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8th Grade

Future Found

Based on Four from the I Am Number Four Series

by Pittacus Lore

The war is over. Our native planet, Lorien, though still physically there, is left in ruins. We, the Loric, are now living peacefully with the human race. Our leader, Pittacus Lore, is dead. Those left of our enemy are imprisoned here on Earth. I am Number Four, one of the few Loric left. I am the new Pittacus Lore.

The last Loric ship remaining is protected and surrounded by security of all kinds, all visible from my window. My friend Will, fascinated by anything and everything related to outer space, and I are frequently in discussions about my extraplanetary experiences. He is constantly scheming and designing plans to get to that ship. I continuously advise him against it.

I go to bed Sunday night feeling uneasy; although, unsure as to why. I can't shake the feeling that something big is about to happen. It is imminent. A few hours later, at some horribly early hour, I awake to commotion. I throw on a robe, hastily cram my feet into whatever shoes I find next to my bed and fly out the door. That feeling of uneasiness drives me to the location of the ship. All sorts of government agents and security guards are shouting and running around frantically. The ship is gone. I have a sinking feeling I know who took it.

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I made it to the ship. Four advised me against this, but I can't stop myself. I grab the handle, figuring the door would open. People are always entering and exiting this thing. I climb inside swiftly and sit in the control center. As I swivel in my chair, my knee hits a button under the console and my left elbow shoves a lever hard to the right. Immediately, I am shaking. My feet slam into the floor and I see smoke billowing up around me.

I am shot into the dark sky away from Earth and towards some unknown destination. In a matter of minutes, I see a planet looming closer. It looks abandoned, but the ship is being drawn to it. I land and wait, not knowing what to do. Then I remember I am on a Loric ship. I recall Four telling me how their ships are automatically programmed to go to Lorien unless manually changed. I must be on Lorien. I step out to look around. Something catches my eye amidst the rubble. It is a purple glint. Reaching out to examine it, I feel a sharp pain on my hand. Something like smoke or steam is streaming between the purple object and the burn it left on my hand. Instantly, I hear a voice in my head, revealing that I have found the lost sacred stone of the Loric leaders. I am communicating with the dead Pittacus Lore. I grab the smoldering purple crystal

and hurry back to the ship. Through the telepathy I have gained, I am instructed on how to get the ship moving and headed back to Earth.

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Suddenly, we see the ship descending into the midst of the surrounding chaos. I see Will exit the ship and he is immediately surrounded by military officers. He looks stunned. He is yelling, "Four!" repeatedly. I push and shove my way toward him. As I get close and our eyes meet, he utters, "I found something!" Opening his hand, I see a purple stone and freeze. I know what it is. It has been lost for centuries.

Will is being escorted forcefully towards the nearest government building; I struggle to keep up. Inside, they are questioning him and ready to arrest him. I, as the current leader of the Loric, carry importance in the eyes of the government. Intensely and fervently I explain that Will has recovered something vital to my people. It is the Pittacus Lore stone, passed down from leader to leader that reveals our future. It is how our earliest elders knew an enemy would one day attack our planet to destroy us.

Because of the importance of the discovery Will made, and with a lot of negotiation by me, he lives free. The burn on his hand remains, as does the telepathic power the stone infused in him. The stone is back where it belongs, in my hands, as Pittacus Lore, leader of the Loric. Our future lies within it.