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TRIONA

Lucas! Lucas! Lu, I'm screwed. I didn't know. I just. I just managed to connect to the internet for the first time since I got here. I thought just for a moment. Lu, it's happened. Even faster than I thought. It's not just super-storm Darius. There's more. Three other major storms ripping through the Atlantic. Darius spawned tornadoes all through the Southeast. There've been earthquakes. No one even knows how many. It sounds like the whole planet is ripping itself apart. Dozens of earthquakes. At least 8 category 8 or higher. Mexico. Two of them. Japan, and Korea, and India, and Ecuador. California. Alaska. Fucking Oklahoma. And they set off tsunamis. Flooding. And that's just what people can actually report on.

Lucas, there's no one coming. No one is coming to help. I'm on my own. Hell. Maybe I should be out there trying to help. Or bringing people in here. I don't know. I can't even reach Naomi. The planet is ripping itself apart and there's nothing I can do. We failed. I failed. And now people are dying and I'm stuck here. And there's no telling how long my water filtration will last. Or the lights. Heating is minimal, but even the bare minimum might mean I can't run the damn ERGO much longer. And the MREs won't last forever. And I was supposed to fix this. I was supposed to fix all of it. But I can't. I can't do it. Probably I never could. I don't know what to do. I just wish we could do this together. You fucking promised we'd do this together. But instead you're off in space living the dream after fucking everything up.

So Mr. Important, I'm going to need you to take a break from whatever life and death thing you're doing up there and fucking help me. Here's everything I'm looking at. All the bugs I can't fix and the math that doesn't add up. I need...I don't even know. Ideas. More eyes. Some kind of help. Please. For me.

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(Spent and exhausted, TRIONA hits send. A PING)

TRIONA

That's impossible.

LUCAS

Hey Triona, I just wanted to give you a heads up that we're seeing something weird. Admiral Washington is sending out messages on high priority, but we're not getting much back. And what's there is fuzzy. It's not good. I know you've said things are a little rough where you are, but if you have a second between charts and approvals, could you send me more details about the ground situation there?