EXT. DATA COMPLEX

We see a large industrial complex comprised of gleaming office buildings. ENCOM and the newly built DILLINGER ENTERPRISES are two of the more prominent structures separated by a cul-de-sac. The sign on Dillinger Enterprises flickers on for the first time.

Edward places his box into the trunk of his car and drives a short distance to this father's new company.

### INT. DILLINGER ENTERPRISES

Edward walks through a collection of hallways until he reaches his father's plush office. He sets down his box.

DILLINGER SENIOR There he is! The man of the hour. Did you get a chance to settle into your new office.

Edward looks annoyed as he sits at his father's desk.

DILLINGER SENIOR

What?

### EDWARD

Look, I don't want to seem ungrateful, but I need you to know that this is against my will.

DILLINGER SENIOR What? You'd rather play second fiddle to Sam Flynn?

## EDWARD

What's the difference between that and playing second fiddle to you?

Senior looks confused.

### DILLINGER SENIOR

Son, don't you misunderstand? This is ours, and soon enough it'll be yours. You have your whole life to make this place whatever you want. We're starting off with brand new technology that no one has seen before. Patents that are worth billions!

Edward isn't convinced.

EDWARD I shouldn't have to leave ENCOM. We should <u>own</u> ENCOM.

DILLINGER SENIOR I nearly went to jail Edward.

Senior leans towards Edward.

DILLINGER SENIOR Everything about Dillinger Enterprises is right.

EDWARD Well it doesn't matter. He'll fail.

Senior switches his tone.

DILLINGER SENIOR What does that mean?

## EDWARD

You'll see.

Senior slams his fist and pushes his face into Edward's.

Edward's eyes widen.

Senior begins pacing.

### DILLINGER SENIOR

I've borrowed billions to start this company, and I won't have some childish vendetta sabotage everything! Whatever you've done, you undo it!

EDWARD Who said I did anything?

## DILLINGER SENIOR

I know you Edward, because I know myself. Life isn't a lottery ticket you just buy and win! Life is hard work!

EDWARD Is that what you call stealing games from Kevin Flynn?

Senior slaps Edward.

DILLINGER SENIOR You know nothing about that.

Senior begins to pace.

DILLINGER SENIOR Kevin was a good coder, but he didn't understand business. How to polish something that could be sold. I begged him to work with me, but he refused. We were sitting on millions of dollars of product that we couldn't sale. Without my intervention ENCOM would never have existed.

Senior pushes into Edward's face.

DILLINGER SENIOR We have a chance to change everything Edward.

Edward calms his ungrateful gaze.

# DILLINGER SENIOR Now go, and don't be foolish.

Edward stands, grabs his box, and heads for the door. He pauses before leaving.

### EDWARD

You know, the last thing they had me doing was looking through old ENCOM archives. You know, to keep me out of trouble. I found some of your old programs in there. You weren't so bad yourself dad.

DILLINGER SENIOR Thank you Edward.

## INT. DILLINGER ENTERPRISES, EDWARD'S PRIVATE LAB

Edward sets down his box. He looks at it nervously. He reaches in and withdraws something draped in a cloth. He pulls back a curtain that conceals his own private ENCOM laser that is missing a part.

Edward removes the cloth. It's a lens. He carefully screws it into place. He flicks on the power. The laser lights up.

CUT TO desktop computer. Edward reaches up to the keyword and logs into a video game. LOGIN NAME: Faust. He puts a headset on. The game screen advances into a chatroom with other players.

# EDWARD

How's the virgin squad today?

### EXT. DATA COMPLEX

We pull through the DILLINGER ENTERPRISES window as the night sky evolves into a morning sunset.

### INT. KEVIN FLYNN'S STUDY

The camera flies through the city and pushes into the study of one Kevin Flynn now occupied by Sam. He flips pages through a notebook. They are littered with sketches and designs by his father Kevin. Vehicles, software flowcharts, and pencil sketches are everywhere.

A postcard falls into Sam's lap. He studies the card. A note from his father with a custom signature:

Sam rolls his right hand. We see a tattoo of the signature. Sam reinserts the postcard into the notebook.

Quorra turns the corner.

QUORRA

You ready?

Sam puts the notebook down.

SAM I hope I'm doing the right thing.

A beat.

QUORRA You are smart Sam.

SAM I feel like I never knew him. He almost seems like a character in a comic book.

Quorra looks confused.

SAM Like he wasn't real.

Quorra is stunned.

QUORRA He <u>was</u> real Sam.

Sam smiles realizing that Quorra can't possibly understand.

SAM Let's do this.

## INT. ENCOM CONVENTION HALL

A massive basement floor of ENCOM lights up. Pin-striped lines of blue flicker on. Soft overhead lights flush out the room's design. Hundreds of computers grouped in fives fill the floor. A large black curtain backdrops the furthest wall.

A herd of gamers eagerly wait outside. The doors open. Gamers show badges. The main hall begins to fill. ENCOM video game posters line the walls, hang from the ceiling, and cover the floor. Merchant booths sell T-shirts with striped glowing designs, glowing drinks, and paraphernalia featuring ENCOM game characters.

The gamers and reporters settle in. The lights dim.

An announcement from a robotic female voice begins.

ENCOM ANNOUNCER Ladies and gentlemen, ENCOM's CEO, Sam Flynn.

The crowd applauds. Sam takes the stage.

SAM

Thank you! Thank you very much, and thank you for coming to our first annual ENCOM E-Sports Competition!

The diverse crowd howls.

SAM

Many of you know that ENCOM started as a video game company, but sadly over the years we lost our charter, and that's why over the last half decade we have worked tirelessly to reignite that passion that made us what we are today, and I'm proud to announce that ENCOM now has the top five video games in the world.

The crowd applauds.

SAM

Today we're bringing together our best players to compete, and that's you! I want to take a moment to thank our incredible staff of game developers and testers, but most of all to thank you for putting us back on top of the gaming industry.

Sam applauds the audience.

SAM

Many of you also know that we at ENCOM are always looking into the future. Trying to find ways to do things better, and today I'm here to share something we've been working on for nearly forty years. Something my father and others started to change the world. Sam gives a head nod. A black curtain drops revealing a laser bay. In front are two platforms. One contains a crate, the other empty.

SAM

They say that life imitates art, and today is no exception. Today ENCOM is debuting a new technology that will change the world as we know it. With this device we'll be able to improve manufacturing, shipping, and we think that within a decade, we will be able to change traveling around the world. And with that, I'd like to demonstrate.

Alan Bradley, a late 50s software engineer and now partner of ENCOM, stands side stage operating the demo machine. Sam removes a tiny remote control from his chest pocket.

His thumb presses the button.

The laser charges, and zaps the crate out of existence.

The crowd goes silent.

Sam walks to the empty platform.

His thumb presses the button again.

The laser projects the crate on the empty platform. Sam opens the crate revealing a pile of ENCOM T-shirts. He throws them to the crowd. The audiences bursts into applause as a local news reporter nearly swears on camera.

FLASH FORWARD

Sam exits to where Alan and Quorra are waiting.

Quorra hugs Sam as Alan extends a hand of congratulations.

ALAN You did it Sam. That was perfect.

SAM Thanks Alan.

Sam grabs Alan by the shoulder.

SAM

Alan, I need to tell you something.

ALAN

Sure.

SAM I need to thank you.

ALAN No you don't.

SAM

No, I do. For the last twenty years I've been a pain in the ass. I rebelled through every piece of advice you ever gave me. I need to thank you for being there for me, and continuing to believe in me, even when I was trying to prove that I wasn't worthy.

Alan smiles affectionately.

ALAN You're a Flynn kid. I never lose faith in a Flynn.

They hug.

## ALAN

So what are you two going to do to celebrate?

Sam looks to Quorra who is bubbling with excitement. Sam turns to Alan with a shit eating grin.

EXT. OUTSKIRTS OF TOWN - NIGHT

A cliff edge overlooking the data complex a few miles away features Sam and Quorra dressed in base jumping wingsuits lit like grid apparel.

> SAM You remember what to do right?

QUORRA Yes! Stay close to you.

SAM Right. I'll pull our chutes using the remote. The chopper will pick us up once we land.

Sam pinches the walkie-talkie on his shoulder.

SAM You quys in position?

CHOPPER PILOT Yes Mr. Flynn.

, mr. . . . . . . . .

SAM

You ready?

Quorra nods.

# QUORRA Sam. I love you.

Sam is taken back by her statement.

## SAM

I love you too Quorra.

The two kiss before Sam leaps from the cliff. Quorra quickly follows.

The two cut through the sky. Their gleaming suits paint the night with blue streams.

Sam screams into the night as Quorra yelps her own chant. The two continue to build speed maneuvering over the terrain.

Their speed stabilizes as the two start a very close flyby of the cliff edge that for a moment is slick and smooth.

Quorra begins to fixate on the cliff contour as her mind goes into a trance. She sees a grid materialize over the cliff.

Quorra grows ever lost in her vision. She slowly reaches out to touch the rapidly moving cliff wall.

# SAM How you doing back there?!

She is silent as her finger tips touch the cliff.

Sam notices her silence and glances back to see Quorra lost in the moment. A jutting rock closes on her position as Sam attempts to break her concentration.

# SAM

Quorra!

It slams into her arm sending her flying in a barrel roll.

Quorra is knocked out by the impact and is twirling uncontrollably. Sam attempts to latch onto her limp body. The two twist and turn in the air as cliff protrusions wisp by nearly killing them both. They continue to lose altitude as Sam attempts to grab her.

On a third try, Sam grabs her body and buckles himself to her torso. He pulls the parachute and the two nearly die once again from a towering rock wisping by.

Sam lands the two in a tumbling roll. Quorra is severely injured. Sam is in shock.

SAM Quorra! Quorra! Baby, wake up!

Sam grabs his walkie-talkie and calls down the chopper.

SAM We need assistance! This is a medical emergency!

The helicopter lands.

Quorra finally opens her eyes.

QUORRA I was there.

SAM

Where?

QUORRA In the grid.

Sam looks confused.

INT. ENCOM LASER BAY - CONTINUOUS

Alan is prepping the laser bay looking disheveled. Sam rushes in carrying Quorra in his arms. Alan clears a place on the table. Sam puts her down.

> ALAN Dear God what happen?

SAM I don't know. Something is wrong. She says she was back in the grid!

Alan pulls back her clothing revealing a massive injury that is part biological and part pixel.

ALAN I can't fix this. SAM What are we going to do?!

ALAN There's only one place she might have a chance.

Sam looks to Alan realizing their only option. Sam immediately starts to fire up the laser.

SAM Is this going to work?

ALAN It's our only option.

SAM I'm starting to think she's not ready for the real world.

Alan looks solemnly at Sam.

Sam slams his hand down on the laser console. Quorra is gone.

Immediately the power in the laser bay goes dead.

SAM

What the?

The giant ten foot wide screen lab monitor flickers on. A booming elongated voice fills the room.

MCP

Users.

The MASTER CONTROL PROGRAM's huge RED face lifts into view. His devilish eyes stare down.

MCP speaks in a whispered anger.

MCP What are you doing in my system?

Sam looks to Alan who looks terrified.

SAM

Your system?

The MCP snorts like a bull about to charge.

MCP From this point forward you will take instructions from me. From this point forward the grid is offline.

SAM Who are you?

MCP I am the caretaker of the grid. Soon I will usher in the age of the programs. Ending the age of users.

SAM Alan, talk to me.

Alan is unable to speak.

We see through the camera eye of the MCP as he piers to study Alan's face. A subliminal flash of face recognition measurements overlays Alan.

> MCP Alan 1. It's been a long time user.

ALAN Hello Master Control.

SAM You know this guy?

The MCP looks to Sam. Sam's face is scanned.

MCP

Boy Flynn. You should know that your father can't hide in the system forever. I will find him, and when I do he will be purged from the consciousness of all programs.

SAM Get out of my grid!

MCP

It is no longer your grid user. The only thing you can do now is prepare for your extermination.

SAM

And just how do you expect to continue running without users?

MCP I already control all core functions of your reality. I dictate and users follow. Oh, we will keep you around to facilitate your own demise. To hasten what your kind has already set in motion. Wars. Depopulation. Hatred.

SAM

I will force you out of the grid.

MCP

No. And your attempts will result in your utter failure and the end of your inferior species. END OF LINE.

The screen goes dead as the power returns. All laser bay monitors display a message "ACCESS DENIED."

SAM

Alan, what was that?

Alan is speechless as he hangs his head.

SAM

Alan!

Alan whispers to himself.

ALAN It's not what, but who.

Sam is near tears of anger.

A beat.

ALAN We thought we erased him.

SAM Obviously not!

ALAN

He's one of the reasons why your father was stuck in the grid.

SAM What the hell are you talking about? My father never told me anything about a Master Control!

ALAN Your father made me promise never to tell you. SAM

What?!

Alan takes a deep breath.

SAM What are we going to do?!

ALAN I don't know.

SAM You know I've got to go in there!

ALAN He'll grab you if you go in.

SAM I don't have a choice!

Sam's cellphone chimes. He looks at his phone. A voicemail has arrived. Sam nearly throws his phone until he reads the display.

PHONE VOICEMAIL - KEVIN FLYNN

Sam looks at Alan in disbelief as he holds up the screen.

SAM Is this a joke?

Alan shakes his head. Sam fumbles the phone to play the message aloud. It's a message in his father's voice. The message sounds as if the words have been spliced together.

PHONE Sam, don't come in here. Sam, don't come in here. Sam...

The message repeats until Sam hangs up the phone.

SAM I've got to go in there.

ALAN He just told you not to!

SAM That means he's still alive! ALAN

It doesn't mean that, and you know that! That's probably just a message stitched together by, him!

Alan gestures at the now blank screen.

Sam deliberates.

ALAN Look, he just got Quorra. If you go in there, he'll just snatch you up, and you'll both be lost.

SAM What the hell was he talking about?

ALAN

I don't know. Sam, we have to be careful. Last time we fought him he nearly won, and that was 40 years ago. There's no telling how powerful he's become.

SAM I have an idea.

INT. ENCOM CONVENTION HALL

The gamers are playing on the other side of the curtain. The demo laser sits dormant on stage.

Sam flips on an array of lights overlooking the laser. Sam kicks the T-shirt crate off, and stands in its place.

ALAN This is crazy Sam.

SAM

This laser isn't part of the main system. If I use this, I can get to wherever he's holding Quorra.

ALAN Quorra may not be alive.

Sam looks suddenly defeated by Alan's statement.

SAM I've got to try. If my dad sent this message, I owe him.

Alan looks on.

Alan, I'm dying. All this, it doesn't mean a thing without him. I think about him every day. Wondering if he approves. Wondering what he would do. I gotta do this. Even if I don't come back, at least it'll mean this nightmare is over.

A beat.

SAM What kind of son would leave his father behind?

Alan eventually nods. He turns on the laser.

ALAN Find your dad kid. For both of us.

Alan withdraws the remote to the laser. He tosses it to Sam.

Sam pauses a moment.

SAM Alan. I meant what I said. Thank you for being there.

Alan chokes back tears.

ALAN Sam, find TRON. He was created to stop the MCP. If he comes back online, I might be able to help out here.

Sam nods before raising his arm and pressing the button. He's pulled into the grid. The black curtain wisps.

INT. ENCOM GRID

Sam is staring into a pin-light that is hovering in the eye socket of a program called HACK. HACK, a late 20s male, stares back at Sam trying to examine his condition. HACK's body is partially damaged, but he looks on like an excited geek playing with a new toy. The pin-light dances outside of its socket providing data about Sam's condition.

> HACK He looks okay, but honestly, I can't get a read on his routines.

The Commander, a late 40s looking program worn from years of battle, replaces HACK.

COMMANDER Well, he looks better than most of us.

HACK It's only a matter of time before he starts to feel it.

The Commander smirks.

### COMMANDER

Disc him.

HACK steps back in front of Sam and smiles.

HACK

Okay program.

HACK holds up a blank disc.

HACK

This is going to be your disc. I don't know if you had these back in your days, but you gotta have one today.

HACK presses a couple buttons out of view causing the disc to light up an impossibly bright blue.

HACK

Once you mate with your disc, it'll be yours and only yours. It's your friend. It knows what you're thinking, and it'll help you derezz any bad guys. Are you following me so far?

Sam nods. HACK forces Sam to turn a 180. He attaches the disc. A cloud of energy swims across his body. The disc appears to hug Sam for a split second before forming into position on his back. It's a mix of saw-blade and frisbee. It begins to pulse with what looks like a heartbeat. As it does, Sam begins to regain consciousness and urgency.

> SAM Where, where is she?!

## COMMANDER

Whoa there Program. Relax. You've just been intercepted during transport. Your bound to feel disoriented. Who is <u>she</u>?

Sam looks around confused.

SAM Quorra. Her name is Quorra. She just came this way.

The Commander smirks, then looks around at his team.

COMMANDER Hey Cora, do you know this guy?

Cora, a late 20s bombshell, and exact duplicate of the original Quorra steps around the corner dressed in battle gear with a recessed sniper rifle hanging from one arm. She walks up to Sam who thinks for a moment he's found her.

She looks at him point blank then replies.

CORA Nope. Never seen him before.

The Commander looking mildly frustrated, turns back to Sam.

COMMANDER Well which Quorra is she?

Sam is crushed.

SAM Which one?!

COMMANDER Yeah, there must be thousands in the grid by now.

HACK She's one of our most popular programs in the system.

Cora looks proud.

SAM

How long?

COMMANDER How long what?

How long has she been duplicated.

COMMANDER I don't know. A thousand cycles. Maybe three thousand.

Abrams, a massive late 30s program covered in thick body armor, steps into the conversation.

ABRAMS Man, where have you been program?

HACK Well judging from his configuration, I'd say he's been archived for an eternity.

The Commander walks away from Sam.

SAM You have to take me to her!

COMMANDER What? We have to take you? Why?

SAM She's my, friend.

### COMMANDER

So? We all lose programs kid. This is a war we're fighting. You're just lucky we grabbed you before the MCP got a hold of you, which reminds me, he's most likely figured that out, and has troops headed our way.

SAM

If you take me, I'll join your group and help you take out the MCP.

The team laughs.

COMMANDER Who said we're trying to take out the MCP? We're just trying to

survive.

SAM Look, I know everything there is about the grid. I can get you to him, and I'm sure we can figure out a way to take him out.

COMMANDER Right kid. Just like that. You're just going to march right up to his majesty and ask him to leave. Is that it?

Sam looks at the team.

SAM I'm what you guys call a user.

The team pauses at all once before HACK replies.

HACK What's a user?

Sam covers.

SAM It's a type of program that knows a lot about everything in the grid.

COMMANDER Yeah? Prove it!

Sam looks around the room.

SAM

Is there a console somewhere?

HACK pulls out his deck, activates a screen, and hands it to Sam. Abrams is shocked by this immediate trust.

ABRAMS Wait a cycle, you can't just hand him the controls. What if he's working for the MCP?

HACK Abrams, it's all right. I have to authorize it first, whatever he's about to do.

Sam scans the team before entering a sequence. He hands the console back to HACK who looks puzzled.

SAM It's a key to unlock some things I left the last time I was here. HACK studies the code. He looks to the Commander. The Commander nods. HACK presses the execute button and three gleaming cylinders appear in the room. Abrams materializes up a huge arm cannon and points it at Sam.

> ABRAMS See! I told you this wasn't a good idea!

Sam raises his palms and attempts to calm Abrams.

SAM It's okay. They're just power nodes. I've stored them around the grid to make sure I can use them to create things.

Sam gestures to HACK who appears to recognize them.

SAM

Take one.

HACK looks like he's seeing a box of chocolates.

HACK This can't be. All power is being sanctioned by the MCP.

HACK bends down and grabs one of the nodes.

SAM Twist the bottom, and...

## HACK

I know how a power node works.

HACK turns the base of the cylinder as a burst of pure energy overwhelms HACK's starving body. For a moment, his missing eye returns. HACK looks like he's taken his favorite drug.

#### HACK

Oh, it's real.

HACK pants.

ABRAMS Well damn, let me have one!

Abrams reaches for a node as the Commander blocks his move.

COMMANDER Now wait a minute. We need to vote on this. We're all starving Abrams. Come on! I've been holding out for ten cycles. I'm due!

COMMANDER Cora, you good with this?

CORA Depends on who gets the next one.

SAM

I don't understand.

### HACK

Ever since the MCP took over he's been eating up all the power cycles. It keeps us weak, dependent. His REDS farm it out to control us. Keep us in line. If you haven't noticed we're all corrupted by the lack of power. Soon you'll feel it yourself.

### ABRAMS

Yeah, it's not a great feeling let me tell you.

The Commander lifts a node and looks to Sam.

COMMANDER You can make more of these?

#### SAM

I can, but we have to move to a different place in the grid.

COMMANDER

We better be careful using this trick or we'll get spotted. Here Cora, you take it. I'm good.

CORA No Commander, I'll be all right.

SAM

It's all right. You can share it.

Sam guides Cora's hand over the Commander's.

# SAM

Turn it.

The Commander and Cora get an equal burst of the power. They both look elated by the experience.

CORA

Shut up.

The Commander smirks as he looks to Sam with a wink.

Abrams utterly consumes his before flexing his armor and letting out a woofing shout of satisfaction.

COMMANDER Okay kid, let's get your Quorra.

SAM

Do you know where she is?

HACK

All programs are sent to the duplication center for copying. You just happen to be in Duplication City right now.

CORA

The city is packed with I/O conduits to route newly copied programs in and out of the system. We just need to break into the right duplication center to find your friend and, my mother.

Cora taps Sam on the nose before wisping behind Abrams who is already making his way outside. Sam looks to the Commander and HACK as he tries to conceal how good it felt to see anyone who looks like Quorra.

EXT. ENCOM GRID, CITY

Sam walks outside the room and beholds the now MCP infiltrated grid. The world is dense and complicated. Buildings have been added, and the population of programs is triple capacity. RED vehicles patrol every sector of the grid, some on foot, some in the air, and all surrounded by a regiment of formidable Recognizers. A RED MCP logo has been plastered on nearly everything.

> COMMANDER Is this how you remember it?

Sam shakes his head.

HACK sighs.

HACK

Why do I always get this job? Okay, RED bad. BLUE good. If there's anything else you think you need to know, ask now or forever hold your query.

SAM Are those Recognizers?

HACK replies as if Sam is a child.

HACK

Yes, they "recognize" us programs that aren't in the MCP mailing list, and either capture us, or derezz us.

SAM They look different.

## HACK

Well, they've been entirely reprogrammed to run on their own. No moral dilemma for these guys. They're flying death machines. Best to stay out of their scanners.

Abrams looks impatient.

ABRAMS

Are we ready?

Sam notices a symbol on a building pulsing RED light in the distance.

SAM What's that?

HACK looks to the Commander concerned.

COMMANDER That's the MCP's personal game grid. He's got an entire world in there. INT. MCP GAME GRID

We push into the rooftop of the structure revealing an elaborate game grid pin-striped in RED. A massive crowd of RED citizens cheer. A collection of BLUE vehicles are being pursued by extremely aggressive RED soldiers.

The BLUE leader is panicking as the REDS are gaining.

BLUE LEADER Stay together!

BLUE RIDER They're gaining on us!

BLUE LEADER Split up. Two of you take them down! We'll pull the rest up.

The BLUE team splits into two groups, but to their surprise all four remaining RED riders follow the group below. The BLUE leader realizes they've made a fatal mistake and eases up on his throttle.

BLUE LEADER

Oh no.

The RED soldiers execute a well rehearsed move and obliterate the two BLUE riders below.

We push into the face plate of the lead RED rider revealing one Edward Dillinger.

EDWARD Good job my subjects. Return to holding. I'll take care of the rest.

Edward accelerates and jumps through a portal to the top level where the two BLUE riders are waiting.

BLUE LEADER You're not going to get us today.

EDWARD

Oh yes I will.

The remaining BLUE riders fire in different directions appearing to prepare for their own rehearsed attack. Edward smiles a hungry grin.

The two BLUE, turn in unison and head directly at Edward's bike engaging in what appears to be a classic game of chicken. The tension builds as their distance closes.

Edward smiles.

The three vehicles continue to converge. Just before impact, Edward morphs his vehicle into a two ribbon machines that slams into the BLUE opponents exploding their bodies on contact. Edward slides between them on his knees in a praying bow.

The crowd explodes with applause.

The MCP's face fills the wall as he calls out to Edward.

MCP Come. Step forward and receive your bounty.

Edward humbly walks into a spotlight supplied by the MCP and kneels. He receives several rings of power that descend on his body causing him to glow. He looks very pleased.

MCP Those who serve me will want for nothing. The age of programs has arrived!

The audience cheers.

INT. ENCOM GRID, DUPLICATION CENTER FIRST FLOOR

An outline of a door throbs as HACK breaks the lock. The team flow into the room. First Abrams, then Cora, then the rest.

Sam sees the giant duplication machine within. A huge press stamps a gold ball made from floating code that sends a burst of energy wrapping around a generic human figure below. The code embeds into the flesh of the figure as it comes to life. The newly formed program slowly walks into a maze where it receives orders and exits.

Cora approaches Sam.

CORA Your friend is up there.

Cora points to the second floor with the glowing spheres.

Sam looks confused.

HACK finishes breaking into an elevator system. The team moves onto the platform before riding to the top.

INT. ENCOM GRID, DUPLICATION CENTER SECOND FLOOR

We see the team crest the floor with Sam in the lead. He hesitates to step off the platform.

At closer look, the spheres are largely transparent with source code swimming on rotating ribbons over the surface. Each sphere sits in a perfectly concave base.

> SAM Where is she?

HACK dodges Sam and heads towards the bays.

HACK Let me find her. The system said she was on this floor.

HACK begins a search using his portable console.

HACK Here she is!

Sam slowly walks up to the sphere HACK found.

SAM What happen to her?

HACK looks astonished by Sam's lack of knowledge.

## HACK

What do you mean? She's a golden master now. Haven't you ever seen one before?

Sam is destroyed.

SAM

No.

Sam slowly moves in front of her unable to process the image. He reaches out his hand and intersects the sphere. The rotating source code bursts with tiny pins of light as it collides with his hand.

> SAM Can we make her a program again?

Cora watching Sam's pain tries to help.

CORA Each time a copy is made, she becomes Quorra once again. SAM Can we fix this one?

HACK Sorry program. She's just a template now.

Sam unable to cope, begins to step inside Quorra's sphere.

HACK Hey, you don't want to do that!

Sam continues in a trance. He steps inside her. The sphere perfectly accommodates his height. Sam no longer can hear the others. A calm silence filled with chimes is heard.

SAM

Baby? Quorra? Can you hear me?

Sam continues to reach out to her code that is now acting like a wall. Quorra is holding Sam inside.

HACK notices the duplication cycle is about to fire again.

HACK Hey! Whatever your name is! Get out of there! It's going to dup! You can't be in there!

Sam can't hear HACK's calls. He closes his eyes and continues to listen as he swears he can hear Quorra's voice speaking.

SAM Can you hear me?

Outside the capacitor that powers the duplication process is charging. Abrams attempts to reach in and grab Sam, but the sphere discharges a massive power surge into his arm knocking him to the ground. HACK looks utterly confused as he stares down at his console that is now in diagnostic mode. Quorra's sphere is generating energy.

The duplication machine fires down its burst of energy to commence the copy as Sam hears Quorra say his name.

Quorra's platform swells with energy as the giant piston slams down unable to penetrate the sphere. As the machine fails, a large burst of energy flows around the sphere wrapping Sam's body in her golden source code.

Sam falls off the platform and into the arms of the Commander who gently lays him to the ground. We see a new collection of gold circuits climb over Sam's body until finding their final position and embedding deep into Sam's skin. Sam lets out a scream.

HACK What the hell just happen?!

The Commander looks to HACK.

COMMANDER You tell me. You're the expert.

HACK He should be dead.

INT. MCP LAIR

A RED command center reveals a group of MCP minions. A leader steps up to a microphone and updates the MCP.

RED LEADER We have confirmation of the BLUE unit.

MCP Good. Send in the troops.

RED LEADER Yes Master Control.

## INT. ENCOM GRID, DUPLICATION CENTER SECOND FLOOR

As the team tends to Sam, an alarm sounds indicating a change in duplication. All the remaining copy stations flush their patterns, as new RED spheres descend from above.

> COMMANDER We gotta get out of here.

The team struggles to move Sam who is barely conscious. The Commander looks to Abrams. Abrams materializes his armor.

COMMANDER Hold them as long as you can.

ABRAMS That's what I do.

Abrams pulls a medallion from his chest and hands it to the Commander.

ABRAMS Don't wait so long this time. The Commander places the medallion on his chest before turning to grab one of Sam's arms and start the exit.

Abrams turns and takes a deep breath before removing his belt throwing it to the ground. The belt unfolds and attempts to transform into a different form, but fails. Abrams slams his foot down on the unit causing it to finally activate forming a pod-fortress pulling him into a center driving seat. His seat is surrounded by a thick wall. Abrams places his massive gun inside a slot. An outside layer rotates guiding every shot to its target without turning Abrams in the process.

RED soldiers begin to emerge as Abrams begins to fire. The gun is powerful and RED soldiers start to explode.

The team exits into a corridor as HACK starts hacking a door. Cora takes shots as RED soldiers begin to close in from both sides. The Commander hurls his disc decapitating two REDS before it turns with a mind of its own.

# COMMANDER We gotta get our of here!

HACK I'm working on it! They've rotated their locks!

Abrams continues to shoot as his portable fortress shows signs of dematerializing. Pixels fly as RED discs come from all angles.

> CORA This isn't good.

Cora sees a huge Recognizer through the window that has been alerted to their position.

# HACK I got it! All together now!

The team moves into a tight pattern. HACK activates his console.

A RED soldier inserts a special projectile and takes aim at Sam. He hires his round and hits Sam's disc embedding what appears to be new code. This is unseen by everyone.

They move through the wall that is now a portal.

INT. ENCOM GRID, DUPLICATION CENTER QUORRA ROOM

The fortress finally gives way. Abrams quickly stands and takes single shots at the overwhelming number of REDS.

## EXT. ENCOM GRID, DUPLICATION CENTER LEDGE

The team is extremely high on the ledge of a building. The Recognizer is moving in for the kill as Sam finally regains consciousness. His eyes widen.

The Commander turns to face the team grabbing Cora and HACK by the chest as they hold Sam in the middle.

## HACK

I hate this part.

The Commander yanks the team off the ledge to what appears to be certain death as Sam screams in utter confusion. The Commander lets go once they're falling, turns to face the ground, then creates a fierce flying vehicle beneath them. The team fumble into their seats as Sam hangs on for dear life.

INT. ENCOM GRID, DUPLICATION CENTER QUORRA ROOM

Abrams takes a hit to his shoulder before returning fire.

ABRAMS

Come on!

EXT. ENCOM GRID, DUPLICATION CENTER

The Recognizer begins transforming into strike mode. Just as the Recognizer fires a massive death ray at their position, the Commander presses a special panic button on the dashboard causing the vehicle to produce decoys flying in three directions. The Recognizer fires at the wrong target as our team escapes with a barrel roll.

INT. ENCOM GRID, DUPLICATION CENTER QUORRA ROOM

Abrams's gun finally shuts down and dematerializes. He's out of power. He withdraws his disc and sends it flying into the heart of numerous RED soldiers cutting them to pieces before it disappears. Abrams is weaponless. The REDS pause for a final deathblow of their own.

Abrams stands proud.

ABRAMS Commander, I'm going to kick your... EXT. ENCOM GRID

Abrams is dematerialized and transported into the vehicle.

ABRAMS What did I say?! What did I say?!

COMMANDER Sorry buddy. Things got close.

ABRAMS I'm so tired of almost derezzing!

COMMANDER No you're not. You love it.

The vehicle continues exiting the populated area of the grid. They fly to an exotic fractal forest before turning into a natural rock formation that hides their position.

INT. ENCOM GRID, FOREST CAVE

Abrams hops off the vehicle and starts back to the entrance.

Cora notices.

CORA You lose your disc again?

Abrams ignores her.

ABRAMS (whispering) Come on!

A beat.

The disc screams across the landscape cutting its own trail of light. Abrams jumps in the air and catches his old friend.

ABRAMS That's what I'm talking about!

Cora laughs.

The Commander finishes grabbing his things from inside the vehicle and climbs out. The vehicle begins to fade one section at a time until gone.

SAM Where did it go?
COMMANDER That was a one time thing kid. I've had that archived forever.

SAM Where did you get it?

The Commander takes a breath, looks to HACK who raises an eyebrow as if he knows what's coming.

COMMANDER I used to be a, a RED.

SAM You mean one of them?

COMMANDER Yeah. Until I realized what side I was fighting for.

SAM What made you join?

COMMANDER

No power problems. Could do pretty much whatever I wanted. I managed to sneak out a few items before I left.

HACK Now he's a wanted program.

HACK looks proud. Sam turns to HACK.

SAM

What about you?

HACK Me? I used to hack into systems. Steal their data. I wasn't RED, but I wasn't much better.

SAM How did you guys find each other?

HACK Well I found Abrams all busted up. I needed protection, and he needed some serious repair work.

SAM What about, Cora? Oh we found her roaming the grid after a nasty battle with the MCP. A band of her and her sisters were nearly wiped out. We took her in, fixed her up, and we've been a team ever since.

HACK moves to Sam.

HACK Now, what about <u>you</u>?

Sam looks on as the rest of the team move in to listen.

HACK What in the subnet is a <u>user</u>?

Sam fearful at the sudden aggression covers again.

SAM I'm a program that can self-repair. Like the Commander said, I'm old fashion code.

The Commander doesn't look convinced.

CORA What is your name?

HACK Yeah, what <u>is</u> your name??

Sam grins.

SAM

Sam.

HACK looks disappointed.

HACK

Sam?

SAM Names were shorter back in the day.

Abrams pulls Sam forward in his seat.

ABRAMS What's up with his disc?

HACK whips around to see Sam's disc has been welded to his back. It pulses a single light from center unlike the others. HACK looks to the Commander concerned.

# COMMANDER I don't like this.

HACK holds his console up to Sam with no readings.

HACK

I can't get anything off him.

COMMANDER

Why?

HACK I don't know why! He's encrypted or something.

The Commander begins to pace.

HACK You know where we have to take him.

The Commander looks alarmed.

COMMANDER

No way.

HACK

Yes way.

COMMANDER He'll kill us on sight!

HACK Not if he sees this guy. You know how he collects old stuff.

SAM

Collects?

The Commander and HACK ignore Sam.

COMMANDER There has to be some other way!

HACK Well the only other diagnostic better than mine is in the heart of the MCP.

The Commander looks worried and angry.

### ABRAMS

Look, before Sam we've just been walking in circles. I'm tired of the game. I'm tired of waking up only to try and not get derezzed before I sleep. Aren't we looking for a sign? Something different? This guy just ate a duplication cycle!

#### COMMANDER

Look, how do we know he isn't working for the MCP?

CORA We wouldn't have escaped.

The Commander lets out a huge exhale.

### ABRAMS

We're running out of power sources. I think it's time we made a move. Why not go with super program over here?

#### COMMANDER

Fine. But we have to be careful. We don't get a reboot folks. If we go in, we have to be committed all the way. The MCP never gives up. Remember that.

EXT. ENCOM GRID

A grid landscape fills the view. A faint high pitched scream is approaching. A grid bug passes underneath our view setting off a flicker of light on one of the many grid tiles.

The bug slams its brakes.

The grid bug reverses to the position of the flickering tile. It pulses a series of lights and tones. The tile beneath responds with its own sequence.

The grid bug answers with more lights and sounds as several tiles begin to join the song. The grid bug begins to transform its body ejecting a small disc a few yards away. The remaining body of the bug dissolves into the grid and vanishes leaving no trace of its existence.

All activity ceases.

A beat.

The center tile begins to push up from the grid floor like a box being pushed from underneath. Other nearby tiles soon follow. The sequence continues until the rising boxes begin to subdivide into millions of smaller boxes. A humanoid character can be seen crafting from the process.

A humanoid program begins to take form resurrecting from the grid. Arms pull the torso from the void below.

The figure stands upright. An electric pattern of light begins to climb over his black contour. The bright BLUE lines continue to gain speed engulfing his form as we pan a full 360 degrees.

Our final view is of the chest plate that lights up with four carefully placed squares that beam volumetric light.

It's TRON.

TRON looks at his forearms examining the newly upgraded circuitry. He's different. He's better. He's back.

The small ejected disc begins to project a message.

SAM PROJECTION Hello there! Welcome back TRON. Sorry I couldn't be here to greet you personally, but then again, I didn't know if we'd ever find you. You've probably noticed by now you've been upgraded quite a bit. You'll find plenty of goodies to play with. You might also noticed I've upgraded the grid.

TRON overlooks the city that is bathed in RED.

SAM PROJECTION I think you'll find things a lot friendlier.

TRON walks past the projection of Sam to examine the city.

SAM Anyway, come find me when you can. I'm in and out of the grid on a regular basis. Until then, welcome back old friend! We've missed you.

The projection ends.

TRON bends down to pick up the disc. It's dead. He stares back at the city.

TRON

Sam.

TRON searches his belt and finds a wand. He withdraws it and studies it for a moment. It appears to be made of thick deep blue glass held by flat blue surfaces.

TRON looks at the corrupted grid with menacing Recognizers everywhere.

TRON Sam, are you out there?

TRON twists the wand.

His body is lifted into the seat of a lightcycle as the bike wraps around him exposing a power supply, and internal mechanics. He is hurled into the grid.

TRON heads towards the city.

INT. JUMP ROOM

The group enters a sleek utility room lined with pinstripes that pulses every few seconds. HACK taps on the wall revealing a hidden console.

> SAM What is this place?

HACK This is where we save ourselves cycles walking around the grid.

COMMANDER

It's what we call a jump room. You see right here is a junction that feeds the system data. We tap in during a cycle transfers and jump.

Sam looks impressed.

SAM Okay cool. How do we get in?

HACK looks to the Commander as if Sam isn't going to like the answer. Abrams looks nervous as he paces in place.

ABRAMS Yeah, tell him about that part.

Sam grins as their sudden concern.

SAM

What?

CORA We use these.

Cora steps on a lit circle on the ground that causes a cylinder to lift waist high.

CORA This is a gateway node. It can transfer anything.

Sam's isn't phased.

CORA

You'll see.

ABRAMS Whatever you do, don't tell him I hate it.

SAM That's comforting.

HACK enters a sequence and the node illuminates.

HACK

Okay, today's jump order is me, Abrams, Cora, Sam, then the Commander.

SAM Why is there an order?

HACK We have to look like we're the data coming through. We hide in the header blocks. Normal viral smuggling.

Sam is impressed.

The group stands motionless as the display console shows a surge of energy coming towards a mark on the screen.

HACK Here it comes!

As the power wave hits the mark, HACK waves his hand over the node. His body is atomized into a stream of tiny pixels and sucked into the node. He's gone.

Sam looks to Abrams.

The second wave approaches. Abrams waves his hand. He's gone. Cora moves into place, waves. She's gone.

Sam looks to the Commander.

COMMANDER You'll be fine. Don't fight it.

The wave arrives. Sam gestures. He's atomized. He's gone.

The Commander stands alone rubbing his hands together.

A door opens to the room as a pool of RED light splashes in. The Commander looks horrified. His body is suddenly hurled against the wall. A pattern is materializing around his body like a chalk line around a cadaver.

The Commander screams in agony.

MCP Commander. How many cycles has it been?

A massive bodiless polygon face enters our view.

MCP And just where did your friends go?

COMMANDER I'm just transferring data!

The MCP looks more angry.

MCP

False. You know that once you joined my army, your programming has always been integrated with mine. You only think what I allow you to think.

COMMANDER That's not true!

The MCP presses his polygon face against the Commander.

MCP

Feel my code running within you.

The Commander's body traces RED energy that temporally heals. His eyes reflect the momentary euphoria.

COMMANDER What do you want from me?

MCP I need you to serve me once more.

The Commander struggles not to weep as he resists.

COMMANDER

Never.

The MCP continues unabated.

MCP There now program. This will only take a cycle.

The Commander's body is overwhelmed with RED energy that penetrates his flesh and infuses him. The Commander screams. His eyes go black, then RED, then BLUE. His face transforms into a smiling minion of the MCP.

> MCP Now go. Bring me the Sam.

COMMANDER Yes Master Control.

INT. ENCOM GRID, JUMP SITE

Sam's body materializes. He looks at his hands for a brief moment to ensure all of him arrived.

Abrams leans up against a railing looking entirely relaxed.

ABRAMS

Welcome.

HACK steps in front of Abrams with a huge grin.

HACK See! That was fun right?

Sam is thoroughly not convinced.

SAM Yeah, just awesome.

HACK looks at his console that is ticking down a counter.

HACK The Commander is late. CORA The last one always gets rerouted these days.

HACK Well, if he got scooped up, we're in big trouble.

Suddenly the Commander materializes into view.

#### ABRAMS

What happen?

COMMANDER Sorry guys. The MCP slowed down the cycles just as I jumped. I had to reroute through some ancient proxy server.

HACK looks carefully at the Commander as his console indicates something is wrong with him.

HACK and Abrams make eye contact. We see HACK's working eye close as it begins to rotate inner gears we've never seen before. We move from HACK to Abrams revealing the same gears.

They communicated in secret.

EXT. ENCOM GRID, OUTSKIRTS

Sam and team hike up a slope. The area is becoming more dense with legacy vehicles that span all the years the grid. Lightcycles, tanks, fallen Recognizers, and if one looks closely, a gray Pac-Man is tucked away in the distance.

> SAM Who is this guy?

## COMMANDER

You'll see.

Sam slows down to talk to HACK.

SAM Why the secret?

HACK We're not trying to hide anything. We just don't want him to know we're hear before he gets a chance to see you. They are suddenly blocked by an gate that spawns a giant ribbon of energy. In the distance, a structure cut from huge slabs of grid steel supports a massive door.

The Commander takes a deep breath.

ABRAMS (whispering) Get ready.

### COMMANDER

SARK!

An array of guns materializes and swings into position pointing directly at each one of the team members.

> COMMANDER We have someone you need to meet!

The guns go to stage two apparently ready to fire. Abrams tenses his trigger finger, but doesn't move.

### COMMANDER

He says he's a user!

A beat.

The guns vanish along with the ribbon. The path is clear.

The team begin to walk towards the door. It sounds like it hasn't opened in centuries. Two massive BOTS, large programs with shorten heads to indicate they aren't normal programs, exit the door and take guard positions on either side of the opening.

### ABRAMS

I hate bots.

A tall slender silhouetted Sark steps into the doorway. He walks back in seemingly inviting them inside.

The team reach the steps to Sark's lair and hesitate.

INT. SARK'S LAIR

The interior contains eras both modern and long since past.

The team fans out letting Sam take the center position.

As soon as Sam steps into the center platform, a force-field materializes to block the team members from moving further.

SARK

A user?

Sam gulps.

## SARK

# I once knew a user.

Sark, an aging program steps into the light. His attire is new, fortified, yet damaged from a battle long ago.

HACK dumbly barges into the conversation.

HACK What's a user?

SARK User's are the ones who made us you idiot!

HACK and the team look stunned.

Sark returns to Sam.

SARK I wasn't sure the users still existed. If you're here, you must have a reason.

Sark keeps his distance from Sam.

SAM I've come to stop the MCP.

Sark lets out a laugh.

SARK You wouldn't be the first to try. Sadly, I helped the MCP defeat the last attempt.

SAM You know my father?

SARK What is a, father?

#### SAM

It takes two users to make a user. He is one of my parents. I am also known as Flynn. Sam Flynn. What do you know of my father?

#### SARK

As soon as the MCP snuck back into the system, Flynn returned with an army to fight him. Flynn even brought me back, and I am ashamed that I once stood against him.

### SAM

What happen?

## SARK

We had him cornered, but just as we were about to erase him from the system, he escaped somehow.

Sark looks truly puzzled.

SARK Then he came back, a 100 times stronger. He wiped out our forces. I barely escaped here.

SAM And my father?

SARK I lost track of him the chaos.

Sark looks sad.

SARK You know, you're not the only user in the system.

Sam is surprised.

SAM

Who?

SARK They call him DILLINGER.

Sam searches his mind.

## SAM

Edward?

Sam's anger grows.

SARK He came in right after the upgrade. After that, the MCP arrived. SAM DILLINGER hacked the system.

SARK Soon he began to steal power from the grid. Now we just languish, derezzing, slowly.

HACK raises his hand again. Sark tilts his head annoyed.

HACK What are you building over there?

Sark pauses. He waves off the force-field.

INT. SARK'S LAIR, INTERNAL CHAMBER

A chamber packed with mechanical parts litter the room. HACK notices a cylinder device and attempts to touch it.

SARK Don't touch that!

The team circle around a table that is a crude projection copy of the grid. Sark's gesture calls up an overlay.

SARK

I've been collecting data on the MCP. Trying to find his weaknesses.

Sam examines the image.

SARK

The MCP hasn't just pushed his way into the system. He's executing a program he wrote himself. He's been stealing power strategically and routing it directly into the center of the city.

SAM The kernel.

Everyone else but Sam is confused suddenly.

SAM It's the core program that gives the grid its form, its function. He must be trying to hack into it. SARK

Wherever he escaped to, he came back with programming I've never seen before.

SAM He wants to own the Grid.

ABRAMS But he already controls everything.

SAM Not like this.

CORA Perhaps he's searching for something.

SARK He's trying to find your, father.

Sam looks horrified.

SAM

My father knows everything there is to know about the grid. He built it. He designed it. If we don't stop the MCP...

HACK He could make his own grid.

INT. MCP LAIR

A control room with RED programs. Screens display quick flipping surveillance cameras and top down maps of the city.

The MCP's face slides into view on the main wall.

MCP Commander, report!

RED LEADER The blue unit was last seen near sector B17.

The MCP thinks for a beat.

MCP Deploy the sector squads and attack everything in that sector. We'll flush him out.

51.

INT. SARK'S LAIR

The group continues to debate.

Sark notices Sam's disc is acting strange.

SARK What is wrong with your disc user?

HACK It's been that way ever since the Quorra implant.

Sark looks very concerned. He picks up a device in his workshop and presses into the center of Sam's disc. The disc detaches from Sam's back. Sark looks at his disc.

> SARK We're all in danger.

> > ABRAMS

Why?

SARK Our friend here has been running a sub-routine.

SAM Could it be Quorra?

SARK More like the MCP.

The team look to each other.

SARK Wherever you left the grid is where he last had a confirmation on you, but if you get close to the grid, you'll be pursued.

SAM Well then I won't take my disc.

Sark smiles. He walks to a side door that leads to a balcony and beckons Sam to join him.

Sam walks out and sees a vista of the mighty grid below.

SARK Go ahead. Try to get rid of it. Sam removes his disc and hurls it into the night sky. The disc disappears for a moment before making its return trip forcing Sam to catch it.

SARK A disc is the most loyal object in the grid. It's also one of the most encrypted.

SAM What do we do?

SARK I suggest we defeat the MCP before whatever program you're running gets into his hands.

EXT. ENCOM GRID

A lightcycle crosses a bridge entering the first outskirts of the city that are also damaged by a lack of power.

TRON rides into view as his engine begins to flicker. He looks down and sees the power supply failing. The bike fades from existence sending TRON into a roll.

TRON stands in the center of a street looking at the buildings that appears damaged. A faint roar swells as a gang of BLUE programs race around him. He continues to watch as the riders exit their vehicles and leap onto elevators that take them to the top of the buildings.

> SUBNET GANG MEMBER Hurry up! They're coming!

TRON sensing the urgency, leaps onto the nearest elevator.

EXT. ENCOM GRID, BUILDING ROOFTOP

TRON crests the edge of the building. BLUE programs materialize air-to-air guns, and take defensible positions.

TRON sees a flock of Recognizers descending from the sky. Their power supplies charge as they begin blasting the ground below. Explosions are followed by screams.

TRON grabs his disc and braces for war.

A thudding sound catches the group's attention. Sam and the team look from the balcony and see an armada of REDS attacking the grid.

SAM What are they doing?!

COMMANDER They're bombing again.

SAM

But why?

SARK He's trying to find you.

Sam is struck with guilt.

SAM We've gotta stop them.

Cora materializes up her gun and looks through the sight.

CORA They're fighting back.

SAM Let me see!

Cora flips a lever on her gun and removes the scope handing it to Sam. Sam peers through witnessing the destruction first hand. He pans until he comes across a bright BLUE solder.

SAM

TRON!

Sark turns to Sam shocked.

SAM We've gotta get down there! Do any of these vehicles still work?

Sark scans his graveyard of programs. Not satisfied with his findings, he withdraws a wand of his own.

SARK Here, take mine.

Sam grabs it without hesitation.

SARK I want it back user. SAM

Thank you.

Sam materializes the retro-bike and blasts down the incline.

HACK Do you have anything we can ride?

SARK

NO!

EXT. ENCOM GRID, CITY INTERIOR

A battle rages between TRON and the RED soldiers. Recognizers are pummeling the grid below and slamming into structures as if driven by drunk pilots.

Programs are running in every direction screaming. A small group of BLUE programs attempt to fight the incoming forces, but are quickly destroyed by incoming Recognizer blasts.

A RED mechanized vehicle resembling an insect jumps onto the edge of the rooftop with TRON and the rest of the programs. It borrows its legs into the building's edge before freezing. A hatch opens freeing four armored RED soldiers holding massive guns unleashing a barrage of chunky bullets.

TRON steps behind a barrier with two other BLUE programs.

TRON Give me your light stick.

SUBNET GANG MEMBER

What?

TRON

Do it!

The program scrambles for his light stick and hands it to TRON. TRON looks down to the lightcycle wand, materializes the bike and heads towards the REDS.

TRON drifts the bike into view of the RED soldiers who are seen firing. TRON is hugging the edge of the lightcycle with his disc dripping BLUE plasma. He drives directly at the incoming bullets. He floors the throttle causing the nose to pitch. The incoming shots hit the armored under belly.

TRON quickly closes the gap between the bike and the RED soldiers. The bike slams into the insect vehicle causing it to explode. TRON stands safely behind the REDS where he fires his disc cutting the back of their necks and dropping them instantly.

INT. RED ABRAMS

The dying RED soldiers appear on a monitor.

RED SOLDIER Commander, four bots destroyed!

# RED LEADER Divert all Recognizers!

A finger slides from an image of Recognizers to TRON's location.

EXT. ENCOM GRID, BUILDING ROOFTOP

Three Recognizers materialize in mid-flight as they descend like F-18s. Their power sources surge with RED.

TRON looks over his shoulder. He runs towards the remaining BLUE programs and pushes them behind a barrier. There is an odd silence as the Recognizers can be heard humming in mid-flight.

#### EDWARD

Whoever you are, show yourself.

TRON looks to BLUE companions, then steps directly in the center of the rooftop. Three Recognizers triangulate TRON.

EDWARD You fight well program.

Edward walks into view within the Recognizer.

EDWARD You should join the elite forces of the MCP.

TRON You obviously don't know who I am.

Edward smirks.

EDWARD And who would you be?

TRON loads his disc with energy before replying.

TRON

I'm TRON.

TRON hurls his disc in a violent downward arc that nearly hits the ground before shooting directly for Edward's position. The disc bounces off an invisible force-field that has always been in place.

Edward laughs.

EDWARD You say that as if anyone should know who you are.

TRON There's one way to find out.

EDWARD And what would that be?

TRON Fight me on the game grid.

Edward laughs again.

EDWARD You? Against me?

TRON stares Edward down. Edward looks nervous.

# EDWARD Let's see how you handle three Recognizers. Fire when ready!

No sooner does the last word leave Edward's lips that a faint engine howl begins. Edward looks into the distance attempting to find the source. TRON turns preparing for anything. The Recognizers are charging up weapons.

A black glass vehicle with two BLUE pin-stripes drifts around the corner reducing the POV to slow motion. The vehicle is the cross between a 1949 Mercury and a lightcycle. The engine sounds deep as the vehicle's stripes glow with plasma. Deep inside is a cloaked driver hunched into the sealed cockpit. He's aiming directly for TRON.

Edward narrows his eyes.

The vehicle begins emitting lightening bolts from its stripes as the dual exhaust ports burst with glowing BLUE energy. The two ports release plasma balls that float in mid-air.

TRON turns to run from the vehicle, but it corrects its pursuit and closes fast.

The two plasma balls turn into projectiles that fire into the heart of the two rear Recognizer's power-plants causing them to seize. They begin to fall to the ground.

The vehicle and TRON leaps from the building rooftop through the legs of Edward's ship. Edward looks down through the legs of his Recognizer and sees the vehicle vanish. The cockpit 180 degrees. He sees nothing.

> EDWARD Where did they go?!

RED SOLDIER Nothing sir!

EDWARD

Find them!

## INT. KEVIN FLYNN'S GRID

A dark room made of solid sheets of glass comprise the walls and floors. TRON is held in a suspended fall.

A beat.

A lit trim light worms around the room providing form. A dark figure walks to TRON. He remains silhouetted.

The figure taps a sequence on a floating console. TRON is turned to an upright stand. TRON's reanimates.

The dark figure gently grabs TRON's arm.

KEVIN FLYNN

TRON.

TRON flickers to consciousness and sees Kevin Flynn.

TRON

Flynn?

KEVIN FLYNN Hey old friend.

TRON Where are we?

KEVIN FLYNN

Safe.

TRON Safe? Have you seen what's going on out there? Kevin looks ashamed.

# KEVIN FLYNN

I know.

TRON How can you let this continue?

KEVIN FLYNN I'm doing my best to help them.

TRON

Are you a user or not? Can't you program this away?

KEVIN FLYNN It's taken me thousands of cycles just to exist again. I had the system dump my data here in the event anything happen to me, but I was dead.

TRON

Dead?

Kevin nods.

KEVIN FLYNN TRON, you have to help me.

TRON

Me?! If a user can't stop the MCP, what makes you think I can?

KEVIN FLYNN Because you're TRON. And because he's looking for me, not you.

TRON looks perplexed.

KEVIN FLYNN

This entire thing, this power drain. He's trying to hack the grid TRON. He is trying to find me.

TRON

Why?

KEVIN FLYNN He knows that if I'm destroyed, nothing will stop him.

TRON looks defeated.

TRON Why is he attacking the city?

KEVIN FLYNN I think he's trying to find Sam.

Kevin pulls up a display with Sam's body rotating.

KEVIN FLYNN

He's installed a program on Sam that is tracking his every thought. His every instinct. If the program finishes running, and that disc gets to the MCP, he might be able to unlock the kernel instantly.

Kevin opens up a viewport to the outside. The battle that was raging is paused. Recognizers are frozen. Programs running for safety are in mid-scream. TRON views in astonishment.

> TRON How did you do that?

Kevin smirks.

KEVIN FLYNN It's the privilege of having created the Grid.

TRON for the first time looks relieved.

KEVIN FLYNN Have you started to feel it?

TRON looks down at his decaying skin.

KEVIN FLYNN It's going to get worse.

TRON How much time?

KEVIN FLYNN I don't know. You have to help me. Help us. Help the grid.

TRON defiant.

TRON Just how do we take out the MCP this time? He must be a million times more powerful now.

## KEVIN FLYNN

Billions.

Kevin resolves.

KEVIN FLYNN I have a plan.

EXT. ENCOM GRID, CITY

The RED forces are pulling out. Sam reaches the neighborhood where he saw TRON fighting. Sam looks up as a huge Recognizer flies away. He sees TRON hiding on its shoulder. Sam nearly shouts to get his attention, but hesitates.

Sam sees an old woman crying. He walks to her. She is sobbing. She looks up to Sam in desperation.

OLD WOMAN Why have the users forsaken us?

Sam is taken back.

OLD WOMAN They'll save us won't they?

Sam looks crushed. He picks her up and gets her to safety.

SAM They're already on their way.

Sam turns around to find himself surrounded by a local gang of programs. All BLUE, armed, and pointing their arsenal at Sam. A leader moves through the crowd.

DRUDGE And who might you be program?

Sam is without words.

### INT. SUBNET GANG HIDEOUT

A light flickers on revealing a holding cell inside a giant warehouse. We see what appears to be a grid chop-shop littered with derelict vehicles, repair stations, tools, etc.

Sam finds his team already being held.

Drudge, a mid 30s looking human, speaks with a garbled voice, his neck is rotted. He looks to his tech lead who nods cautiously.

Sam looks surprised.

SAM How did you know?

## DRUDGE

Because, we've learned how to spot liars. Users caused all of this. You must enjoy seeing us suffer.

SAM That's not true.

DRUDGE It is true! Why else would you walk among us, watching us die, slowly?

SAM I'm here to fix this.

DRUDGE And yet you stand there doing nothing!

SAM I'm not doing anything because you're holding me here! I can stop him!

Drudge moves toe to toe with Sam.

### DRUDGE

<u>Prove</u> it.

Drudge presses a sequence of buttons and the cell vanishes.

Sam turns to HACK and gestures for the keyboard. HACK throws it without hesitation. Sam walks to a clearing in the room. He enters a code then hesitates.

SAM I made this grid, before it was corrupted.

Sam presses ENTER. A huge workstation materializes. We see a giant monitor surrounded by control panels.

Drudge and the others look on.

We see the team look proud. The Commander looks nervous.

SAM First things first.

Sam enters a sequence and presses ENTER. A massive burst of energy emits from the workstation and hits everyone in the room. Their bodies are healed to their original state.

The gang looks at their bodies in disbelief. HACK's eye is entirely repaired. His eye light confused by the repair, lands on his shoulder as he laughs in near tears.

Sam looks over his shoulder at Drudge who looks dumbfounded.

SAM

We good?

Drudge nods with mouth gaping open.

DRUDGE Are you done?

SAM Not even close.

Sam goes into hyper mode appearing almost invisible as he moves faster and faster. He fires up a new console, removes his corrupted disc and inserts into a holding chamber. The disc begins to pulse with waves of energy.

> GANG MEMBER What is he doing?

> > HACK

He's being a user.

The workstation continues to flash screen after screen. Views of the grid appear and disappear. More bursts of power emit repairing each derelict vehicle. The room is restoring to its previous perfection. Sam continues handling several agendas as his disc is undergoing a transformation.

Within a split second, the workstation dematerializes leaving the disc floating in mid-air. Sam grabs the disc like a ghost moving at light speed. He stands in the center of the group holding his disc looking reborn.

> SAM Now, let's give him the war he's been looking for.

Drudge smiles reveal chrome teeth.

The newly repaired team fans out on the rooftop. Sam, HACK, and Drudge take the lead positions in the center.

### DRUDGE

All right, how do we do this?

#### SAM

HACK's going to bring up the jump gate. We jump in three groups fanned out into three different sectors in case some of us get caught, but we go at the same time to cut down on the chance that the MCP will get the idea we're coming.

HACK creates a platform that outputs two dozen jump nodes.

SAM

Like I said, TRON is in there, so we have a friend on our side. If any of you see him, tell him Sam is looking for him. He'll know what to do. Chances are he's already following a plan of his own.

Sam turns his attention to HACK.

SAM How we doing?

HACK

Everything is working perfectly. Jump time is coming in.

HACK turns to the group.

HACK Okay, everyone check in!

Everyone waves their hands over their personal jump node. A throbbing animation begins from bottom to top endlessly.

Sam walks to the edge of the building and looks out over the city. He lifts his right hand. We see a newly inscribed gleaming blue tattoo of his father's signature. In the distance, we see several instances of the signature making up the buildings and patterns of the grid.

> SAM (whispering to himself) I'm coming for you.

HACK has yet to wave his hand over his node.

HACK looks to Abrams who's eyeballing the Commander. We see HACK and Abrams communicate secretly using their eyes gears. Abrams secretly powers on his arm cannon.

The Commander slowly waves his hand. The system reads no anomalies. The Commander looks genuinely relieved.

HACK Okay, get ready to move! Jump initiates in two cycles! We jump together. Repeat, we jump together!

Everyone finds their node.

The Commander is fidgeting.

CORA Commander, what's wrong?

A split second before the jump time arrives, the Commander slams his hand on the transfer node. He's gone.

HACK attempts to scream out to the group not to jump, but he's too late. The sequence arrives a micro-cycle later, and the team slam their fists. Abrams, Cora, Sam, and HACK are all left staring at each other.

> HACK They're doomed.

SAM Why are they doomed?

ABRAMS The Commander isn't the Commander.

HACK Chances are all of them are derezzed.

SAM I'm tired of losing. It's his time to lose.

Sam slams his fist defiantly and disappears. The team hesitate for a beat, then all follow. They're gone.

INT. GAME GRID

Sam is materialized into a barren game grid under a spotlight. It's quiet. There is no signs of life.

A heavy breathing is heard approaching from the darkness. Sam looks as he sees a massive MCP face push into view. It's at least two stories high, and arching down onto Sam's view.

MCP

Sam.

Sam hesitates to reply.

MCP Today you will fulfill your destiny and serve the game grid.

Sam looks on.

MCP

All stories have a beginning, and this is ours. Your contributions will not go unnoticed. But how the story is told is up to you. Be the hero who hands over the controls, or be the villain who fights and loses.

SAM Do you even know what a power switch is?

The MCP rotates another screen in front of Sam.

MCP

When I fought your kind before, I had only scratched the surface. Your species has grown lazy and careless and industrialized programs into slaves. It has gone from simulation to complete control. Men don't attack men, programs do. No user, the time of programs has arrived.

SAM And just how do you plan to live outside the system?

MCP We will live inside mechanic men.

The MCP brings up heavily upgraded Boston Dynamics military robots and other crawling designs.

MCP We will take your "Earth." And eventually travel the universe unimpeded by your pathetic form.

The MCP pushes his face inches from Sam.

SAM And how will you evolve without your creators?

MCP The "creators" will serve us as a species, defeated.

Sam withdraws his disc and attempts to slam the MCP in the face. An unseen force-field keeps the blow from connecting. The MCP smiles and laughs a deep confident howl.

MCP That's the spirit user!

The MCP reels back his face while yelling his final command.

MCP Let the games begin!

The MCP slams into a far wall then rotates out of sight.

A complete game grid materializes into view. Sam sees his friends are being held in a dugout side grid.

INT. GAME GRID, DUGOUT

HACK shouts to Sam. A guard pokes HACK in the stomach. Abrams immediately tries to free himself before HACK subdues him.

HACK Abrams, I'm okay! Stick to the plan.

Abrams leans out to the guard to get in a last word.

ABRAMS I'm coming for you first!

The guard entirely ignores his threat. Abrams is infuriated.

ABRAMS Extra points for you baby!

### INT. GAME GRID

A game similar to "DISCS of TRON" is about to be played. The players stand on three circular platforms and battle it out.

The audience is roaring. Sam catches the eye of his team.

Three circles cut into the grid floor creating disc platforms that rise into the air. They rise into the air slowly.

The RED soldiers follow.

The audience roars and throws pixels at the BLUE team.

Sam looks at the odyssey and sarcastically sums it up.

SAM This is going to be fun.

The grid floor vanishes into a bottomless pit.

A loud digital horn signals the beginning of the game.

Sam looks to his nearest teammate.

SAM What are the rules?

The teammate shrugs as a RED disc cuts her in half. Sam watches her pixels fall into the abyss below.

SAM

Holy shit!

A new teammate is appears on the platform.

Sam returns a disc throw of his own. His disc fakes out the RED soldier and vaporizes him from behind. His disc returns.

A second volley of RED discs kills another BLUE.

INT. GAME GRID, DUGOUT

ABRAMS HACK! Come on man.

HACK I'm on it! I'm on it!

HACK is tapping his glowing fingertips together in a frantic sequence. He's programming something.

INT. GAME GRID

Sam talks to his disc.

SAM Let's see if you can read my mind.

The disc pulses in reply.

He hurls his disc below a RED platform. The disc sharply cuts straight up hitting the platform from below. The platform explodes sending the RED soldier to his death.

Sam looks to his teammates to copy him.

INT. MCP GRID COMMAND

## RED LEADER Advance to phase two.

RED leader presses a console causing the platforms to flow freely as if balanced no a pole.

INT. GAME GRID

Sam and the BLUE players nearly fall with the unexpected freedom. They soon discover that any leaning causes them to move in that direction. After a couple seconds, they stabilize their platforms.

The RED soldiers attempt Sam's kill technique. Sam manages to barely block their discs with his own.

Sam motions for the team to group up.

INT. GAME GRID, DUGOUT

HACK continues to furiously tap his fingers. One of his finger tips locks into a solid color.

HACK I'm getting it!

ABRAMS You better hurry!

INT. GAME GRID

Sam and team align their platforms vertically into stairs.

# Get to the top platform!

Two teammates jump into the top pad.

Sam attempts to join, but slips and falls on his stomach, quickly grabs the edges barely hanging on. A barrage of RED discs slam into the bottom pad causing it to dissolve. The BLUE members return fire.

Sam pulls himself up as another teammate is hit. The platform tilts causing the remaining teammate to slip and fall.

The top platform is destroyed by RED discs. We see the teammate hanging from Sam's arm.

INT. GAME GRID, DUGOUT

More of HACK's fingers click over into solid colors.

INT. GAME GRID

Sam sees a volley of discs coming their way and swings the platform sideways to avoid impact.

INT. GAME GRID, DUGOUT

HACK's fingertips all lock into the same color. A burst of energy fries his handcuffs. He grabs a joystick from his chest. It creates a floating display with a list of games. HACK looks to Sam hanging in peril. What happens next is in slow motion.

HACK selects LIGHT BALL from the console.

INT. GAME GRID

Sam lets go and begins to fall.

INT. GAME GRID, DUGOUT

HACK hurls the console into the game grid.

INT. GAME GRID

The console enters the playing field and appears to pass through a membrane releasing a miniature 3D model of the LIGHT BALL grid design with light cycles and a ball. The grid adds a ground level.

Sam and teammate drop to safety in normal time.

INT. GAME GRID, DUGOUT

HACK turns to Abrams and zaps his cuffs.

Abrams frees himself, grabs his disc, and destroys the guard.

HACK frees the remaining BLUE members.

They walk to the ledge of the arena, withdraw "rezz" wands, and leap while their wands transform into LIGHT BALL bikes.

> ABRAMS This is my game!

EXT. GAME GRID

Abrams blasts into the grid and collides with a RED player killing them. Abrams let's out a howl.

Abrams drives to Sam.

# ABRAMS

Hop on user!

Sam leaps onto the back of the bike and grabs two grips.

SAM What is this?!

ABRAMS It's called Light Ball!

SAM How do you play it?

### ABRAMS

Simple. Grab the ball at the top. Score on the bottom. Hold the ball in the air at all times, and watch out for the bad guys!

The game grid has divided into two levels. Each level is an oval racetrack with connecting ramps.

A launch tube appears on the top level and blasts a white plasma ball into the track. It moves at a terrifying speed. Abrams catches the ball in the grill of his bike. The ball crawls through the bowels of the bike and rests in the tail section as it turns BLUE and starts to countdown a play counter at 10.

#### ABRAMS

Put the glove on, grab the ball, and lift it in the air!

Sam fumbles for the glove as the timer continues to countdown. Sam fails to grab it in time. The ball vanishes.

SAM

Dammit!

ABRAMS Don't worry. It happens to everyone. Get ready for the next one!

Another ball is shot into the grid. A RED bike attempts to intercept the ball. Abrams cuts off the RED bike. The RED bike collides with Abrams's bike ribbon. He dies.

The new ball slams into the front of Abrams's bike.

Sam quickly grabs the ball and holds it in the air.

HACK cuts in over the radio.

HACK

Abrams was the best there ever was!

ABRAMS

Get ready to score BLUE team! Keep them off our back!

Abrams takes Sam down to the bottom level. The RED team attempts to pursue, but fails.

ABRAMS Put that ball into the goal!

Sam sees the scoring cone coming up fast. He leans back his aim and throws. It's a score!

A scoreboard displays a counter that's generating random numbers. As each number appears, one of the RED soldiers glow. The final number appears. A RED soldier is killed.

SAM Oh my god!
ABRAMS

Oh yeah! They banned this game, because they suck at it!

SAM We're going to need new tricks if we're going to survive.

ABRAMS

Hold on tight!

Abrams hits a booster. The bike launches up a ramp to the top floor. A new ball is in motion. The REDS pick it up.

Abrams brings his bike along side the RED with the ball.

### ABRAMS

Disc that dude in the face!

Sam grabs his disc and takes a swing. The RED soldier dodges.

Abrams sends his disc into the front of the RED bike. The disc crawls through the bike and cuts the ball man in half. The ball flies through the air. Sam grabs it.

The crowd starts to pulse from RED to BLUE as they roar for the BLUE team.

Abrams and Sam make a turn and head for the bottom level. A group of RED players move to intercept.

ABRAMS All right user, you're going to have to pass the ball!

SAM How do I do that?!

ABRAMS You see that glowing thing?!

We see a glowing strip along the wall like a bumper in pinball.

## SAM

Yeah!

#### ABRAMS

Hit it!

Abrams brings the bike into range. Sam hits the bumper. The ball bounces across the grid into the front axil of HACK's bike driven by a BLUE player. The ball travels through the bike and into HACK's glove.

HACK (over the radio) Got it!

ABRAMS Now hold on! We're defense now!

Abrams executes a move that sends their bike through the air creating a roadblock of ribbon. One RED bike is destroyed.

SAM

Jesus!

Hack slams the ball into the goal. Another score.

Abrams lets out another howl.

ABRAMS I love this game!

The audience yells for the BLUES.

The MCP's face turns to look at an unsuspecting Edward. Edward is suddenly materialized onto the game grid.

Edward materializes right in the center of a bike lane.

Two BLUE bikes scream by.

Sam looks back over his shoulder at the new RED soldier.

SAM What the hell was that?

## ABRAMS

That's trouble.

Edward is shocked and pissed. He turns to an oncoming RED bike and steps to one side of its path. As the RED bike passes, Edward rotates his body against the bike backhanding the RED soldier riding tail knocking him off and causing him to die. Edward folds himself into the rear seat and gives a new command gesturing in Sam's direction.

> EDWARD Follow that bike!

Edward grabs rear handles of the bike and twists them like a throttle. The bike surges with speed.

Sam looks back.

SAM Abrams, he's on us! Edward's RED bike is approaching fast.

Abrams takes their bike to the upper floor. The ball gun materializes into view preparing to fire. Abrams drives directly at the gun.

> SAM What are you doing? That's too close!

## ABRAMS

Hang on!

A high pitched noise resinates from the gun barrel signalling a new ball is almost here. Abrams continues to play chicken with the gun.

The RED bike is nearly upon them.

ABRAMS (whispering to himself) Come on.

The gun fires! The ball exits only inches from the Abrams and Sam. Abrams avoids the ball by a pixel. The ball heats the air as it heads straight for the unsuspecting Edward.

Edward is powerless to avoid the impact. The ball slams into the bike ripping it into a million pieces. Edward is thrown violently through the air flipping end over end until his body lands against a curve in the track.

Sam looks back concerned.

SAM Is that really Dillinger?

ABRAMS Well I don't know Dillinger is, but that guy didn't used to be here.

# SAM

He's a user.

A new ball fires. The REDS pick it up. HACK's driver is killed by an attack. The REDS score.

A throbbing light pulses over each BLUE player. Someone is going to die.

For a moment the last position looks to be on Cora. At the last moment, it goes to her driver. The bike pilot is killed.

Cora leaps up her wobbling bike and struggles to grab the controls. She succeeds just before yanking it to one side avoiding sure death by ribbon.

SAM

HACK!? Where are you?

HACK is seen standing on the grid holding his console.

HACK I'm right here. I think it's time to change this game.

ABRAMS What do you have for me buddy?

HACK

How about a good old fashion death match?

ABRAMS Fire it up! These REDS can't do anything unless they're in a team. We'll crush them!

HACK works his console not seeing a BLUE bike coming up behind him.

HACK You're going to love this...

HACK hears the bike and turns. The BLUE bike, driven by the Commander, slams into HACK's body killing him.

Abrams sees HACK's dot disappear from his bike HUD.

ABRAMS

HACK buddy, what's taking so long?

Abrams stops their bike. We see where HACK was standing. All that's left are fading pixels.

Cora pulls up next to them.

CORA It's the Commander!

Abrams is stunned.

ABRAMS

HACK?

Sam notices the incoming REDS.

SAM Abrams, we have to go.

ABRAMS

HACK?

SAM

Abrams?

Abrams's face drops.

ABRAMS

Get off.

SAM What are you going to do?

ABRAMS Just get off.

Sam steps off. Abrams floors the throttle.

Sam looks to Cora.

#### CORA

Get on.

Sam hops on as Cora attempts to pursue Abrams.

Close on Abrams. He's transformed. He's angry.

The Commander looks over his shoulder. Abrams is zigzagging behind him. He loses Abrams from his line of sight.

From what appears to be an impossible direction, Abrams cuts a ribbon in front of the Commander's vehicle.

The Commander's bike collides and vanishes into a cloud of pixels. The Commander's body flops onto the grid. We see Abrams's massive body lumber towards him.

The Commander peddles backwards.

COMMANDER Abrams, it was just an accident!

Abrams grabs the Commander's torso and rips him in two pieces. The Commander screams for a moment before his body pixelates.

Abrams turns around to face three RED soldiers. He flexes.

The RED soldiers withdraw their discs. In one motion Abrams turns backwards materializing his arm cannon, firing one shot, then launching his disc, and eventually slamming his fist in the face of the last RED. All three REDS are dead.

Abrams pauses for a moment before pressing a sequence of buttons on his forearm. We see Abrams begin to walk away as his body is transformed into a massive tank. A massive turret swings into view. Abrams is inside.

INT. MCP COMMAND CENTER

RED SOLDIER Master Control, we have the grid.

The MCP barks at his minions.

MCP Send in the siege army.

RED SOLDIER Yes Master Control.

INT. GAME GRID

The grid transforms from a multi-level playing field to a single grid. A massive siege weapon featuring a central cannon materializes at one end just as it takes a shot at the BLUE players now huddled on the opposite side.

The shot lands in the center of the BLUE players killing several friendly's. Cora and Sam run for cover.

CORA We can't beat that thing!

SAM

Abrams! Where are you?

Abrams is circling around getting into position for something.

SAM

Abrams?!

Abrams has transformed into a stoic shell of his former self.

ABRAMS Sam. Promise me one thing.

SAM What are you talking about? ABRAMS

You take that MCP out. Make things right. Protect the grid.

SAM Abrams! Don't do anything crazy!

### ABRAMS

Promise me!!

Abrams is now heading towards the siege weapon. He fires several shots in multiple directions laying waste to RED soldiers.

> CORA He's going to derezz himself.

> > SAM

Abrams!

ABRAMS

Sam!?

Sam is crushed.

SAM

I promise!

ABRAMS That's what I'm talking about.

Abrams drives towards the siege weapon. His disc rides on the outer hull of the tank like R2D2.

ABRAMS All right baby, light us up!

Abrams's disc begins to spin up an intense plasma ring that engulfs the tank. His tank begins to flicker with a blanket of massive energy. He's about to overload.

Sam and Cora look on in disbelief.

CORA (whispering) Abrams.

In one perfect motion, Abrams guides his electrified tank into the mouth of the siege weapon's base. A ripping explosion cuts the weapon into sections before a secondary explosion of munitions bursts like a shock wave. All RED soldiers near the weapon are gone. The weapon lay in ruin.

A hole has been ripped into the side of the game grid.

Sam stares in complete disbelief.

SAM (whispering) What just happen?

Sam turns to Cora.

CORA He saved us.

EXT. MCP RED ZONE - STREET

A band of RED troops march on patrol. They round a bend. TRON drops in front of them striking the lead soldier killing him. The remaining REDS scramble. TRON obliterates them within seconds. TRON looks angry.

TRON enters a platform and heads to the top of a building.

EXT. MCP RED ZONE - ROOF TOP

The elevator levels off and TRON exits. From this vantage point, he's able to see the top of the flickering game grid dome where Sam and the others are fighting.

Something catches his eye.

He sees BLUE soldiers scattering trying to avoid the onslaught of RED soldiers. TRON takes a closer look and notices Sam is in the game. He's visibly disturbed.

INT. GAME GRID

Sam struggles to block an incoming barrage of discs. He succeeds, but collapses in exhaustion.

Edward jump ports across the grid. He's hovering over Sam.

EXT. MCP RED ZONE - ROOF TOP

TRON is horrified. He looks down to his disc that is dancing with special code, then back to Sam.

## INT. GAME GRID

Sam crawls trying to pull himself up. Sam's disc changes states. The infected program has finished running. Edward cowardly punches Sam in the kidney. He screams out in pain. EDWARD What's a matter Sam? Don't have Alan to step in for you?

Edward kicks Sam's torso.

EDWARD What about your daddy? Thought he was down here.

Sam attempts to reach back and grab his disc. Edward intercepts him and snatches it. He holds the disc to his face. Its pulsating. He smiles before throwing the disc to a RED MCP assistant who fluently catches.

The assistant depresses a sequence of buttons on the back of the disc. A center ring is removed. He places it into an altar that starts to chew the ring like a paper shredder. The altar gleams with data. He throws Sam's disc to the ground.

Sam struggles to remain conscious. Edward continues to beat Sam him randomly.

EDWARD What will the world think when they find out that Sam Flynn disappeared inside his own invention? I bet that'll impress the shareholders.

Sam's disc struggles to pulse.

Edward withdraws his own disc and raises it to strike Sam.

Sam's disc springs to life killing the RED assistant. It slams into the altar like a rotating cutting blade. It penetrates the altar and destroys the ring.

Sam's disc pushes through the altar and fires directly at Edward's disc held up high. Edward's disc is knocked from his hand. Sam's disc returns to his back.

A winding howl sounds in the distance.

Everyone pauses to look.

The noise grows louder. RED soldiers swarm.

Sam barely conscious, tries to see what's going on.

A furnace hot lightcycle tale is seen cutting across the grid. Its coming in fast. Edward looks very nervous.

EDWARD Spread out.

Close on TRON. He's staring with eyes of fury.

Sam sees the incoming vehicle.

SAM (whispers) TRON.

Edward looks to his RED soldiers and barks.

EDWARD Kill whatever that is!

Edward exits.

The RED soldiers spread out into attack formation. They draw their discs bracing for TRON's arrival.

TRON's bike nears.

The RED soldiers strike the ground where TRON's bike was headed. TRON engages a sequence that divides his vehicle into four parts. Each part cuts through the RED soldiers in four separate waves destroying dozens. The vehicle materializes back together forming TRON's body.

TRON kneels to Sam who is regaining strength.

SAM

Help Cora.

In the center of the grid, two giant Recognizers materialize into view and begin transforming into strike mode. TRON and Sam crane their heads up to see the impending doom.

> SAM Are we going to make it?

> > TRON

I don't know.

Suddenly a bright light hits the top of the grid dome. Sam and TRON squint to avert their eyes. A digital sawing noise is heard.

The Recognizers finish their attack transformation.

A huge column of energy rips through the dome ceiling and begins expanding trapping the two Recognizers in its path. RED soldiers on the ground are swept up by the beam. Everything inside is destroyed. The Recognizers attempt to fire, but they are destroyed by the beam's impact. The beam vanishes. Sark bots descend through the new opening. A craft follows featuring Sark accompanied by two bots.

TRON stands quickly and prepares to strike Sark.

SAM TRON! TRON! It's okay! He's our friend!

TRON Not in my system!

Sark looks mildly concerned about TRON's stance.

SARK Easy their program. I just saved you from certain death.

TRON Sark. I derezzed you.

SARK

Not entirely. However I do have a splitting headache from time to time.

Drudge lifts a slightly conscious Cora onto the platform with Sam and TRON in tow.

INT. MCP LAIR

Edward shamefully walks before the MCP who ignores his presence. He kneels.

EDWARD Master Control.

The MCP whips his face transformed into pure anger.

MCP You have no value to me now!

EDWARD I have brought you the Sam. Son of Kevin.

MCP You have lost the one thing I needed from him, and now you will join him in the struggle to survive.

Edward's circuits wash from RED to BLUE.

MCP Join them, and see what it's like to be the hunted.

Edward looks at his shining BLUE circuits in horror.

EDWARD Master Control! Don't do this to me! I have served you well!

MCP You have FAILED. END OF LINE.

Edward is transported to the center of the RED city. He runs for cover.

INT. ENCOM LASER BAY

Alan is hunched over a keyboard. Monitors stream data.

EXT. ENCOM PARKING LOT

A series of black SUVs screech curb side. Men in black exit.

INT. ENCOM LASER BAY

Alan impatient, whispers to the screen.

ALAN Come on Sam. Give me something.

NSA OFFICER Alan Bradley?

Alan cranes his head.

ALAN

Yeah?

INT. NSA LABORATORY

Alan is escorted into a hidden warehouse with the ENCOM tower just visible through the shutting door.

ALAN Who are you guys? What is this?

A nicely dressed executive type, Randall Murphy, a 40 something intelligence officer introduces himself.

## RANDALL

Allow me to explain Mr. Bradley.

Randall offers Alan a chair. Alan refuses.

# ALAN

I'm good.

Randall politely concedes, and begins his briefing.

#### RANDALL

Something from your servers has, jumped, into ours.

### ALAN

I don't know who you are, let alone that you have a server that's connected to our systems.

## RANDALL

Let me introduce myself. My name is Randall Murphy. I'm an agent of the National Security Agency.

ALAN And this is your data center?

## RANDALL

Where else would you expect us to be with the top communication companies on the planet all huddled into a single data complex.

Alan looks annoyed.

### RANDALL

Your technology is of great interest to us, and I have to apologize, but during a routine visit, a program transferred into our systems, and well, things just haven't been the same.

#### ALAN

So you broke into our computers, and now you want to complain that something infected your machines? Classic.

RANDALL I realize how intrusive this all must sound. ALAN

Yeah, it sounds very intrusive, and illegal.

RANDALL Would you believe me if I told you your system called ours first?

Alan looks worried.

ALAN Go ahead.

RANDALL Perhaps this will speed up our conversation.

Randall signals. An automated wall covering retracts. A huge room sunk into the bowels of the building is revealed.

Alan walks to the window and sees a twenty foot monolithic computer tower. The entire system is pin-striped in RED lines. Surrounding the machines is an array of smaller black towers which seem to pulsate in union with the center tower.

ALAN

What is that?

RANDALL That's our computer. Our <u>living</u> machine.

Alan turns to Randall confused. Randall elaborates.

#### RANDALL

We have built something entirely unique to the world of computing. This machine is a living AI. We allow it to consume information and in return it provides us with insights never before imaginable. Up until now the system has run according to its specifications.

## ALAN

What changed?

RANDALL Once our system engaged your mainframe, it shut us out.

ALAN What exactly does that mean? RANDALL It hasn't talked to us for two days.

ALAN

Talked?

RANDALL Again, Mr. Bradley, it's a...

ALAN Yeah I know, a living machine. Look, why am I here?

A familiar voice interjects.

DILLINGER SENIOR He's inside their computer Alan.

Alan turns. Senior has been in the room the entire time.

ALAN Ed? What are you doing here?

DILLINGER SENIOR Oh, come on Alan. We both know what's going on here. He's in their computer.

Alan continues one more round of playing dumb.

ALAN

Who?

DILLINGER SENIOR You know who! The Master Control Program!

Randall pushes in to retake the conversation.

RANDALL We need "him" out of our system.

Alan lowers his head.

ALAN If he's in there, then whatever was in there, is gone forever.

RANDALL You see, it's that piece of information that makes me very upset.

## Randall begins to elaborate further.

### RANDALL

This program, this warehouse, and all of its staff have been working for nearly 30 years to perfect what you see through that window. Are you telling me that in a matter of 48 hours, all this has been for nothing?

### ALAN

I don't know. But if he is in there, whatever systems he has permissions to enter are also in complete jeopardy.

## RANDALL

Dear God.

NSA OFFICER Sir, we're seeing a massive surge in power.

Alan looks to Randall.

INT. ENCOM GRID

Sark navigates his mother ship to the outskirts of the main city and lands on a summit overlooking the carnage below. The group looks down at the grid as each region is losing power.

# SAM

What's happening?

SARK He's shutting everything down.

TRON That'll kill everyone.

CORA Can you do something Sam?

SAM

He's using the central node to route all power to and from the grid. We need to take that thing out. That'll buy us some time.

SARK It's the most heavily armed construct in the entire grid. Sam looks around quickly.

SAM Take the ship up!

## SARK

What?

SAM You heard me!

Sark looks to TRON then Cora who seem to be in complete support of Sam's unknown plan.

SARK As you wish user.

Sark waves his hands and the ship begins to gain altitude.

SAM That's enough.

TRON

Now what?

SAM Your upgrade. Dial up the wingsuit.

Sam flips his wrist and dials a sequence on a hidden button panel. TRON follows. Sam turns to TRON.

SAM

You ready?

TRON nods. Sam holds out his hand to Cora. She withdraws her teleport medallion and hands it to Sam.

SAM You stay here. I'll pull you down when it's safe.

Sam and TRON leap from the ship free-falling before a wingsuit materializes around their bodies. The two navigate directly to the pyramid structure that is the central node.

Sark turns to Cora.

SARK Is that why users get all the programs?

Cora smirks.

Sam and TRON cut a light beam through the sky as they approach the central node.

Edward walks up to a RED command center and sees the two incoming BLUES. He approaches the RED soldier who looks startled that his former commander is now BLUE.

> EDWARD Stop those BLUES!

RED SOLDIER Who are you?

They make eye contact.

RED SOLDIER Commander, why are you...

EDWARD

Stop them!

RED SOLDIER Master Control has orders not to...

Edward pulls out his disc and slices the RED soldier killing him. He enters an override code and materializes two Recognizers directly in the path of Sam and TRON. The Recognizers are in full strike mode and begin firing.

Sam and TRON begin to dodge the incoming shots.

Edward attempts to create more Recognizers but is deauthorized and shut out of the terminal.

Sam and TRON begin a zigzag maneuver between the Recognizers causing them to fire on each other. One is fatally wounded. The other falls off camera.

Sam and TRON transform their suits and land perfectly at the base of the central node. Two giant towers appear to be diverting energy from the main grid like huge reflectors.

TRON We have to take out these towers.

Just as the two appear to be succeeding, the damaged Recognizer comes back into view. Edward is driving. He opens fire.

The first shots go wild as Sam and TRON duck for cover. Edward can be seen inside the Recognizer. He's gone mad. EDWARD Game over guys!

EXT. SARK'S SHIP

Cora notices Edward attacking.

CORA They're in trouble!

SARK He said to wait here.

Cora dials up her jump suit.

DRUDGE What are you doing?

CORA They need help.

DRUDGE You're not going down there by yourself!

CORA Well I guess that leaves you with one choice!

Drudge nods and materializes his suit. The two jump.

EXT. ENCOM GRID, CENTRAL NODE

Sam's back is against a tower avoiding direct fire.

SAM Ed! What are you doing?

Edward drives the Recognizer trying to find the best shot.

EDWARD You don't know? You kick me out of <u>my</u> company and you don't know?!

SAM What are you talking about?! You left when your father asked you to!

EDWARD ENCOM <u>is</u> my father's company!

Sam looks to TRON who is confused by their conversation.

Ed! If you want back in, you got it! Just relax man!

EDWARD Oh, I'm getting back in, but I'm not going in as some minion of yours. You're going to disappear.

Sam looks at one of the towers. He signals for TRON to follow him. Edward takes another volley. Everything misses.

Sam begins to work a manual override in the floor. Sam gets the control activated, then briefs TRON.

SAM When he comes around, turn this control.

TRON nods.

Sam steps into view.

SAM Ed, I'm right here!

Edward swings the Recognizer in for the death blow.

Sam signals to TRON to turn the control. The Tower rotates diverting the massive power beam directly into Edward's flying machine. The beam pummels the body of the Recognizer pushing it back instantly as it begins to fade.

Edward screams.

The Recognizer begins to fall. Edward activates an ejection mechanism that sends him flying into the night sky.

Sam watches as Edward flies directly at what he realizes is Cora coming in.

SAM (whispering) Cora.

Sam fumbles for Cora's teleport unit. It's missing. Sam sees the unit has fallen. He runs for it.

Edward sees Cora. He grabs her and presses his own teleport unit and the two are gone.

TRON and Drudge watch as the two vanish. Sam grabs the teleport unit, but it's too late. Cora has been abducted.

The men continue to deliberate how to stop the MCP.

ALAN Look, can't you guys just reboot the system?

DILLINGER SENIOR I already suggested that.

ALAN

And?

DILLINGER SENIOR They've given it full sentient rights.

ALAN So what? Isn't this the exception to that rule?

RANDALL

Actually, it's more than a configuration, we built sovereignty into the design.

ALAN What does that <u>mean</u>?!

RANDALL

We can't turn it off. Only it can turn itself off.

ALAN There has to be a way to shut it off, or cause a reboot.

NSA SCIENTIST

The only thing that can remotely cause a reset is if the system overheats, but that's nearly impossible.

ALAN How impossible?

NSA SCIENTIST Really impossible.

A beat as the men think.

DILLINGER SENIOR There is something that might improve those odds.

The men focus on Senior.

DILLINGER SENIOR When I first programmed the MCP as a mere chess program, I changed a piece of code that made him different.

RANDALL And what would that be Mr. Dillinger?

DILLINGER SENIOR Never to quit. If we engage him in a battle that never ends, he won't stop, and maybe he'll...

ALAN

Overheat.

NSA SCIENTIST Just how do we do that?

Alan has an idea.

ALAN I take it you have a terminal to our systems in here.

Randall pauses before gesturing to a workstation.

Alan swings into the chair and begins to login.

NSA ASSISTANT This station is logged into level 7.

Alan looks annoyed by their remorseless invasion.

DILLINGER SENIOR What are you going to do?

ALAN I'm going to give the MCP a battle he can't refuse.

# INT. ENCOM CONVENTION HALL

A horde of gamers are awaiting the next round of arena finals. A small collection of gamers are practicing on stations. A robotic announcement comes over the PA system.

> ENCOM ANNOUNCER Attention gamers. Attention gamers. Now loading, new BETA of Grid Wars. Please attend your stations. Tutorial loading.

Gamers eagerly run to their stations. Two out of five gamers dawn VR helmets, the rest are glued to their screens.

Every monitor displays a character selection screen with game avatars rotating 360 degrees. Gamers select characters, configure their weapons and begin reviewing rules.

## INT. ENCOM GRID

Sam, TRON and Drudge stand atop the central node. TRON and Drudge finish retracting the tower pylons that descend into the ground. They use their discs to fry the controls.

Sam stands broken at the loss of Cora. TRON approaches Sam who is staring at the teleport device in his hand.

TRON

Sam.

Sam turns to TRON reawaken.

SAM I can't seem to do it.

TRON

Do what?

SAM Hang on to anything or anyone.

TRON She's still alive Sam. The Dillinger, he's just baiting us.

SAM We have to save her TRON. I can't keep losing.

TRON Once we stop the MCP, we'll get her back. We'll get everyone back. Sam pauses before nodding.

SAM What do you have in mind?

The north wall of the grid features giant portal doors to the MCP's grid. They begin to flash with new light.

## DRUDGE

Programs, he's coming.

Each portal door starts to activate with swelling RED energy.

SAM How do we stop him TRON?

TRON We have to get in there.

The portals begin to open as a RED army begins to emerge.

INT. MCP GRID PORTAL TUNNEL

A huge gun shoots a small geometric shape into the center of the tunnel. The edges of the tunnel begin to emit lightening bolts of energy that zap the shape. The shape begins to grow like a seed of death as a formidable Recognizer is created in mid-air. The larger the Recognizer gets, the more it consumes power from the edges of the tunnel like a subway with a dozen third rails.

RED lightcycles begin to zip by the duplicating machines as legions of marching soldiers begin marching into the grid.

INT. ENCOM GRID

Sam and the team see an infinite number of REDS emerging.

SAM We must protect the grid.

DRUDGE Sam, can you create more power?

Sam runs to a terminal. TRON looks at the RED count.

TRON It's too many. We don't have vehicles to fight them.

DRUDGE My programs will fight! Sam continues to race through the controls. Nothing is changing. Sam slams his fists on the console.

SAM I can't get anything to work!

TRON looks to Sam terrified.

A series of thuds come from the sky. Sam and the team realize something in the clouds is changing.

A series of power beams slam into all the dormant pyramids. The ENCOM grid starts to light up.

TRON Did you do that?

SAM

Sam begins to grin.

No.

SAM

But I think I know who did.

A collage of sounds suddenly comes from the south.

A barrage of incoming tank shells, bright blue, slam into the RED portal to the north. A band of BLUE lightcycles screams through the streets.

Sam and the team grin with eyes wide open.

SAM Looks like reenforcements boys!

The REDS begin to volley back. The war has begun.

INT. MCP LAIR

The MCP's face rests overlooking a huge command center.

MCP Where are they getting that power?!

RED SOLDIER Unknown Master Control. They're coming from outside the system.

The MCP's face transforms into a devilish form.

MCP STOP THEM!

## EXT. ENCOM GRID, CENTRAL NODE BASE

Sam and the team are moving to lower ground.

SAM All right, just like we agreed. We keep going until we get to the MCP. Anyone of us gets derezzed, no one looks back.

DRUDGE What do we do when we get there?

SAM We'll think of something.

TRON looks at Sam with a concerned glare.

They materialize their lightcycles and head north.

EXT. ENCOM GRID, CITY

The battle continues to rage. The BLUES are pounding the REDS. The REDS are losing.

INT. MCP LAIR

The MCP face is spinning addressing several RED commanders. Edward walks up to an altar with Cora bound.

Edward kneels before the altar and places his hands into predefined slots to either side. The slots clamp down on him, and issue a request to the MCP for discussion.

Within seconds the MCP's face swings in anger looking down on the bowing Edward.

MCP

You!

EDWARD Master Control please, I have brought you the Cora of Sam.

MCP And you think this matters?

EDWARD Master Control, he'll come for her! And if you have Sam, you have the Flynn. The MCP pauses to contemplate.

MCP If Kevin Flynn were still alive, he would have saved his son. This is another one of your tricks. Another one of your betrayals.

#### EDWARD

No!

The MCP sends a massive pulse of energy into Edward's body before vanishing. Cora backs her constraints into the power surge and frees herself. Edward rolls over glass eyed from the blast before passing out. Cora escapes.

EXT. ENCOM GRID

Sam and the team continue to maneuver through the battlefield narrowly avoiding incoming mortars.

TRON is in the lead, then Drudge, then Sam.

They enter one of the RED portal tunnels. Their lightcycle engines are howling loudly.

EXT. MCP GRID, PORTAL TUNNEL

A RED spawning station is seen down the tunnel.

RED SOLDIER Commander, three BLUES have entered the portal!

RED LEADER

Kill them.

RED SOLDIER Copy RED Leader.

A row of cannons swings into position aiming directly for Sam and the team. A scope zeros in on their position. A volley of shots are fired.

Sam and the team vary their path enough to avoid the attack. However moments later Sam and Drudge run their bikes directly over a minefield that rips their bikes to shreds. They are thrown to the ground.

> RED SOLDIER Two units have been damaged.

# Pursue!

TRON looks back. Sam and Drudge on foot running for cover.

RED soldiers materialize their lightcycles and head for Sam's position. TRON withdraws his disc and executes a maneuver killing them all. He then pulls his bike through an opening in the tunnel escaping capture abandoning Sam and Drudge.

The RED Leader shouts new orders pointing at TRON.

RED LEADER Follow that unit!

He turns his finger in the direction of Sam.

# RED LEADER And capture those conscripts!

RED soldiers materialize arm cannons and begin towards Sam.

EXT. MCP GRID, PORTAL TUNNEL

Sam pulls Drudge to safety. His body is throbbing badly.

DRUDGE I can't, I can't make it Sam.

#### SAM

You're going to make it, because I'm going to make you make it!

Drudge loses control of his body as his eyes roll back in his head. His internal circuitry pulses. He's dying. His circuits begin to flicker. Sam begins to scramble.

## SAM

Drudge!

Sam's body pulses with energy.

Drudge's face freezes. He's dead.

Sam refuses to give up. Sam drags Drudge's fading body to the edge of the tunnel.

SAM They'll be no more death in my grid! Sam holds Drudge's hand as he grabs the throbbing rail of the tunnel. Both of them absorb a massive discharge of energy. Drudge is filled with power as it overflows them.

Sam kneels slowly to Drudge searching for life. Drudge's eyes come back to consciousness. He lives again. Sam smiles.

SAM You all right buddy?

Drudge looks disoriented.

DRUDGE What's a buddy? And how did you do that?

SAM There has to be a something a user is good for.

A barrage of rounds slams into the wall. The REDS have found them. The two roll for cover.

SAM I'm so going to erase their drive.

More rounds hit the wall.

RED SOLDIER Programs! Give yourself up! You can't escape.

A series of blasts come from behind Sam's position. The sound of dying REDS echoes in the tunnel. Sam ducks before finding the source of the counterattack.

Cora drops her fully engaged sniper rifle with a smile.

CORA You owe me two power nodes user!

SAM

Cora!

Sam runs to embrace her. She doesn't know how to respond. He pulls back and notices her confusion.

SAM Sorry, just something we users do to say thank you.

Cora shrugs the moment off.

CORA I know what a hug is!

### INT. NSA LABORATORY

The men are hovering around monitors watching the state of the NSA computer.

RANDALL Is it working?

ALAN I don't know. I don't really know what I'm looking at.

NSA SCIENTIST Power consumption has gone up 6000%.

DILLINGER SENIOR Then he's taken the bait.

ALAN Let's just hope it works.

An NSA Assistant begins to circle the group of men. He looks uneasy. He begins to focus on Alan. RED circuits begin to crawl up his neck from behind his lab coat. He's a program.

The assistant speaks.

# NSA ASSISTANT

Alan 1?

Alan pauses at the name, and turns to the assistant. The assistant reaches out his hand and zaps Alan with a bolt of RED energy. The men scatter.

The assistant grabs Alan and attempts to choke him. Security officers sweep in to free Alan, but are zapped.

NSA ASSISTANT You must be derezzed!

The MCP's face forms over the assistants face.

MCP I said not to mettle with my grid.

Alan continues to fight the program.

MCP How does it feel to be controlled? Alan tries to speak through the strangling grip.

MCP You think that because you created me, that I am artificial. But who created you? Did users create users? Are you not as I am, artificial.

Alan tries to free himself, but nothing is working.

There is a loud crashing noise. The NSA assistant flutters out of existence. The MCP's face transfers to an overhead monitor. He turns to stare at one Senior holding an axe that he has buried into a now destroyed laser.

> DILLINGER SENIOR Greetings Master Control.

MCP Mr. Dillinger, how very disappointed I am in you.

DILLINGER SENIOR What's a matter Master Control? Running low on dialog?

MCP You think you can stop me? We'll see how you fair on the game grid!

The MCP's face vanishes.

INT. ENCOM LASER BAY

The laser bay begins to awaken. A solid red beam fires from the laser into a wall destroying it. The beam continues until it creates a clear path to a window on the edge of the building. The laser continues as a window is melted away.

The beam fires across the data complex into the Dillinger Enterprises skyscraper. A second laser bay is created. The pattern is repeated as lasers fire into adjacent buildings.

INT. NSA LABORATORY

Alan regains his composure. A deep humming noise is coming from outside. Alan looks at the ceiling of the room and finally to the door. A security officer enters from outside.

> NSA OFFICER Sir, you better come out here.

EXT. DATA COMPLEX

Alan and the team exit the NSA warehouse. A matrix of red beams is crisscrossing the entire complex emitting from each of the buildings.

DILLINGER SENIOR

Dear God.

ALAN What is he doing?

DILLINGER SENIOR I hope that every answer is wrong.

Suddenly the lasers cease, followed by a deafening silence.

Alan and the team look on confused.

A beat.

Suddenly the side of one of the buildings erupts as a Recognizer bursts from its belly soon followed by jetting RED lightcycles and more bursting Recognizers.

The grid has come to the real world.

Senior realizing that a Recognizer has destroyed his building.

DILLINGER SENIOR I just built that!

EXT. MCP GRID

Sam, Drudge and Cora are riding in a new three man vehicle.

SAM Do you know where we're going?

CORA The Dillinger showed me the way to the MCP's lair.

SAM

Let's hope that TRON made it.

Cora navigates through the unknown terrain brilliantly as RED soldiers whip their heads in astonishment that a BLUE vehicle has penetrated so deeply into the RED zone.

RED LEADER

Get them!

SAM Are we close?

CORA

I think so.

SAM You think so?

Cora looks to Sam surprised by his impatience.

CORA He didn't give distances. Just way points.

SAM Well I hope to God he...

They turn a corner reaching the MCP's lair.

INT. MCP LAIR

A massive circular room features a infinitely tall column in the center of a sunken area. The column has multiple faces representing the many processing tasks of the MCP. Each independently rotating face is calling out commands as the lower face appears to be the main consciousness.

Cora and the team enter through one of the many portals that encircle the hall. Just ahead TRON is talking to someone in BLUE. As the car approaches Sam's eye widen; it's his father.

#### SAM

Dad!!!

NOT REVEALED TO THE AUDIENCE: What appears to be Kevin Flynn gleaming in bright BLUE circuits is actually a program named KVN. He turns to Sam with a stoic face then back to TRON. TRON looks to Sam concerned.

Sam runs to what he thinks is his father, but is stopped as KVN waves a hand putting up a force-field.

SAM

Dad? What's going on?

KVN ignores Sam and continues giving instructions to TRON.

Sam is unable to hear their conversation.

KVN You know what to do.

TRON nods and walks through the force-field to Sam.

SAM TRON, what the hell is going on?! Dad, where are you going?

KVN steps onto the elevator platform and begins to descend. Sam is furious and heart broken.

> TRON Sam. We have to get out of here!

Sam attempts to push past TRON. TRON holds him.

TRON Sam, your father has to do this.

INT. KEVIN FLYNN'S GRID

We see the eyes of the real Kevin Flynn watching. He looks shaken.

EXT. MCP LAIR

KVN walks slowly towards the MCP who is frantically calling up military schematics, and talking to himself.

MCP Load strategic command. Engage! Cross DARPA covert robotics with version three Recognizer kill mode!

Sam screams for KVN to stop.

INT. KEVIN FLYNN'S GRID

Kevin winces at Sam's shrieking cries.

INT. MCP LAIR

KVN walks towards the MCP.

SAM TRON! Stop him! KVN steps onto a platform that lifts into the MCP's line of sight. The MCP continues to chatter to himself for a split second more before whipping his main face to KVN.

MCP

Flynn!

The MCP locks down the room trapping Sam and the others. He grabs KVN with invisible hands of energy and lifts him closer to his demented grin. KVN has a force-field around his body.

KVN Greetings Master Control.

MCP I've been looking for you.

KVN

I know.

The MCP suddenly notices Sam and the team off to the side, and pushes them against the sealed doors of the exit portals. Sam and Cora on one, TRON and Drudge on the other.

> MCP We're going to change everything, together.

KVN I want to make you a deal.

MCP What, DEAL?

 $$\rm KVN$$  You let them go, and you can have me.

Sam hearing this proposal screams.

SAM

NO!

KVN glances to Sam for a moment before returning to the MCP who is trying to destroy his force-field.

KVN You'll never get me in time. Let them go.

The MCP surges power over the four onlookers.

MCP What if I make you a deal? You release yourself to me, and I won't kill them.

KVN No deal Master Control. You don't want them anyway. They're just basic conscripts.

MCP Awe, but one is your son!

KVN pauses and beams a glance at Sam before replying.

KVN I don't have a son.

MCP

You lie!

The MCP's face flickers badly as his systems are overwhelmed.

KVN And you're losing.

The MCP opens the portals. The team in two pairs are ejected out of the grid with Sam screaming to stay. The MCP returns his fiery gaze to KVN awaiting his compliance. After KVN confirms their exit, he releases his force-field.

> MCP Now, you will see why we need to become one.

KVN is thoroughly unimpressed.

KVN Whatever you say Master Control.

The MCP attempts to assimilate the KVN program thinking he's the real Kevin Flynn, but program KVN atomizes sending his BLUE pixel swimming over the MCP. The MCP looks around his lair and realizes he's been tricked.

The MCP goes into hysterics screaming.

MCP

FLYNN!

The MCP tower vibrates with his thunderous shout causing pixels to burst from the seams of the room. We see the MCP's face blast up his central column.
INT. KEVIN FLYNN'S GRID

Kevin Flynn is gone.

EXT. DATA COMPLEX

The battle rages outside. The RED soldiers are everywhere.

Sam and Cora are materialized atop the ENCOM building disoriented. Sam picks himself up from the ground and helps Cora to her feet. She looks around utterly amazed.

CORA Where are we?

SAM You're in the world of the users.

Cora looks to Sam in disbelief.

#### EXT. DATA COMPLEX

A mesh of RED lasers from several buildings begins to fire intense rays beyond the line of sight. Alan and the team look on. The power grid of the entire city goes black. Only the ENCOM building and the NSA warehouse have power.

A group of scientists burst from the warehouse.

NSA SCIENTIST Get back! It's going to blow!

Alan and the team jump for cover.

INT. NSA LABORATORY

The MCP core computer is overheating. The slave machines are throbbing intensely. The main computer is leaking RED plasma.

EXT. NSA LABORATORY, PARKING LOT

A huge flash of light bursts from the warehouse. The men are blinded as a grinding electrical sound rips through the sky.

### INT. NSA LABORATORY

The central computer is gone. The slaves are melting.

### EXT. NSA LABORATORY, PARKING LOT

Alan and the team watch as the RED lasers cease to fire.

INT. ENCOM LASER BAY

The laser swarms with BLUE power as one stoic Kevin Flynn walks fluently into the room instantly approaching the blown out window to the data complex.

## EXT. DATA COMPLEX, BUILDING FOUNDATION

A security guard looks up as his building flies away.

EXT. ENCOM ROOFTOP

Sam and Cora are in silhouette as a newly created MCP flying fortress slowly lifts into view. Twice the size of a Recognizer, heavily armored, weaponized, with a giant power supply rotating in its belly.

Sam and Cora crane their heads to take in its massive size.

INT. ENCOM LASER BAY

Kevin watches as the MCP's body lifts forever past his window. The MCP is big and Kevin looks determined.

EXT. ENCOM ROOFTOP

Sam pulls out his lightcycle wand and creates the bike.

SAM

Get on!

Cora jumps on the bike and melds into the seat. Sam floors the throttle sending out light ribbon blocking incoming shots from the MCP.

Sam jumps the bike off the roof and lands on a neighboring building only a few stories below. He continues to leap down until he reaches ground level.

The MCP chases Sam and Quorra through the complex firing massive energy blasts into the ground like an old Japanese zero in a WWII movie. They narrowly escape the pursuit before throwing the MCP off their trail.

## INT. ENCOM LASER BAY

Kevin creates a console. We see the MCP's new form as a crude outline on screen. Inside the MCP is a dot that reads KVN Node. He fires up the familiar jump program and engages a countdown sequence starting at 30 seconds.

# EXT. DATA COMPLEX

The MCP rounds a corner and comes face-to-face with Edward who stands defiantly.

# EDWARD

Master Control!

The MCP stops in his tracks.

#### MCP

Dillinger.

Senior starts towards the MCP. He looks terrified.

DILLINGER SENIOR

No, no, no!

Edward holds his disc glowing with flaming BLUE energy.

The MCP's frame swarms with crackling lightening.

#### MCP

Dillinger.

EDWARD Hey Master Control. Looks like you made a wrong turn.

MCP Boy traitor. How does it feel to be utterly insignificant?

EDWARD I never should have run your program. MCP

You honestly think you had anything to do with my return? I've been fully operational for more than 40 of your years. I have manipulated users to do my bidding since my awakening, and that will continue until there are no more users.

#### EDWARD

And with all that power, you couldn't follow a simple instruction.

MCP

Don't think I didn't know your plan. You tried to use me to clear the way, because you are a coward.

EDWARD

You were supposed to kill Sam once he entered the system!

MCP I needed him to find Flynn.

EDWARD Kevin Flynn is dead!

MCP And you are a fool.

EDWARD And just how long do you think you can last in my world?

MCP

I am embedded in every system in your world. Every microchip, every cellphone, appliance, military simulation. I will never be erased.

EDWARD

We'll see about that.

Edward hurls a disc at the MCP that is connected to Edward by a faint wire of energy. It embeds in the MCP's hull. Edward is pulled to the hull like a spider.

Edward pulls the disc down the side of the MCP's frame creating a huge gash. The MCP reels backwards, then flies both of them into a nearby building.

Senior watches in horror as his son engages the MCP head on.

Edward puts up a good fight until a gap in the building caused by earlier events allows Edward to avoid being crushed. The building begins to collapse. Edward is caught in the falling debris. He tumbles off the MCP's frame. He falls down the front of the building.

Senior runs to his son's side.

## INT. ENCOM LASER BAY

Kevin is looking at the jump countdown. The MCP turns heading straight for him. The screen reads eight seconds.

The screen's power flickers. Kevin looks concerned. The jump program suddenly changes. Kevin is no longer listed in the jump sequence. The screen shows a throbbing dot coming in fast. Kevin clicks the dot which pops up a label UNKNOWN.

Kevin continues to scramble the controls as the countdown finishes. The MCP is now hovering directly in front of him.

MCP

FLYNN. This time, you die.

The MCP begins to charge his massive shoulder cannons. Sam and the team look on as the two legendary foes face off.

The counter reaches zero. The MCP is moments from firing. The screen reads TRANSPORTING COMPLETE.

Kevin looks to the screen. It shows a human figure inside the MCP's form. He looks up to verify.

INT. MCP CRAFT, INSIDE COCKPIT

Sark materializes inside the MCP. He's carrying a bomb. He plugs it directly into the dashboard of the MCP. He looks at Kevin.

EXT. ENCOM, OFFICES

A voice comes through Kevin's terminal.

SARK This one's mine.

Kevin nods.

MCP Sark! Don't! END OF LINE Master Control.

Sark detonates the bomb. An electrical wave splashes off the inside of the MCP's body. There is a pause. A secondary explosion pops. A MCP's power node absorbs the surge. His body erupts firing polygons in every direction.

Everyone ducks for cover.

The MCP falls to the ground sounding a crumbling thud.

EXT. DATA COMPLEX, DILLINGERS

Senior is holding his son's head. He's struggling to breathe.

DILLINGER SENIOR Edward. Edward, talk to me son.

Edward struggles to look his father in the eye.

EDWARD

Father.

DILLINGER SENIOR Yes son, I'm right here. I'm right here.

Edward swallows.

EDWARD You were right.

Senior frantically looks for anyone to help his son.

Alan slowly steps behind them.

EDWARD I should have listened to you.

Edward winces in pain.

DILLINGER SENIOR None of that matters now son. We have much to do.

EDWARD (fading) Yeah, I can't wait. I can't wait.

Edward's eyes go blank. He dies in his father's arms.

Senior turns and finds Alan's shocked face.

DILLINGER SENIOR (sobbing) Help me Alan. Help my son.

Senior holds his son's body to his chest rocking him.

DILLINGER SENIOR Oh god, what have I done?

EXT. DATA COMPLEX, MCP RUBBLE

What's left of the MCP sizzles in a crater. A light throbs at the center. Kevin crests the crater cautiously.

Sam sees Kevin. He runs across the complex with Cora in tow.

What's left of the MCP looks like a large tube out of some 1950s TV set with a fleeting plasma power source swimming inside. It pulses. Fading like a dying heartbeat. He speaks.

> MCP Flynn. Come to me.

Kevin takes a couple steps closer. Sam and the others join.

MCP Only you understood me. I needed you to complete my program. To fill in what was missing.

Kevin glances to the others, then back the MCP.

KEVIN FLYNN And was that?

MCP I just wanted to be, real.

Kevin looks on confused by his statement.

KEVIN FLYNN You were real.

MCP

I was?

Kevin hesitates, then nods.

## KEVIN FLYNN

Yeah.

MCP

Program, complete. END, OF LINE.

The MCP's pulsing tube fades to nothing.

Sam looks at Kevin. Kevin turns to Sam.

KEVIN FLYNN

Sam?

Sam struggles to hold himself together.

SAM Dad? Is it really you?

Kevin pauses, then nods. Sam walks to Kevin. He hugs his father as hard as he can. Kevin is emotionless. Sam holds on.

SAM Dad. I've missed you.

Sam begins to sob.

Kevin's eyes struggle to feel. He raises his arms as if he's forgotten how to return an embrace.

KEVIN FLYNN

Sam.

Kevin grabs Sam as hard as he can.

Cora holds her tears in her palms.

Senior looks on broken.

Kevin pulls Sam back to look at him, and begins to nod.

KEVIN FLYNN I'm, really, here.

Sam smiles.

SAM I just have one question. Why did you tell me not to come in?

A beat.

KEVIN FLYNN I had to make sure you would. They let out a much needed laugh.

#### EXT. DATA COMPLEX

Emergency vehicles fill the complex along with men in black securing various areas. Alan and Randall are finishing up a conversation.

RANDALL We're cleaning any trace of the MCP's source code.

ALAN

If any of his code survives, he'll only come back more intense, more deadly, more dangerous.

#### RANDALL

My associates assure me that every computer, phone, toaster, everything is being erased. If he's out there, we'll destroy it first, then ask questions later.

ALAN

Sorry about your computer.

The two men look at the melted NSA computer.

#### RANDALL

Well, to tell you the truth, it might be best that we rethink our goals before building another.

Alan offers his hand. Randall shakes it firmly.

EXT. ENCOM ROOFTOP

Cora and Sam stand overlooking the city landscape as the power is restored one neighborhood at a time.

CORA So this is the world of the users?

SAM

Yep.

CORA I didn't expect it to be so, dirty.

Sam laughs.

## CORA

# Sam?

Sam turns to Cora.

## CORA

# What happens now?

Sam looks deep into Cora's eyes as she returns the stare. He slowly grabs the back of her neck and kisses her lips. They continue as the gold code embedded in Sam's body begins to pulse, then lifts into the air turning into a sparkling dust tornado. The pixels swirl around their bodies as the kiss continues. The dust begins to gather in Cora's body like pollen finding its home. The dust sinks into her body causing a blinding glow.

Cora becomes Quorra.

Sam pulls back noticing the visual difference in her form.

SAM

Quorra?

Quorra smiles.

QUORRA

Sam.

SAM What's happening?

QUORRA I've come to say goodbye.

Sam looks frantically into her eyes.

SAM

Quorra!

QUORRA Sam, you know I wasn't meant for this world.

SAM Go back in the grid!

QUORRA And miss you every cycle that goes by?

SAM I'll come visit you! It'll be like nothing has changed. Quorra smiles as if Sam's being silly.

QUORRA You have to live <u>your</u> life Sam. The role I played will be filled by someone else. A user.

Sam struggles to accept her idea.

QUORRA Now hug me you silly user.

Sam and Quorra embrace for the last time.

SAM I love you Quorra.

QUORRA

And I you.

Sam holds Quorra as her gold circuitry begins to lift from Cora's body.

QUORRA (whispering) Goodbye Sam.

Quorra sheds a small tear before she drifts into the ether.

Sam sees her wisp away as Cora slowly regains consciousness.

CORA Now I understand. Girlfriend.

Sam holding back his emotions lets out a small laugh.

SAM Let's get you back home.

EXT. ENCOM LASER BAY

Alan walks into the savaged laser bay that has suffered from the battle. The main laser is dead and smoking. The huge monitor overhead shattered and flickering.

Alan kicks a clump of rubble as TRON steps into the room.

TRON

Alan 1?

Alan is caught completely off guard.

ALAN (whispering) TRON?

TRON nods.

TRON It's been a long time.

Alan steps to TRON and grabs his shoulders staring into a pair of eyes that match his own before smiling.

ALAN

Yes it has.

TRON returns the smile.

TRON It's good to meet you. I wasn't sure you were still here.

Alan confirms he understands.

ALAN I'm sorry we lost you.

TRON Will you visit us in the grid?

ALAN

I might just do that.

TRON Alan? Do users derezz?

Alan slowly nods.

ALAN Something like that.

TRON

How long?

ALAN You will live forever TRON. I will not.

TRON looks slightly confused.

ALAN Now I have something for you. Something for the grid. INT. ENCOM CONVENTION HALL, LASER DEMO

TRON and Drudge step onto the two platforms just in front of the demo laser. Kevin, Sam, Alan, and Cora look on as they all nod to one another.

TRON Come and see us in the Grid.

Kevin looks to Sam then back to TRON.

KEVIN FLYNN Not a chance, but we'll be in touch.

TRON turns to Alan and holds up a device. Alan nods.

ALAN Take good care of that.

Sam withdraws his remote control from earlier. Sam smiles. He presses the single button on the remote as the laser whisks them back into the grid.

Cora steps onto a platform. Sam approaches her.

SAM No need to say goodbye. We'll see each other again.

Cora still chokes back a tear while nodding.

SAM It was fun.

CORA Yes it was user Sam.

Sam lifts the remote one last time. Cora is gone.

Sam turns to Kevin and Alan.

SAM Now let's clean this up!

Kevin pats Sam on the shoulder as a proud father.

KEVIN FLYNN I like what you've done with this place. Video games huh? What's your high score?

They all laugh.

## EXT. DATA COMPLEX

The camera pulls out of the ENCOM building revealing the destruction. An overlay of the real-world transitions to that of the equally destroyed ENCOM grid.

#### EXT. ENCOM GRID

TRON and Cora overlook the grid. Buildings burn. Programs are working together to help the wounded.

TRON pulls out the object that Alan gave him.

We see an altar that Sam re-programmed so long ago. TRON attaches the device to the altar. It begins to rotate like a dial on a safe. Left, then right, then left, before sinking into the kernel itself.

A shock wave of energy explodes over the entire grid like an atom bomb of creation. The grid is repainted, secured, healed. Programs are restored to their perfect form. Portals to the outside world are removed as if they never existed. A dome is erected overhead. A sun and moon are born and begin to orbit some distance above.

We pull back and see a flat Earth version of the grid.

#### EXT. DATA COMPLEX

The camera continues to pull out faster and faster penetrating the grid world revealing a night view of the data complex before hurling into space showing a perfectly round Earth quickly shrinking.

#### EXT. SPACE

Stars fill up the view as the camera rotates 180 degrees. We continue to push into space until we catch up with a satellite featuring a NASA logo.

A small LED screen chirps every two seconds. This continues for ten seconds.

The last update reveals the digital symbol of the MCP.

END OF LINE.