Chapter 20
Factory Infiltration

I sped out of Saturn Valley and came once again to the peaceful gorge of Grapefruit Falls. I stopped and waited for Jeff and Paula to catch up with me before I continued heading up the gorge. In a short amount of time, we ended up at a massive waterfall that stretched across the length of the gorge’s river.

“*huff* Ness... I appreciate your hustle, but could you please tell us what you’re doing before you go running off somewhere? Don’t act like we can read your mind (I’m still working on that.)”

“Huh? Oh, sorry about that! It’s just, I’m eager to finally deal with Master Belch guy so that we get back to hunting the Eight Melodies. Anyways, now that we’re at this waterfall, there should be... Ah ha!” I shouted as I spotted a small cave entrance located just behind the roaring waterfall. I motioned for my friends to follow me as I entered the grotto. The interior of the cave was initially dark, but thanks to Jeff’s flashlight, I was able to locate a massive iron door standing at the back of the cave. “Here we are! The Mr. Saturn that I was talking to before was correct about there being a door behind this waterfall. It told me that this should be the entrance to Master Belch’s factory. Thankfully, the Mr. Saturn also told me how we can get in here; basically, we have to knock on the door and then wait for 3 minutes, after which we should be allowed access to the factory. Let’s hope that this works,” I said as I approached the door and gave it a firm knock. A deep and gargled voice cried out from the other side of the door.

“Say the password!” After the voice faded away, we stood absolutely still for 3 minutes, although it seemed like an eon. I was on the brink of moving the entire time, especially when I felt the urge to sneeze. However, we powered through, and after a while, a voice
called out from behind the door, “Okay, you may enter!” The large
door then slowly creaked open, allowing us to enter Master Belch’s
horrible factory.

The first thing that caught my attention when we stepped into the
factory was the smell; an odor of smoke, rotten milk, and vomit
pervaded the entire facility, and I had to use the utmost of my
abilities to keep from violently puking all over the place. Aside from
the smell, the complex looked bleak and lifeless, with dull metallic grey
walls and floors and the occasional splotch of other colors appearing
via electrical wiring that ran throughout the factory. From where we
entered the place, we were able to look over a balcony and view the
entire multi-leveled facility; it was gargantuan, and seemed to be the
length and width of a regular football field. Shortly after we came in,
we were greeted by a green pile of what looked like someone’s
digested lunch with googly eyes stuck to it; the slimy little pile
slithered over to us and then somehow began to speak to us.

“Greetings! You three look a bit different than the people that
Master Belch usually hires, but who am I to judge? I’m a sentient pile
of barf for Giygas’s sake! Eh, anyways, follow me, I’ll lead you newbies
to your assigned work stations!” the tiny pile of puke said as it began
to slither away. Despite all of us being thoroughly disgusted by both
the smell of the factory and its inhabitants, we followed the pile of
barf in hopes of potentially finding where Master Belch was hiding.
The slimy little pile led us over to a wide square platform, which
turned out to be an elevator to the factory’s second level. The
elevator slowly ferried us down to the second floor of the complex,
where we saw many more slimy piles of puke slithering about, their
very existence completely appalling me. We were led by the slimy pile
that had we met on the first floor to a conveyor belt carrying many
jars full of a yellow substance.

“Here ya are, rookies! Your work station, where you will spend the
rest of your miserable lives labeling jars of fly honey for the glorious
Master Belch’s consumption! Oh, and don’t even think about escaping; our Security Force is strong enough to quash any resistance! Anyway, I’m gonna get going. Enjoy labor!” the slimy little pile said as it turned to slither away.

“Hold up a second chap! I have a question of great importance!” Jeff blurted.

“Huh? Yeah, whaddya need four-eyes? Can’t you see I’m busy doing… important things?”

“Umm, if it’s not too much of a hassle, could you tell us where the ‘glorious’ Master Belch is stationed at in this factory? We have a special jar of fly honey to deliver to him!” Jeff said as he pulled out the jar of fly honey that he had been carrying in one of his pockets.

“Oooo! What a delicious looking jar of fly honey! Is that premium mucus flavor? Why didn’t you say something earlier? This is urgent! I’ll activate the elevator to the third floor so that you can give Master Belch this excellent treat!” the slimy little pile said as it slithered over to panel on the wall and fiddled with it, causing a square portion of the floor to light up. “Go on then! Step on the elevator panel and go give Master Belch his fly honey!” the slimy little pile demanded.

Following the pile’s “orders”, we all stepped onto the glowing floor panel and were quickly lowered down to the third floor of the factory.

We hurriedly walked down the linear corridor of the facility’s third level, passing many oblivious slimy little piles along the way. Eventually, we also passed another conveyor belt carrying fly honey, with a line of chained-up Mr. Saturns positioned behind the belt sticking labels onto the passing jars with their noses. As we strolled by the Saturns, I could hear their exhausted and anguished voices.

“aM, sO tiiRed... nose... FEels FunnY.”

“Chains HurTiNg lEgs. boInG! bAd Smell. vEry bAd. zoOm!”

“hUnGrY... dinG...”

I saw Paula shed a tear as we continued past the enslaved Mr. Saturns. I badly wanted to help the adorable Saturns escape from
their shackles, but decided against it in fear of attracting the attention of all the slimy little piles in the area. We kept on trekking down the complex until we arrived at an incredibly tall steel door surrounded by puddles of raw sewage. Before we could go any closer to the door, we were quickly approached by a pink version of the slimy little piles that we had been seeing.

“Hold up! Who are you, and what are you doing here at the entrance to Master Belch’s office? I am Mini-Belch, the head of security here at Master Belch’s grand factory! Well, are you gonna answer me, or just stand there like air heads?” the pink little pile questioned.

“Oh, don’t mind us chap. We are simply here to deliver this premium fly honey to the ‘wondrous’ Master Belch! He has been expecting us for quite some time!” Jeff lied.

“Is that so? Hmmm, alright. You can go on ahead... Wait... Nerd with glasses... Kid wearing a red cap... Ugly girl in a pink dress... AH HA! You cannot fool me with your frivolous fibs! You three are the ones who took down the zombie forces in Threed and destroyed Master Belch’s Boogey Tent! And, I suppose you have defeated Genzoruz as well, for he hasn’t reported to factory recently! You three scumbags are Lord Giygas’s public enemy #1! You won’t get out of this factory alive!” Mini-Belch said as it slithered over to a panel on the wall and pressed a glowing red button. Instantly, an alarm sounded off, and 3 slimy little piles dropped from the ceiling and landed in front of us. “Meet the Security Force, Master Belch’s elite protection personnel! They will spell your end! Alright Security Force, this is what you have been training for! On my mark: 3, 2, 1, ATTACK!”

Security Force & Mini-Belch
Fierce Factory Defenders
On Mini-Belch’s command, the three slimy little piles began to slither towards us at a surprisingly fast rate. However, they were all taken out swiftly by us; Jeff blasted one with his stun gun, Paula burnt one to a crisp with PK Fire, and I regretfully smashed one with my bat, causing a vile green liquid to splatter all over it.

“Darn! They took out Security Force... Wave 1! Ha, I got ya! I bet you thought that we only had one Security Force! Well, there’s more where that came from! Security Force Wave 2, your time is now!” Mini-Belch shouted. Seconds later, a huge swarm of flies swooped down from the ceiling and began circling us. The fly swarm then flew directly at us and started to land on our bodies. We tried hard to defend ourselves from the horde of flies, but we couldn’t keep up and were constantly bitten by the vicious insects. As I was desperately attempting to swat the flies off of myself, I suddenly felt a blast of sweet-smelling gas hit me, causing the all of the no good flies to drop to the floor. When I looked up, I saw that Paula had gotten her perfume out and used it to exterminate the flies that were covering us.

“Wow, I never knew this stuff was so good at killing bugs! I’ll have to bring it with me whenever I go camping!” Paula said as she put the perfume back in her purse.

“What?! You managed to take out Security Force Wave 2?! You kids are freaking persistent, I’ll give you that. But not for much longer! Here comes Security Force Wave 3! Go get those stupid kids!” Mini-Belch commanded. Soon after Mini-Belch had spoken, two metal garbage cans fell from the ceiling. The trash cans both began to rattle before opening up, revealing their true forms; one can contained a creature entirely composed of garbage and the other contained a red ghost that had mischievous grin on its face. Without hesitation, the smelly ghost rushed at us and clung onto Jeff’s neck, while the putrid moldyman stayed behind and spat globs of acidic sewage at us. Paula stayed back to help get the smelly ghost off of Jeff while I charged at the putrid moldyman. I gracefully dodged the moldyman’s shots before intensely smashing it in the face with my
bat, causing its face to violently burst into many pieces. I turned around just in time to see Paula blast the smelly ghost with PSI Fire α, causing it to evaporate into the air.

“...CRAP! They took out Security Force Waves 1-3! Now all that leaves is Security Force Wave 4... Which is me! Uh oh, I'm really gonna get it now... No. I won't be afraid! Master Belch is counting on me to destroy these chumps! I can't give up now! Alright then, listen up, you, punks! By the power of all things dirty... I, uh, m-m-MADE YOU DIRTY!!”

Mini-Belch yelled as it furiously slithered towards us. Seeing as this was a 3-vs-1 situation, I ran at Mini-Belch, confident that I could take it out with little hassle; however, when I was just about to smash the pink little pile, it deeply inhaled and blew a stream of bad breath at my face. The smell was so astronomically awful that my eyes began to tear up and my throat started to burn. I cleared my eyes quickly enough to witness Jeff and Paula getting hit with the same pungent odor, making them gag and tear up; the nauseating smell also caused Jeff to drop the jar of fly honey that he had been holding.

“Ahahaha! How do you like the smell of my ultra-breath, you sorry simpletons! I learned that trick from Master Belch himself! Now that you've been rendered defenseless, all I have to do is... Wait, is that fly honey?! I love fly honey!” Mini-Belch said, completely mesmerized by the jar of yellow liquid that Jeff had dropped. Noticing that Mini-Belch was distracted by the jar of fly honey, I took the opportunity that was presented to me and rushed at the pink little pile. Before it could turn to face me, I smashed the barf on the top of the head with my bat at full force, splashing what used to be Mini-Belch's body all over the area.

“Arrgh! Oh, lovely. I got all that disgusting barf stuff all over myself. And, a little bit got on you guys too. Sorry about that. But, it was what I had to do. Uh, guys?” I said to my friends, who were both rapidly wiping their eyes.
“We heard you Ness, it’s just that the smell of that thing’s breath was so bad that it’s making us cry uncontrollably. You must have better resistance to bad smells, since it doesn’t seem like you’re crying right now. Gah, I can’t fight like this, I can barely see through all my tears...” Paula said as she continued to wipe her eyes. I suppose all of the times I had changed Tracy’s diaper made more resilient to bad odor. Seeing both of my friends in a helpless state made me want to aid them greatly, and yet, I wasn’t sure if Lifeup α would be able to help them, for they weren’t actually injured, but were simply afflicted with a status-altering condition. Suddenly, I felt a feeling that I had not felt in a long time well up from deep inside me. I immediately recognized this feeling as the same one that I had felt when I learned my other PSI abilities. When the feeling subsided, a phrase came to my mouth, and I shouted it out.

As I said this phrase, a blast of blue energy burst from my hands and enveloped Paula. Quickly, the tears flowing from her eyes ceased, and she smiled widely.

“Ness... You made my tears stop! That was amazing! Was that a new PSI skill you just used? If so, it will definitely come in handy for later, whenever we’ve been afflicted by a negative status effect. But, for the time being, could you help Jeff out too?” Paula said as she pointed at the sobbing Jeff. I once again shouted the phrase, enveloping Jeff in the blue energy, causing his tears to dry up.

“*sniff* A thousand thanks Ness. That smell was truly worse than anything I have ever came across. Like Paula said, that new PSI ability seems like it could come in handy later. But, as for current events, we have now cleared the way into Master Belch’s hideout. It is time to confront the head honcho of this operation. I know not what horrors await us on the other side of that door, but whatever happens, we’ll be right behind you Ness. If you are ready, lead us onward, good chap,” Jeff said as he picked up the jar of fly honey that he had dropped. Nervously, I stepped forward and approached the massive door. Ominously, it opened automatically as we came
close to it. Swallowing my fear, I marched into the doorway, ready to finally face-off against the leader of the zombie invasion.
Chapter 21
The War Against Belch

As soon as we stepped into the room, the smell that occupied the area seemed to suck the breath from my lungs. It was even worse than the factory’s regular odor. At first I wondered what could be the source of such an abysmal scent; however, I quickly found the origin of the smell. Sitting in the back of the massive cubic room was a titanic blob of raw vomit. The mere sight of the puke mass was enough to make Paula lose her lunch immediately, and I struggled to keep mine inside of my stomach. Yet, despite how abominable the room appeared to be, I didn’t see anyone that could pass off as being the Master Belch that we were looking for; that was, until I came to a horrifying realization. After seeing the numerous slimy little piles that occupied the rancid factory, there was only one thing that Master Belch could be. Courageously, I took a few steps toward the puke pile and yelled with all of my being.

“Master Belch! Leader of the zombies and servant of the evil Giygas! Reveal yourself, you coward! My friends and I have come to put an end to your nefarious schemes!” I shouted. A few seconds after, the big pile of puke began to vibrate intensely. Moments later, two great eyeballs materialized onto the puke pile, and shortly after that, a large gaping hole formed on the puke, accompanied by two rows of jagged teeth. The puke pile somehow blinked its eyes a few times, and then took a deep breath before letting loose a heaven-rending burp.
“GWA HAHAHAHA! *BURP*! So, the heroes of the prophecy come at last! Master Giygas warned me of your arrival. He said, beware of a boy in a red cap, a boy with stupid glasses, and a puny girl in a pink dress. Gwa harharhar! Why should I be afraid a bunch of insignificant children! For once, I think the Master is sorely mistaken! But, I must give you credit where you deserve it. By some miracle of a chance, you not only escaped from the murky cave that I had trapped you in, but you also destroyed my beautiful Boogey Tent! I made that thing with love, and a zesty mixture of bile and super glue. You are also the ones who have rid the town of Threed of all my delightful zombies! How rude. *BURRP!*”

“Excuse me. Where was I? Oh yes. So, you have come all this way just to meet me, Master Belch, prince of puke, baron of botulism! Gwa harharharha! Do you kids have a death wish? I am all-powerful! I was made so by the glorious Master Giygas! Anything made by the Master cannot possibly fail! Well, except for the Mani Mani Statue... But that came very close to succeeding! If it wasn’t for you, Ness, then the entirety of Happy-Happy Town, or whatever it was called, would be nothing but brainwashed puppets! *BURRP!* Ooh, that smells like yesterday’s lunch... Where was I? Oh, forget the drawn out monologue! You all know what we’re here for. Gwa! GWA HAHAHAHAHA!! This is the end for you lot! Suffer, spanky! *BURRP!*”

**Master Belch**  
**Putrid Prince of Puke**

We all simultaneously pulled out our weapons as we prepared to do battle with Belch. Seeing as Belch was a very large opponent, I attempted to strike him from the side while Jeff and Paula kept him occupied. Unfortunately for me, Belch caught onto my plan and shot me in the face with a cloud of his breath, causing me to get
disoriented and drop my bat. I regained my senses in time to see Belch slither over to my bat and absorb it into his sticky body.

“Mmmm... aluminum, my third-favorite flavor!” Belch spat as he smiled maliciously. Rage filled my body as the fat blob of puke let loose an insulting guttural cackle. Unable to think rationally, I quickly casted PK Rockin’ α at Belch. The blast connected with Belch and made him explode into many green chunks; however, the pieces speedily slithered back to the main pile, allowing Belch to reform into one whole body. “Dummy! Doing that will get you nowhere! The only way could even dream of defeating me would be to shrink me down to size... But that will never happen! Gwa hahahaha!” Taking what the hulking pile of puke said into consideration, I looked over to Paula and mouthed the word “freeze”. Understanding me perfectly, Paula hastily casted PK Freeze α on Belch, causing a portion of his body to be encased in ice. She then ran over to Belch and smashed his frozen section with her frying pan, breaking it into tiny ice crystals. This attack caused Belch to visibly shrink a bit, so motioned for Paula to continue with her cold assault. After a few more rounds of this, Belch had been reduced to half of his original size. “What?! No, how could you?! My glorious grossness has been reduced to only moderate filth! This, is, UN-EX-CEPT-ABLE!!! Minions! Come to me! Make me great again!” Belch shouted. Suddenly, about five slimy little piles fell from the ceiling and began to rush onto Belch. He then absorbed the piles into himself, causing him to grow back to his original massive size. “GWA HAHAHA! How do you like that? My gargantuan putridness has returned to me! Now you kids are in for it! Prepare to be annihilated!” Belch threatened. Now significantly worried for our safety, I stepped back and regrouped with my friends.

“Guys, this is bad! Even though Paula managed to get Belch down to size, he was easily able to regain the missing pieces of his body! What are we going to do?” I whispered panickedly.
“Well, I would try to freeze him again, but using PK Freeze all those other times has worn me out. I’m gonna need a few minutes to recharge,” Paula stated.

“Ah, if that’s the case, then Ness and I will distract Belch to provide you with time to rest! Come on Ness!” Jeff directed. Following our new course of action, Jeff and I ran to opposite sides of Master Belch and began to make taunting gestures at the vomit mass.

“Wha?! How dare you taunt me, so, childishly! Arrgg! I’ll make you wish that you never born!” Belch yelled. Belch then started to take a deep breath, most likely in preparation for his ultra-breath attack; however, before he could exhale his nauseous breath, Jeff took out the jar of fly honey that he had been carrying and threw it into Belch’s mouth. Belch was caught off guard by this and began to choke on the sticky material.

“Ha! Chew on that, you miserable pile of disgust!” Jeff mocked.

“Ack! What is this? Gark! *spit* *cough* Oh! Wait, this is fly honey! I love fly honey! *smack, chomp* Oh ho ho, you fools! This isn’t weakening me, this is just making me stronger! *smack* Mmmm, so good! *chomp smack chomp*” The fly honey that Jeff threw made Belch completely lose focus on the battle, so we pulled back while he was distracted.

“Paula! Have you gotten your strength back? Master Belch is too focused on eating fly honey to fight back, so this our chance to strike him hard!” I said.

“Oooo... My head feels kind of weird. I was feeling better up until a few moments ago, and now I feel light-headed. I think the smell of this room is getting to me... Hold on. The strange feeling is receding. Oh... Oh! I feel amazing, for some reason! Woah, wait, I’m getting an odd urge to say something... But what do I say? Uhhh... Ah ha! I know! All this power I feel, by saying this phrase, I can channel it, into a vigorous attack!

Paula shouted. Instantly, a large wave of blue energy burst from her fingers and headed straight for Belch, who barely had
enough time to notice the energy before his entire body was frozen solid. Seizing the opportunity that was presented to me, I quickly casted PK Rockin’ α, which connected with the iced Belch and caused him to explode into many frozen pieces. After the ice had finished flying, there was only a tiny bit of vomit left where Belch stood. The small bit of puke shook for a second before Belch’s face materialized onto it.

“Bah! Where am I? Why are you three so much bigger than me all of a sudden? Wait, am I... NOOOOOOO!!! My mega-disgusting physique has been shrunken down to the size of one of my lowly minions! This is horrible! I will never be able to look Master Giygas in the face ever again... Curse you kids! You have ruined my life! I swear to you, I will have my revenge one day!... But that day is not today. *sigh* As much as this pains me to say, you three have bested me fair and square. It is only correct to give you something in return. I will shut off this factory and release the Mr. Saturns from their imprisonment. In doing this, the red clouds above Threed will also be lifted. Here you are,” Master Belch mumbled as he pressed something on a wall control panel. A loud noise then emitted from the entire factory, signifying that all of its machinery had been turned off. “However, do not think that you have won this war just yet! By this point, Master Giygas will have snuck the Mani Mani Statue into Fourside! What was once a grand metropolis will now be worse than living in your own puke! Gwa hahahaha!... Ha. Well, I really must be going now. I have to report this failure to Master Giygas at once. This is not the last you will see of, MASTER BELCH!! *BURRRP!* Minions! We must flee! Follow me!” Belch said as he slithered through a tiny air vent in the wall, followed by hundreds of slimy little piles trailing behind him. After all of the piles had escaped with Master Belch, around a dozen Mr. Saturns came into the room, practically bouncing with glee.
"Boing! You guys have saved us from Bad Belch man! We love yous!"
"Ding! Mr. Saturn is happy, happy! Zoom boing!"
"Saturn is still hungry... Zoom!"

“Woah, settle down guys! I know that you’re all happy about being free, but we still need to find a way out of here,” I said to the Saturn mob.

“I say, look here Ness! Behind where that vile Belch used to stand is a secret doorway! If I press this button right here... Ah, yes, the door has opened! This must be the way out of here!” Jeff shouted. Upon hearing of the factory’s exit, the horde of Saturns rushed through the door, nearly knocking Jeff off of his feet.

“Tee hee! Look at all those little guys! There so happy to get out of this wretched place! Seeing those guys be happy... It makes me happy too! Oh, I think I have something in my eye...” Paula said as she wiped the tears of joy from her eyes.

“Uh, hey Paula. That PSI technique that you used to freeze Master Belch was pretty cool. Did you just learn it then?” I asked, trying to bring her mind off of the Saturns.

“Huh? Oh yeah, it just sort of, popped into my head. I’ve never before experienced the feeling of learning a new PSI skill, ‘cause I’ve known all of my other tricks since I was a baby. PSI is a really weird thing, and I have no idea why you and I have the ability to use like we can. Did we inherit the trait or did we gain it from some other means? I don’t know. Maybe Jeff can do some studying into the topic. But, we can think about all that later. Right now, the thing I want the most is a way to get rid of all this gunk that got on me,” Paula said as she looked down at her pink dress, which was covered with green muck. I looked down at myself and saw the same thing. Jeff was slimed too. We all wanted to wash off.

“Uhh, well, we won’t be able to get this junk off of us by standing here, will we? I say that we head through that door the Mr. Saturns went through. If we can make it back to Saturn Valley, we might be
able to find a shower or something like that. I'll lead the way, as usual. Let's go.” I said as we marched through the open door and out of the dismal factory.