
OBSERVATORY ENTRANCE
(ACT 1 PASSIVE DIALOGUE 3)

EXT. TOWERING OBSERVATORY

The ancient building has changed since Atlas left for the crater. The engravings within its clay bricks glow beneath the eclipse, and its form shifts by channeling the astral energy. The entrance is now obstructed by fallen debris: a tangled barrier of brick and mycelium.

ATLAS

Well, this is where the door would be.

COSMO

Is there another way in?

ATLAS

I'll just unblock it! Watch, I can kick it down!

[Gameplay: Atlas wall-jumps off the blockage a couple times. It loosens up slightly, but the problem remains unsolved.]

COSMO

Perhaps we need a better strategy.

ATLAS

Like what? Jumping is my thing!

COSMO

Not every problem can be solved with your own two feet.

ATLAS

Do you want to help me knock this over?

COSMO

No... I'm too fragile for an obstacle like this.
I meant to suggest that a tool might help you here.

ATLAS

I left my whittling knife inside.
I didn't bring any other tools!

COSMO

You have your Starlight Compass, at least!

ATLAS

You're full of helpful ideas, Cosmo!
The compass needles might just be durable enough!

**[Gameplay: Atlas learns how to throw the compass boomerang.
This breaks down the barrier, opening the door to the interior.]**

MY HOME
(ACT 1 ENDING CUTSCENE)

INT. OBSERVATORY, GROUND LEVEL

The retired observatory bears the effects of a resourceful child. Small, handcrafted furniture is strewn throughout the room. Drawings of forests and spaceships are taped to each wall, beneath a ring of small windows resembling the pits on a snake's face. Light trickles in through those and the doorway.

ATLAS

Tada! We made it back in one piece! Two, actually!
Feel free to poke around. What's mine is yours.

COSMO

(hesitantly)

Thanks, Atlas. What interesting vents,
those tiny windows. It's... cozy!

ATLAS

I sleep in the warmest corner where the sun sets.
Everywhere else I use for my crafts.
But Cosmo, what makes you feel at home?

COSMO

Um... I don't know... I don't remember how to feel okay.

ATLAS

Do you need to rest? You can use my corner!

COSMO

It's okay. I appreciate you bringing me to your home.

ATLAS

You're looking away again. What's wrong?

COSMO

(depressed)

I have nothing left to look forward to, Atlas.

FLASHBACK:

Atlas recalls various scenes from his past that he shares.

ATLAS (V.O.)

(uplifting)

You know, my real home is on a cargo ship out in space.
I've been fixing engines since I could hold a wrench.
Sometimes, I even get to sit in the pilot's seat!

I was playing one day when our mission went wrong.
Intruders boarded our ship and everyone panicked.
The alarms were so loud I couldn't hear
what anyone was saying... We were all scared.

The ship lost control because everyone was fighting.
So my mom took me down to an escape bay under her lab.
All we had was a school-pod from when she was a teen.
She sent me out safely, even if she couldn't come too.

When I landed here, I cried... I cried for days.
Wishing it all never happened. That I could go back.

ATLAS (V.O.)

(cont.d)

But when I started exploring this planet,
I remembered how to smile. Someday, when I'm back home,
I can tell my crew all about the things I discovered!

That's what I look forward to!

END FLASHBACK.

COSMO

Atlas... Thank you for sharing that.
I didn't know you also landed here. Alone... Crying...
I'm just glad you're here.

ATLAS

I'm glad you're here too, Cosmo!
So much has changed since you arrived. It's been fun.
Even if we almost got blocked out of the building, hah!

COSMO

(cheering up)

Even when you got stuck in a pit?

ATLAS

I enjoy solving problems together!
Do you want to keep exploring with me?

COSMO

Where do you want to explore? Is it safe?

ATLAS

I have been staying in this building for a while,
but I have never found a way into the big tower.
Now might be our best chance. Do you have any ideas?

[Gameplay: After the cutscene ends, a special orb is revealed at the top of the room. When Cosmo enters it, the structure shifts to life revealing a new area above. As more light pours in, more orbs appear, allowing the duo to progress upwards to the tower.]

ABOUT MOVING PLATFORMS
(ACT 2 PASSIVE DIALOGUE 1)

INT. TOWERING OBSERVATORY, SECOND LEVEL

Atlas and Cosmo access passageways that have gone untouched for millennia. As the special orbs continue to awaken the structure, its pieces move midair: a puzzling tower of seemingly impossible construction. The walls are decorated with intricate star charts that twinkle beneath the sky. It feels equal parts inside and outside - but the increasing altitude keeps the two close and careful as they traverse the ruined brick halls. The open air teases them, as if threatening to topple it all.

COSMO

Whoever built this place were masters of astral energy.
They must have spent ages studying this floating clay!

ATLAS

I never knew that everything on this planet floats!
This is the coolest tower ever!

COSMO

Its passageways react to my presence within the orbs.
It feels funny... as if this place was built for me.

ATLAS

Whoever lived here has been gone for a very long time.

COSMO

Perhaps it was their goal to leave...
The stars clearly meant a lot to them.

ATLAS

Do you think they built a ship out of all this?

COSMO

It is certainly possible...
I wonder where they felt so compelled to get to.

ATLAS
(teasing)
Or what they wanted to get away from! RRRAAAHHH!

COSMO
Don't scare me like that, Atlas!

SCALING THE TOWER
(ACT 2 PASSIVE DIALOGUE 2)

INT. TOWERING OBSERVATORY, THIRD LEVEL

As they ascend the perplexing tower, the eclipse welcomes them. Even the tallest trees in the forest wait below, humbled.

ATLAS
I know adventuring can be scary sometimes.
Let me know if you want to climb back down.

COSMO
I'm okay, Atlas. I am having fun exploring with you.
These star charts fascinate me...

ATLAS
Do you recognize anything in the charts?
I traveled too much to learn the whole system.

COSMO
It looks familiar, but the notation is confusing me.
Half the charts are labeled in a negative dimension...
But that doesn't make any sense!

ATLAS
There's only one universe, right? It's in the name!

COSMO
The diagrams seem to depict a shared system with
some sort of central perspective. For there to be
negative values, there must be a zero point...
...but where is the zero?