Character Traits and Relationships of the Station inhabitants

written as a writing aid

Kass

- Likes feeling useful, and being helpful.
 - Hates when one of their friends is suffering and she can't help. Hates feeling helpless in general, more than anything else.
- Stubborn
- Theatre kid. Dramatic, kind of enjoys giving speeches.
- Dry sense of humour
- A bit awkward sometimes, can be thrown off rhythm.
- Loves to learn.
- Has a fascination for nature, born in part from not growing up around any of it.
- Likes big talk; about the world, philosophy, politics, all of it.
- Attention span is... not the greatest.
- Takes things to heart
- Ambitious and sometimes idealistic, which leads to biting off more than she can chew
- DepressionTM
- Often acts without stopping to think through the consequences of said actions

Lyssel

- Introvert; happy spending a good amount of time alone. Prefers 1on1 talk or small groups to big crowds
- Loves puzzles and problem solving.
- Is very close with the station bots, and enjoys "teaching them" things and fiddling with them
- Enjoys the process more than the end goal, which is part of the reason they didn't fit in that well in Talsoria where you're always trying to GET somewhere.
- Likes to listen more than talk; it can be hard for Lyssel to be understood when they talk.
- Values freedom above all else.

Jo

- Needs to be busy at all times, or he gets depressed
- Loves feeling needed and useful. He doesn't mind busywork, but not endlessly with no purpose.
- Needs order and structure in his life. It can absolutely be self-imposed, it just needs to be there
- Confident on the outside, but very insecure.
 - Need to feel worth by doing things. (But also just enjoys Doing Things, so it's hard to separate).
- Main love language is acts of service.
- Enjoys puzzles and problem solving.
- Though it's often buried beneath a very learned "work persona", Jo has a very adventurous and ambitious side. He wants to learn more, do more, and get further in life. It's a sort of simmering restlessness that manifests in his drive to be busy, but is also the force behind his wild reckless escape from Hardizan.

- (not so) secretly pulls the strings on basically everything at the station.

Z.

- Likes to joke and be real silly
- Very chatty, and asks a lot of really random questions.
- Has a hard time finding intrinsic motivation to do anything, so seems "lazy" to an outsider
- A bit oppositional at times
- Secretly very depressed
- Can be quite creative- starts a lot of projects but doesn't follow through
 - Also dabbles in a lot of hobbies. Painting, pottery, dance, writing, poetry, harmonica, the drums, various other instruments, parkour, etc etc etc
- Has named all the seagulls around the island and makes up little stories about them to pass the time
- Secretly dreams of being a children's book writer a la Dr Seuss. Pretty good at rhyming
- Has war trauma TM.
- Shuts down when anxious
 - Escapism complex. When the going gets tough, Z gets going (as in: leaves)
- Is able to see joy in little things, be spontaneous, and make her own fun.
- Love language: Quality time. Likes just spending time with people.

Station relationships:

Jo/Z: See below. Love/hate, and they just have different communication styles.

Jo/Kass: besties. They talk about everything: themselves, their issues, life, everything. They both feel a need to have a purpose and be useful.

Lyssel/Z: besties. austistic/ADHD solidarity. Z likes to talk and Lyssel likes to listen, mostly, but Z will also listen to Lyssel ramble about robots and coding. Often Z chills while Lyssel works. They have a secret handshake and often communicate just by weird made up noises. (This amuses them to no end.)

Lyssel/Jo: both enjoy puzzles and problem solving. They play board games together. They also play fantasy!MTG that they found in the station between seasons! They have both gotten really into it and it has brought them closer together. The two of them will occasionally come up with some station improvement scheme or other plan, and completely forget to mention it to the others before putting it into place. But aside from their games, they don't talk that much, and conversation between them can be a bit awkward with neither knowing quite what to say. They both respect each other a lot, their modes of communication just don't always line up.

Kass/Lyssel: they have a Talsoria bond, and go to each other when they want someone who gets what it was like growing up there. Lyssel also helped Kass adjust to being blind (showed up not too long after Marvin), and the two are very close. They're very touch-y, and Kass will lie on top of Lyssel to ground them. (Kass just does it best!) They also talk a lot about Arcadia - the two of them understand the station best.

Z/Kass: Kass enjoys playing the "straight man" to Z's jokes, and groans at bad puns but secretly loves them. Z is often a grounding influence on Kass when they get too lost in their own mind, because Z will suggest doing something fun and random, and make up little games. After the grind of Talsoria, Z is able to slowly teach Kass how to just chill. Z will often chill in the same room while Kass does tasks and bug her (Kass doesn't mind) and Z likes that they don't try and persuade her to do work when she doesn't feel like it. They're both pretty chatty, but with Z the conversation often stays lighter than with Jo and has more absurd hypotheticals.

Marvin/Kass: Uncle/niece relationship, lots of hugs. They tease each other a lot.

Marvin/Z: they bicker a lot, but also get along pretty well. Them both being from the Empire is less of an advantage as you'd think, as they're from opposite sides of the war. Together though, they are a powerful force of puns that makes all the other station members afraid. Do not leave alone for too long or who *knows* what will happen.

Marvin/Lyssel: Spent a fair bit of time together when it was just them & Kass at the Station, before Marvin headed back out. They have an almost impenetrable language/communication barrier between them, but Marvin is delighted by the station robots so they mostly talk about/connect with those. They also bond over love of/concern over Kass.

Marvin/Jo: They don't know each other that well, and Marvin kind of shares Z's opinion that Jo needs to loosen up. However Jo is the best host whenever Marvin comes by, and always makes sure he's well fed, which goes a very long way to ensuring Marvin stays happy.

The relationship/contrast between Z and Jo

Jo: loves order, loves keeping busy, and loves feeling needed and useful. Jo is confident, but I honestly think he's pretty insecure. He feels like he needs to prove his worth by Doing Things. Love language is very much acts of service.

Z, on the other hand, reads as "lazy" to an outsider, and has a hard time finding motivation to do even fun things. Her lack of goals/structure drives Jo insane because Jo knows he would be absolutely miserable if he lived like that. I think Jo might be the only person at the station that sees that Z is like, Super Depressed, and it's very frustrating for Jo because (from Jo's perspective) Z seems to refuse to be helped at all or even try

Meanwhile Z thinks she's doing just fine! Sure, she can't really make herself do tasks, and is sad sometimes, but she's still able to laugh and joke with her friends and be a positive person. So that means she's ok, right? And Jo nagging her to do stuff like "have a sleep schedule" and "have hobbies" just comes across as Jo thinking she's a lazy fuckup.

But Z sees how much Jo derives self worth from being Useful, and thinks that if she was always running around Doing Tasks and generally having a stick up her butt, she'd be pretty miserable. Z is the only person at the station that sees that Jo is actually not that mentally healthy. So she tries to encourage Jo to lighten up, smell the roses, be spontaneous, and show that it's possible to let loose and have fun and not derive all your self worth from being productive. Z's love language is more

along the lines of teasing and quality time. And they're both right, and they both just want to help each other, and it's an epic years-long communication failure

Z deep down DOES have a dream job, but Z is afraid of being vulnerable/genuine and so absolutely does not share it with anyone. Z writes fiction, and aspires to be a children's novelist