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Azmuth turns his glare to Retaliator.

646 AZMUTH
You think I would entrust that secret to a lowly assistant?

Retaliator MORPHS OUT A WEAPON and aims at Azmuth.

647 RETALIATOR Your old assistant warned me about you.

Un-fazed, Azmuth merely reaches out and touches Retaliator's weapon... which MORPHS BACK INTO HIS BODY... which in turn RETRACTS INTO A SMALL UPGRADE-LIKE CUBE, REVEALING A GREY MATTER-LIKE GALVAN UNDERNEATH! This is ALBEDO (who Ben and Gwen won't re-meet for another five years in Alien Force - but never in his original Galvan form, which is why they won't recognize him then).

648 AZMUTH Myaxx knew better than to fool around with Mechamorph armor.

Ben and Gwen stare at Albedo in wide-eyed shock.

You mean I was hunted down all over the world... by a Grey Matter in an Upgrade suit?!

Albedo looks up at Azmuth in shame.

I'm sorry, Azmuth. But I thought you were... I had to avenge you.

Azmuth hops down from Ben's hand and picks up the nowtiny Mechamorph Armor Cube.

That's the Mechamorph armor talking. All it does is pump up the wearer's aggression. Turns 'em into a single-minded weapon of destruction.

652 BEN Tell me about it.

653 AZMUTH
Now let's go home before anyone else breaks something.

HISERREN NAMED - NAMED - NAMED - NAMED INCOLUMN - NAMED - NAME

SEO 30

86.

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Ben crouches down to Azmuth sheepishly.

About that... could you do me one more favor before you go? I sorta turned my parents into aliens.

Azmuth shakes his head and <SIGHS>.

SEP 31

PULBLE OF ON PULBLE OF ON PULBLE OF THE TON

EXT. BEN'S HOUSE - A LITTLE LATER

Tetrax shoots a VOLLEY OF CRYSTAL SHARDS around Sandra-Blast, FORMING A BARRIER AROUND HER...

Carl-Mutt FIRES QUILLS at Max, who ducks to avoid them ...

...just as Sandra-Blast <BLASTS> free of her barrier. So Carl Mutt <POUNCES> on Sandra-Blast instead!

655 MAX Son! No!

Tetrax and Max grab Carl-Mutt, trying to pull him off Sandra-Blast. It's a losing battle.

656 MAX
Your wife is NOT a midnight snack!

In a FLASH OF BLUE LIGHT, RETALIATOR, BEN AND GWEN PORTAL INTO VIEW. (NOTE: Ben has his non-Omnitrix hand behind his back until otherwise noted.)

Retaliator oozes his arm onto Ben's Omnitrix, while Gwen Gwen simultaneously aims a BLAST OF MAGIC at the Omnitrix, which <SPARKS> with Upgrade and Magical energy.

657 GWEN
Mechanae discombobulus!

Ben aims his Omnitrix at Carl-Mutt and Sandra-Blast as it emits another <STRANGE FEEDBACK SOUND> as Carl-Mutt and Sandra-Blast are hit with a WASH OF SWIRLING PURPLE-GREEN ENERGY, then TRANSFORM BACK TO NORMAL.

Retaliator oozes his arm off Ben's Omnitrix, which RETURNS TO NORMAL. Ben, Gwen and Max step in front of Tetrax and Retaliator so Carl and Sandra can't see them.

658 SANDRA

Ben!

LETALIATURE WILLIATURE PURCHATURE OM

Pcm

SONETHING)

\*

\*

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659 CARL
Where in the world were you? We've been looking everywhere for you.

Ben hesitates, but then is resigned to tell the truth.

660 BEN

<sigh> I-

661 SANDRA Your grandfather's here to take you fishing.

662 BEN
You mean I'm not grounded?

Sandra turns to Carl.

663 SANDRA I don't remember grounding Ben, do you, Carl?

Carl looks at the pile of rubble that was once the Rustbucket, as he and Sandra head back into the house.

664 CARL
Where's the RV, Dad? You park it around the corner?

(sotto to Ben)
I think going alien may have scrambled their memories a bit.

(sotto to Max)
At least it was good for something.

When they're out of sight, Max turns to the Retaliator.

I don't know what you did, but thanks.

The Retaliator retracts his armor to REVEAL AZMUTH! Ben takes his non-Omnitrix hand out from behind his back to reveal he's carrying Albedo.

668 AZMUTH
Max Tennyson, I've heard a lot
about you.

Max and Tetrax look at Azmuth, shocked.

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669 MAX

Azmuth?

670 TETRAX

You're - ?

Azmuth waves them off and walks away. Albedo jumps out of Ben's hand to join Azmuth.

671 AZMUTH
Yeah, yeah, yeah. The kids will
tell you the whole story. I got a
lab to get back to.

Max turns to Ben and Gwen.

672 MAX I'm just glad to know you're all safe.

Max turns to the Rustbucket rubble sadly.

673 MAX Although it looks like NOBODY's going fishing this weekend.

Ben and Gwen each point to themselves.

674 BEN/GWEN
This is all MY fault.
(beat)
YOUR fault? How is it YOUR fault?

675 BEN
MY Omnitrix trashed the Rustbucket.

676 GWEN
Only because of MY magic spell.

Azmuth glares back at Ben and Gwen.

677 AZMUTH
Oh for the love of - Do you two
EVER stop arguing?

me hords

He MORPHS THE MECHAMORPH ARMOR BACK OVER HIMSELF and OOZES ONTO THE PILE OF RUBBLE, "UPGRADING" IT BACK INTO THE RUSTBUCKET. He OOZES off the repaired Rustbucket and grabs Albedo.

678 MECHAMORPH AZMUTH — , "USGRAR" SHADE

(to Albedo)

Let's go home.

put = Alberdo on shoulder puches "Button" on

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They TELEPORT OUT OF SIGHT in a FLASH OF ELECTRIC BLUE.

Ben turns to his house wistfully.

679 BEN

Home... I was really gonna leave it for good.

Tetrax steps up to him.

680 TETRAX
It's not too late. The alien immersion training offer still stands.

Max glares at Tetrax.

681 MAX

Haven't you done enough damage? None of this would've happened if you hadn't filled Ben with ideas!

Ben steps between them.

682 BEN

No, Grandpa, it's my fault. I never should've lied to Tetrax about getting your permission. I've learned my lesson.

Gwen raises a skeptical eyebrow at Ben, arms folded.

683 GWEN

You'll forget it again. But you've learned it.

Max turns to Ben, reluctant to say this:

684 MAX

<sigh> Still, if this is what you
want, Ben, it is your choice.

Ben takes a moment to consider this, then smiles.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. REMOTE WOODED AREA - NIGHT

Tetrax's ship <BLASTS> off into the night sky.

SEQ 32