

FILM

[Background music plays]

Declan: About 5 miles outside the city of Eeldigs there's a restricted radioactive site, also known as the BioForge. Encircling the area is an overpass where cars speed by at 60 miles per hour - oblivious to what's below. Within the walls, the remnants of an ancient facility lie in decay, its crumbling structures and forgotten machinery trapped in time.

[sound of an overpass fades in]

Casey: Okay, check one, two. I'm finally in Eeldigs – a day late – and probably the most jetlagged I've ever been, in my life.

[sound of overpass fades out]

Declan: We sent out one of our producers Casey Macallister, to check it out

Casey: Jetlag be damned, I'm meeting up with Luna Odelle Oto – a researcher at the institute of Internal Reasons, and most importantly, the first person to be granted access to this site.

[sound of an overpass fades in]

Casey: How many people have you taken on a tour inside the facility?

Luna: Right, as you know it's not easy to get access due to the health safety measures, you know the ones that have been put in place recently? But after we found the digital twin there was an increase in visits to the site, so it's been quite exhausting.

Casey: So I missed the peak season?

Luna: Yeah, of course.

Casey: 5 years ago, after a long, grueling period of jumping through all the hoops you can possibly imagine, Luna and her research partner Ivy Winterbottom were granted access to this radio-active site. On one of their early visits they discovered its digital twin inside a hidden server. But, we'll come back to that in a bit.

Declan: Okay

Casey: May I ask, what's the draw to this site for you personally?

Luna: Umm, yeah, so before this project, I was working on the Clatterex Development sites, for, well, what seems like my entire career to be honest with you.

Casey: Right

Casey: In case you're unaware, the Clatterex Development is a collection of historic sites scattered throughout the city. Experts estimate that these sites date back to the same era as the radioactive ruins just outside the city - or the BioForge which is what most people call it. But I'll let Luna explain the rest.

Luna: and because these sites are in the city, there's been a lot of movement throughout this time, so we're talking hundreds of years ago though.

Casey: Yeah

Luna: So they've not been well preserved, and this is what makes it really hard to find these spaces and what they were used for. I kind of think there's something about these buildings that suggest that there's something different going on... and we still don't know whether that's a cultural space or a place of worship

Casey: Right

Luna: We do know that it was a transient space.... Like a place where people were coming and going, but not living in, but that's kind of debatable as well. But my team have got something in the works that's opening new areas of research. And, actually, this is what eventually led me to seek access to the BioForge.

Casey: Right

Luna: So, deep underground in the Clatterex sites we found parts of a – sort of - large circular machine. But all these sites are the same, surprisingly. It's always underground and it's just pieces here and there, but my team has collected them all over the years.

Casey: And what have you been doing with it?

Luna: We're basically trying to figure out if it's got a function or not. We knew it was connected to electricity in some way, but we don't actually have the parts to hook it up yet. And because we'd run out of options we thought we might as well check out the Bio Forge, or at least see if there's any way we could get access to it.

Casey: And so you didn't know whether this radio active site, or BioForge, sorry, you didn't know whether it was actually connected to the Clatterex Development at this point did you?

Luna: No, we'd actually ran out of options at that point to be honest.

Casey: I see

Declan: At the same time that Luna was looking into the radioactive site to significantly move the research forward, there was another researcher who was becoming increasingly interested in this area as well.

Glio: Okay....I gotta be careful about what I say here. Yeah, I seem to have earned a reputation for... “indulging”... as they put it... into my research too much.

Declan: This is Glio B Godman who’s a professor in Lost Rituals at the University of Anatomical Research. And as you can imagine “Lost Rituals” isn’t the kind of department you see in many universities.

Casey: And Glio’s not the kind of person you meet every day.

Declan: That’s what I was kind of implying. But yeah, to work in this field you need to be able to think pretty speculatively and most importantly you need to be able to search for grains of truth deep in tales, lore and even conspiramyths. She happened to be in town, so I invited her up to our studio.

Glio: The Divian Settlement is a fascinating story, and if I’m being completely honest, it’s driven a lot of my research. Not because I think it’s necessarily real but, I guess you could say this is sorta my expertise. Trying to figure out what kind of knowledge these stories contain.

Casey: Sorry, I have a question. What is the Divian Settlement?

Declan: Oh, it’s super fascinating. Let me tell you.

[mysterious music fades in]

Declan: The tale of the Divian Settlement emerged around 500 years ago. Said to have materialised without human intervention, the structure is believed to have been a gateway—perhaps even a bridge—to the synthetic worlds of Divian, an enigmatic and theoretical plane of existence that has fueled speculation for centuries.

According to the conspiramyth, the Divian Settlement was not built by human hands.

Instead, it was allegedly designed, assembled, and even governed by an unknown divine network—an advanced force operating beyond conventional understanding. Some believe this force to be extraterrestrial in nature, while others suggest a highly sophisticated neural network that predates technology as we have understood it for centuries.

[mysterious music fades out]

Interview:

Declan: So, why've you decided to take this story as a starting point for your research?

Glio: Sorry, I think I've misled you there, it's not entirely the starting point of my research, and if you don't mind I'd like to start a little further back.

Declan: For sure!

[rewind sound]

[music starts]

Glio: So, I had come across some data – like years and years ago – about an old procession that would happen every year in Eeldigs. And we see something kind of similar today but it's become a bit of a commercialised event where everyone leaves the house at night wearing blue and buys each other gifts.

Declan: [laughs] right of course.

Glio: Yeah you know what I'm talking about. So, it turns out this procession, which I call the Prerequisite – you can read about that in my book it's just about to come out actually, is linked to the Clatterex Development.

Casey: That's why she wanted to start further back.

[music fades out]

Glio: Available for pre-order now

Declan: Yup!

Glio: ...And what I did was I looked at all the various routes that these processions took. And what I've noticed is that each variation always passed through or stopped at the Clatterex development sites – which are dotted all around the city. And in some *older* versions I'd managed to get my hands on, these routes were slightly bigger and *always* pass through BioForge, you know, where the radioactive site is.

Declan: Okay

Glio: And this is where Bioforge becomes part of the Clatterex Development for me.

Declan: And the Divian Settlement?

Glio: Right, sorry, yeah, [laughs] uhhh... my uni dissertation was actually on the Divian Settlement and how the radio-active site might be linked. I mean, or it's a load of rubbish, but there's a personal link in there for me that I find it quite hard to separate from. So I guess you could say the Divian conspiramyth became a – background character in my research at this point.

Casey: Wait hold up for just a second, how serious is Glio about this Divian myth?

Glio: I'm not taking it too seriously

Casey: Got it!

Glio: When I found out about the discovery of the digital twin though I was just like "I've gotta get my hands on this"

[click noise]

Declan: Ok, I'm going to put Glio on pause there, because I actually wanna go back to the digital twin that Luna and her research partner Ivy discovered.

Casey: Go for it

Declan: I would, but I've actually got someone who's going to explain better than me.

Anakin: Hi my name is Anakin Orion and I'm an Anthro-technic excavations expert.

Declan: This is Anakin and he works for Lunar Extract limited. You probably haven't heard of them, but they specialise in the analysis of some of the oldest digital twins that are still working.

Casey: For our listeners, could you just explain what a digital twin is?

Anakin: To put it simply, it's kind of a part of a building or structure. It's like the brain basically. It helps monitor, analyse, and optimize how a building operates in real-time. And the way it does this is it collects data from sensors and other sources to improve efficiency, detect issues early, you know even predict maintenance needs.

Declan: See, I told you he could explain it better than me. Expertise aside, Anakin also happens to be the guy who's been working on the digital twin that was found at the BioForge. So while I was in town, I stopped by Lunar Extract Ltd. to take a peek at what he's been doing.

[sounds of server room fades in]

Declan: Wow this is really something...

Anakin: over here you can see that these people would have been using these parts of the building for....[voice fades out]

Declan: You may have been wondering what exactly an Anthro-technic excavationist does...

Anakin: We're just lookin' for traces of human activity in the data, tryna figure out how people were usin' the place back in the day. It's just to help me get my head round how the building was used, basically. I mean, it's not gonna give us all the answers, not with a site this old, but any information is always helpful

Casey: For sure. And what does this data look like? Like, what is it you're looking for?

Anakin: The data comes in all sorts, doesn't it? So our team's made up of people with different skills, you know everyone brings somethin' else to the table.

Casey: And do you have anything that you specialise in?

Anakin: Yeah, er, WiVi's what I'm best known for.

Declan: WiVi, or better known as WiFi Vision is information collected using the radio waves emitted from routers. These routers would connect the building's users to the internet. But these radio waves are able to capture human movement in space.

Casey: So it's like a surveillance camera then?

Declan: Sort of, but what makes this technology even more pervasive is that it can see through walls. So where you might normally need cameras in each room, here you only need a few routers per floor.

Casey: Gotcha

Anakin: It's a bit misleading because these routers wouldn't have been installed for surveillance purposes. But none-the-less the data can be found within digital twins.

Declan: And are there a lot of people on your team that work with WiFi vision?

Anakin: No, I'm actually the only person who knows how to do it here at Lunar Extract.

Declan: Anakin's being modest here.

Casey: Oh?

Declan: Yeah he's the guy who discovered the method of tapping into this kind of data.

Casey: That's amazing

Declan: Right? Sorry I just wanted to let everyone know, because I think it's super cool.

Declan: What drew you to working with WiVi specifically?

[music starts]

Anakin: Erm, well I'm really interested in this specific time period that the radio-active site dates back to, as it's a very unique time where traditional forms of archiving history aren't necessarily accurate. Knowledge production is labelled as alternative facts, images are generated rather than captured and the list goes on and one to be honest.

[Music stops]

Declan: It's shrouded in a lot of mystery basically

Anakin: Exactly. So I began seeking out different forms of information capture which wouldn't have been tampered with.

Declan: In what way is this tampered with?

Anakin: To the best of my knowledge, the data doesn't seem to have been collected or analysed by humans, so it's just raw and accurate information that relates to humans and how they move.

Declan: And so have you found anything that stands out on the BioForge digital twin?

Anakin: To be honest the first 8 months of the project I was completing a lot of data requests that had been filed by various researchers around the country. And this wasn't WiVi related stuff, it was a lot of standard data requests. So I didn't get a chance to engage in any of my avatar data sessions – which is what I like to call them – until all it had been completed anyway. But when I finally did....

[click noise]

Declan: I'm gonna stop him there, as we'll come back to what Anakin found a bit later.

Casey: What? You can't do that?

Declan: Seriously... it'll sound too weird if I bring it in now.

Casey: You gotta give me something else then...

Declan: Yeah, I do have something else, and actually this is quite an important part of the story.

Casey: Great

Declan: While Anakin was completing all these data requests he was amongst some of the people who were invited to check out the site when it was still open....well not open, but you know what I mean.

Anakin: Ivy who was actually my uhhh... close friend knew I was working on the project so she'd invited me up to accompany her to the site a few times.

Declan: lucky you

Anakin: uhhhh... I'm not so sure about that.

Declan: and why's that?

Anakin: The second time I did a site visit I had this strange sensation in one of my legs. It wasn't quite hot but – that's the best way to probably describe it.

Declan: A few days later Anakin's leg wasn't in great shape and he eventually had to undergo a procedure which removed it, swapping it out for a new bionic metal leg.

Anakin: It was weird having optimized surgery not out of choice. And even though I'd got this new leg, that was the moment I knew something was up with this site still, that it wasn't as safe as Ivy was letting on.

Declan: As it turned out Ivy, Luna's research partner, had been making multiple visits to the site. Some of these trips were even made alone.

Casey: Ohhh yeah, I actually do know about this Luna had mentioned it to me as well.

Luna: She was driving herself insane trying to find the missing parts of this machine that she'd been collecting from the Clatterex Development sites. And, I don't know. I didn't have any evidence that it was dangerous at that point but – maybe it was because I was the one who had to do all of the hoop jumping to get access – I guess that instilled a bit of fear when it came to exposing myself to the site.

Declan: Then i guess you know what happened then?

Casey: Yeah

Luna: Ivy became too ill to carry on working

Anakin: I hadn't heard from her in weeks or maybe even a couple months

Declan: And then...

Luna: erm... about a few weeks later, er, Ivy, she erm, she sadly passed away

[music fades in]

Casey: Oh man

Declan: Yeah

Luna: Even though it happened quite a while ago now I still find it quite hard to talk about.

Declan: I'm assuming this is why you weren't able to enter the site then?

Casey: m'yeah I think so.

Luna: I was actually devastated. Not only had I lost my research partner, but I also lost one of my closest friends.

Casey: While Luna was dealing with all this grief, she was also struggling to keep motivated with her work.

Luna: Ivy was...[laughs] she was actually the one who could think outside the box... some of the things she'd come out with...

Anakin: She was a very special person

[music fades out]

Luna: I remember the day so clearly. I was in the office, with all these parts of the machine all over the floor and the desks... everywhere basically. Ivy had left me with a bunch of stuff that she'd collected from the radio-active site. It was kind of like she'd left a puzzle that she'd

left for me to keep busy or something. But, to be honest, I had no idea where to begin with it all.

Casey: Until

Luna: Suddenly I remembered something she had said.

Actor playing Ivy: 'I dunno why, but i've got this feeling that this is some sort of scanner you know, like something that takes pictures or scans stuff. What ya reckon?'

Luna: She had a lot ideas... but not all of them were good ones.

Casey: Luna picks up the phone and decides to call Anakin, who she's been waiting to hear from for a while as he still hasn't given her any information on what this machine is actually for.

[phone rings]

Anakin: Anakin speaking

Luna: Hi Anakin, it's Luna.

Anakin: You alright?

Luna: Yeah I've just got a quick question for you, I was wondering if you've ever seen anything on the digital twin that has something to do with imaging or... scanning or something like that?

Anakin: I don't think so, let me just take a quick look.....

Luna: He just said that there's no images stored on the digital twin, so he couldn't help me to be honest and then he just hung up on me.

Declan: Poor Luna

Casey: I know. But that's not it

[phone rings]

Anakin: Hey Luna, sorry for hanging up on you earlier I want to check a couple of things out first....

Casey: Ankin says that while he can't find any images he does know that images would have been stored in a location on each floor of the building. But, you know, he doesn't know what it's for.

Declan: So what does this mean?

Luna: [sighs] finally

Casey: It means Luna's back in the game.

Declan: Right, that makes sense because around this time both Anakin and Luna are invited to speak at the 12th International Technology conference, at the SnowDrop Institute of Digital Antiquity.

Casey: How do you know that?

Declan: [laughs] Because.... there's a wild card entry on the panel

Glio: Heyyyy [laughs]

Casey: Of course

Declan: Now this conference is kinda an interesting turning point in the story

Casey: Oh yeah? Why's that?

Declan: This is the first time our three guests are in the same room together. ...And it's where it starts to turn into a soap opera

[with Anakin and Luna talking as well in the background] Glio: I don't need to do any self discovery I am very well informed on who I am, i'm very well informed on what i'm doing and the research i am carrying out

Luna: Well that's your opinion but we're two professionals aren't we

Anakin: I think me and you Luna are kind of the faces of, er, this project aren't we

Glio: Well I am also a professor!

Luna: When you're ready, and...

Casey: Yikes!

Declan: Yeah it didn't go so well. Both Luna and Anakin seem to gang up on Glio. And while it seems to come outta nowhere there's actually more happening behind the scenes that we don't see here. There's actually a secret alliance between Anakin and Glio.

Casey: No!

Declan: Yeah, I mean – alliance is probably the wrong word, because Glio has kinda been getting on Anakin's nerves because she's been calling him off the hook.

Casey: I need you to explain what's going on.

Declan: Remember what we were saying about Anakin's work with WiFi Vision?

Casey: Yeah?

Anakin: I thought it was a glitch at first but as the days went on it kept happening.

Declan: Way before this conference took place Anakin finally sat down to one of his avatar data sessions. And one of the things he's been doing is giving different users - or people - numbers

Anakin: [typing] 0-1-5-7-5

Declan: so that he's able to track how each individual uses the space...

Anakin: 1-6-2

Declan: and as he's looking at one of his subjects...

Anakin: They duplicate!

Casey: Oh

Declan: And he labels this duplicate as unknown. It's probably a minor glitch. But then

Anakin: Over and over again I keep seeing these users duplicate

Casey: Like, all of them?

Declan: No, not all of them, maybe a fourth.... Or something like that... I dunno, I just made it up

Anakin: At this point I'm starting to sweat. If it's a glitch then all the work I've done and sent out to people has been compromised. This project could be pointless.

Declan: Naturally, he decides to keep it to himself for a while. And, y'know monitor it... see where this thing goes.

Casey: ooof Anakin.... Playing with fire there bud.

Declan: I know

Anakin: As the weeks went on I realised that these duplicates maintained specific heat readings.

Casey: What does that mean?

Anakin: Every time I was focusing on a specific duplicate the fan would use a specific force.

Declan:Meaning there was a specific temperature that each of these duplicates operated on.

Casey: That's the wildest thing I've ever heard

Declan: It goes so much further than this.... And I mean that quite literally

Anakin: I turned on some servers we had lying about in storage and I noticed that these duplicates were traveling around to other digital twins.

Casey: So what does he do from here?

Declan: I mean, he's knee deep in this now.

Anakin: I mean now I can't let anyone know. The plug would definitely get pulled from this whole thing. And I think everyone might think I'd gone mad.

[click noise]

Casey: Wait hold up for just a second, if Anakin is so worried about it, why is he talking about it on our pod?

Declan: Take a guess...

[sound bite from Glios talk]

Glio: I have reason to believe that these duplicates are no glitch. And my recent work in various archives around the world have led me to the conclusion that these people are still existing in digital twins all over the world. As for what they're doing in these synthetic spaces, I'm still trying to figure that one out.

[laughs in audience]

Casey: He told Glio.... I see... that's the secret alliance?

Declan: oooh ya

Glio: It was just a random day and I was in my office and I got this call from this guy called Anakin.

Declan: This is before the conference just to be clear.

Casey: Right

Glio: He told me he was from Lunar Extract Limited and that he wanted to tell me something he'd found on the digital twin

Declan: At this point he knows that Glio has been doing research on a lot of these lost processions around the city. So he decided to get in touch with her because in a way he was starting to make his own maps about where these duplicates were traveling too.... Traveling might not be the right word there.....

Casey: You mean like traveling between different digital twins?

Declan: Yeah. There's one caveat here though.

Anakin: I said to her "Don't tell anyone."

Casey: Which obviously doesn't work

Declan: No, but she doesn't tell people straight away

Glio: I kept calling him and calling him and calling him

Casey: Which is beginning to get under Anakin's skin of course

Declan: And in all honesty I think that's why the conference goes so badly

Casey: right

Glio: After the conference I decided to take matters into my own hands and took my research on the road. I got in touch with all the major digital twin archives which are located in a few cities around the world. I didn't know much about digital twins before this so I needed to go to places that had big enough infrastructure to provide me with technical support.

Casey: What are her findings from this trip?

Declan: When she finally returns she hosts a talk at her local gym.

Casey: Her gym?

Glio: I've got a really great crew of people at the gym, it's where I test out all my research.

Casey: Does Glio invite Anakin to the talk?

Declan: Yeah, and Luna actually.

Casey: How's Anakin feeling about this talk?

Declan: I don't know how he's feeling before but....

[clip from Glio's talk]

Glio: I'd like to thank Anakin for all your help with this. I know I wouldn't have been able to take on this project without the work you had previously done with the digital twin of the radio active site. You're an integral part of this project and from the bottom of my heart, I really want to thank you.

Anakin: Oh cr - *beeeep*. Oh I forgot we were live

Declan: Anakin at this point knows their funding's gonna get cut. And he's gonna have to make his peace with it.

Casey: But it's not over yet. There's something else that Glio says at the gym that sparks new life into Luna's work.

Glio: "Only some people became duplicates, I don't know why some people are duplicated and others aren't, but I like to think there's some kind of initiation process going on over there"

Luna: I was just like "That's it! Maybe she's onto something here!"

Declan: We left Luna figuring out whether this machine might be some kind of imaging or scanning kind of thing, right?

Casey: That's right. So after this talk things really start to get moving for Luna.

Luna: It was right after Glio's talks that I decided I wanted to start doing some more tests with the machine and connect it to electricity and see what happens.

Casey: But, as you can imagine she – once again – needs to jump through a million health and safety hoops in order to carry out her tests.

Declan: While we're waiting for Luna to get clearance, can we take a look at what's happening between Anakin and Glio?

Casey: Be my guest!

Declan: Sweet. So, Anakin feels as though he's got nothin' to lose at this point.

Casey: Poor guy

Declan: Because of this, he decides to invite Glio into his office one evening after everyone's left work.

Glio: When I got in he was sitting at this desk and he had like loads of screens, but everything was off. He turned it on for me as if he was doing some kind of performance – moving around the room, touching a load of buttons. And once everything was running he looked at me and was like “isn’t this crazy?” Maybe he thought I’d actually learnt how to work a digital twin whilst I was away. So I asked him “what I was meant to be seeing?”

Anakin: “it’s still active!”

Casey: What?

Glio: I was like what d’ya mean? And he said “the digital twin – it’s still responding to the site!”

Casey: How does that work?

Glio: I didn’t know what that meant. I mean I still don’t really, but since I’ve been to Luna’s bunker, I’ve been thinking....

Casey: Maybe we should check back in with Luna

Declan: That’s a great idea

Casey: While this has all been happening Luna’s managed to organise getting her machine set up in a bunker at the Institute of Internal Reasons. And has done all the tests on her own to ensure that there’s no risks to having people in the same room when the machine is doing its thing.

Declan: Got it!

Luna: I’ve finally managed to round up 12 volunteers who said they were happy to go through the machine when it was running.

Casey: And there was another person who was invited, I'm sure you can guess who that was.

Luna: All along I know I wanted to involve Glio in these tests. After all, it was all her hard work that inspired this whole project. And I think it was important to get her opinion on whatever happened.

Casey: Okay. Are you ready to hear what happened during the tests?

Declan: Ready as I'll ever be

Casey: The first person went through and nothing happened

Declan: Lame

Casey: second one went though – nothing

Luna: But when the third person went through I was actually quite worried. Was this gonna be a complete waste of time, resources and funding?

Casey: fourth

Luna: Nothing, again.

Casey: fifth

Glio: Nothing

Declan: Sixth?

Casey: Nothing, and then seventh, eight, ninth, tenth [overlap of people saying "nothing" in background].... eleventh [pause]. And then the room went dark

[music fades in]

Glio: It looked like there was some kind of light coming out of their chest.

Luna: It was pulsing, some kind of movement.

Glio: And then it began to move to different parts of the body.

Luna: I thought I saw it begin to move outside of the body

Glio: It definitely started moving outside of the body

[music fades out]

Luna: So I turned everything off

Declan: Holy moly!

Casey: It's out of this world

Declan: What do they think that was?

Luna: Well, to me, I thought it looked like some kind of aura. Like an energy that was being released, or extracted from something.

Glio: I knew it! I mean, this must be the duplication process! Or at least part of the selection process. The people with this aura thingy must be able to get duplicated. I mean I'm not gonna be publishing this anytime soon, i'm not ready for that yet, yeah and I probably should be saying this on the podcast, but what if this is the portal that... y'know... people talk about that Divian Myth? Like, what if people are traveling through to these digital worlds?

Declan: Of course, the Divian Settlement. But that would be crazy if that's actually what was going on here

Casey: Is it? The site is still responding to the digital twin, the duplication of people in the building – and of course those duplicates existing in other archived digital twins. And then.... Whatever this thing that happened in the bunker?

Declan: What happens after this for our three musketeers?

Luna: And then I decided maybe Anakin should have a look at this.

Casey: What does he make of it?

Luna: He actually has no idea. He hasn't even seen the bunker yet. He said he's gonna come down some time next week, so that all of us can put our heads together and figure this whole thing out.

Casey: If you're thinking that would be an unsatisfying end to this episode. Then you're not alone. Because we think that too.

Declan: And that was the last time you spoke to Luna?

Casey: mmmhmm

Declan: And you never heard back?

Casey: No. We waited several months and pushed back the release date of this episode so that we could find out more about what was happening in that bunker.

Declan: Y'know I wonder whether the funding got pulled on the project before they ever got to the bunker.

Casey: We did manage to make contact with Anakin so don't worry. But he did decline to request for more interviews.

Declan: I'm just like, what happened in that room right?

Casey: We'll never know I guess

Declan: That makes it all the more compelling a story.

Casey: Which is why we decided to share this episode of course.

Declan: Yes we're hoping that by sharing this we might be able to raise the funds for Luna, Glio and Anakin to continue their research.

Casey: Anakin did provide us with a CrowdSprout link for the funding.

Declan: We're not giving up though, and we're open to doing a part two to this episode if we ever find out anymore so please head over to our TalkBox and let us know what you're thoughts are

Casey: And also if you have any leads on how to continue this story.

Declan: Yeah because we kinda hit a wall with this one.

Casey: Totally

Declan: And that's a wrap for this episode of *The BB!* Thanks for hanging out with us.

Casey: Don't forget to check us out on all the usual spots—*EchoStream*, *PodPulse*, *TalkBox*, and of course, *VibeCast*.

Declan: Oh, and if you want extra content, behind-the-scenes chaos, or just wanna roast us in the comments, hit up our page on *FundHive*. Until then, stay curious, stay weird, and we'll catch you next time on *The BB!*

BUNKER SCENE IN THE GALLERY

Luna: Hi guys thanks for coming on such short notice

Glio: Yeah yeah yeah no problem

Anakin: Of course. Er, what is this?

Luna: Oh, have you not seen it yet?

Anakin: Er, no

Luna: It's the pieces that Ivy had found from the radio active site

Anakin: Oh right yeah, and why is Glio brought me here?

Luna: Well, in short i've got the machine working! And I wanted to bring the three of us together because I know the funding's going to get pulled when the research is published. So, I thought we'd put all our heads together because what this machine is doing is frankly just unexplainable. And I wanted to make as much headway as possible before the money runs out.

Anakin: I'm sorry that everything was leaked but it was taken out of my hands. If it wasn't for blabber mouth over there I would have kept it quiet

Glio: Anakin you've got to let this go we're making so much headway with our research!

Anakin: Yeah but why did you make it public? Surely you knew it was sensitive data?

Luna: Ok, ok guys there's no need to point fingers here, but I didn't tell you Anakin that Glio's already been to the bunker before.

While it is annoying, time is limited. If Glio hadn't shared your findings I wouldn't have been able to find the volunteers for the machine.

Anakin: Sure, ok.

Luna: And, I invited Glio over to do some of these tests. Oh, do you remember why Glio said some people were duplicated and some weren't?

Anakin: Yeah, I mean those were my questions but sure.

Luna: Well I think this machine has something to do with it. Glio do you wanna tell him?

Glio: Yeah I can do. So we had I think 12 volunteers? The other day and we did some tests and they stood in the machine when it was running. One of them seemed to have this aura that was sort of glowing.

Anakin: What?

Luna: Yeah it's weird it's kind of hard to explain, but I think this might be the reason why some people are duplicated and some aren't.

Anakin: Er ok, and what did you wanna discuss today?

Luna: Well, I did kind of turned off the machine as soon as the aura started showing. I didn't know what was going to happen next so I just thought it was best not to push it.

Glio: I think we should try and leave the machine on a little longer and see what happens

Luna: Mmm I don't think that will be wise

Glio: But aren't we in a rush?!

Anakin: And whose fault is that?

Luna: Ay let's just keep this friendly guys

Anakin: Well, who's gonna do it?

Luna: Well, it depends if any of us have an aura?

Glio: I'll go first

Luna: Are you sure?

Glio: Yeah! Let's go!

Luna: Anakin, can you just wait over there a second please?

Anakin: Sure

Luna: Ok, great. I'm ready when you are

Glio: Me too

[sound fades in]

Luna: You ok?

I think it was... Oh, oh Glio I think you've got one!

Glio: Ah

Luna: Right ok let me know if you want me to turn it off at any moment.

Anything coming up for you Anakin?

Anakin: Err nothing yet

Luna: Ok, but I don't think we should do it for too long

Anakin: I think actually... ohh nah i'm still not getting anything.

Glio: Ohh woaaaah

Luna: Glio?

Anakin: Hold on... I think I've got something

Wait, where did she go?

Luna: Err I don't know!

Anakin: I think I've got her on the digital twin. I've got her duplicate here!

Luna: Wait so she's actually in there? Well... can we get her out?

Anakin: Honestly, I have no idea.

Luna: What do you mean you don't know?

Anakin: Calm down Luna I dunno! This is the first time I've seen a machine like this, or an aura for that matter.

I have no idea how to get her out

Luna: Well what we gonna do then?

Anakin: [laughs nervously] I, I dunno

Luna: Well, what if one of us went in?

Anakin: I think we just leave her to be honest, there's nothing I can do today. If we wanna try anything else out i'll need, like, something more than my laptop

Luna: Look Anakin, we've already lost Ivy to this project and we're about to get the funding pulled aren't we?

Anakin: Probably

Luna: And I don't think we've got any more time. And funding will definitely get pulled if there's another... well... another person goes missing.

Anakin: Yeah I get you

Luna: Well if there's nothing you can do from your laptop then I think one of us should go in and see if we can help her out.

Anakin: Do you think that's a good idea?

Luna: Yeah, and I think it should be you

[music slowly gets louder]

Anakin: Ok, first of all, I'm not so sure about that. And even if we were to do that, I mean there's so many reasons why I couldn't do that. My bionic leg is already operating through a digital twin. If I were to go in there we'd be messing with too many parts going back and forth. Secondly, If I got stuck in there, there's no one could operate the digital twin. I don't mean to consider my work superior here but if I got stuck in there, you can't afford to lose me.

Luna: Ok, I'll go in.

Anakin: That's not what I meant Luna.

Luna: I know but from my side I don't know what else we can do

Anakin: Wait, what are you doing?

Luna: I'm preparing the machine

Anakin: Do you really think that's a good idea?

Luna: Once i've gone through just pull the plug on the machine - there's no buttons, there's no nothing.

Anakin: Just hold on for one second

Luna: I'm not leaving Glio here today. Just make sure you come back here with your kit and I'll be able to tell her that you're coming back.

Anakin: You might not even have an aura

Luna: I know but let's just see

Anakin: Ok. You ok?

Luna: Yeah i'm fine

Anakin: Ok, I think I've got an aura, just keep the machine running.

Anakin: Are you sure Luna, I don't think you should be going in right now, this really doesn't seem like a good idea

Luna: No, I have to for Glio and the research

Anakin: Ok then, I will come back then late today.

Luna: [breathes heavy] Ok