

# Cell Casters: Level 3

By

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FADE IN:

INT. VICTOR'S HOUSE, HALLWAY — NIGHT

VICTOR's home is a typical four-person house for a Canadian family. It's clean and well-decorated. VICTOR, DIMITRI, and ERICA enter the home. DIMITRI has a backpack on.

DIMITRI

Okay, so the second burger was officially a mistake.

VICTOR

I told you it'd be too much food!

DIMITRI

I wish I could eat like you do. You practically inhaled your burger and were already thinking about seconds.

VICTOR

It's from all the running I do. I have to eat a little extra sometimes to compensate. It's because my body is burning all kinds of stuff like blood sugar, fat, and calories to give me energy.

ERICA

No science talk when we're not in school, please!

VICTOR

Okay, what about when I helped you with science homework yesterday?

ERICA

That was for my education. Today is my day off, and I refuse to learn anything new.

The group enters the kitchen. VICTOR grabs everyone a drink and puts a large bag of popcorn in the microwave. DIMITRI pulls a laptop and portable hard drive from his bag.

DIMITRI

I have the third season of "The Beta Cell Chronicles" on my hard drive. We can try to binge it all tonight, but I think I'll be knocked out from that second burger before episode 3 starts.

ERICA

I'm drawing on your face if you fall asleep.

VICTOR

Are you sure you won't be falling asleep, Erica? Twelve episodes of biology, spaceships, time travel, and aliens. Sounds like an awful lot of science babble in one night.

ERICA

Science "fiction" doesn't count. That kind of science is actually fun.

VICTOR

Oh, really? You seemed to enjoy it when I explained Enzymal Protein Degradation.

DIMITRI

I think that's because you got to the part about old proteins and bacteria getting turned into food for the cell, and I started singing "Circle of Life."

VICTOR

They're called "Amino Acids," and they're not food. They're the

building blocks of the cell that  
keep them functioning and—

ERICA covers her ears with her hands.

ERICA

No science talk when we're not in  
school!

The microwave beeps. VICTOR empties the popcorn bag into a large  
bowl. DIMITRI looks at the bowl with disgust.

DIMITRI

I feel full just looking at that.  
More full than I was before. I'm  
gonna pass on the popcorn tonight.

VICTOR

Alright, more for me then!

ERICA

Are you sure, Victor? That's a lot  
of popcorn, and the burger you had  
earlier was massive.

VICTOR

Trust me, I've eaten more than  
this in one sitting. What's the  
worst that could happen?

ZOOM TO:

INT. CELL CASTERS HEADQUARTERS - NIGHT

NOVA, LYSA, MITO, GIA, and RUSTY sit at the primary monitor.  
They are watching a movie of VICTOR as a young child winning an  
elementary school science fair. We see a teacher on stage at a  
microphone in front of an audience of parents. VICTOR and a  
group of students stand to the teacher's far right. LYSA tears  
up as she watches.

TEACHER

And Victor Navarro is the 1st  
place winner of the Cell City  
Elementary Science Expo!

The audience begins to clap as VICTOR walks to the stage. The teacher presents him with a small first-place ribbon. LYSA starts grabbing tissues from a tissue box in front of them. They wipe away their tears.

LYSA

(sniffs)

No matter how many times I watch this, that part always gets me.

GIA

I know it's such a beautiful underdog story.

VICTOR smiles on stage to get his picture taken. A group of students join him at the front of the stage and give him a congratulatory group hug.

NOVA

See, the lesson here is that winning isn't everything. It's the friends we made along the way that matter most.

RUSTY

I thought it was about iconic compounds?

MITO

That's another matter altogether!

NOVA/LYSA/RUSTY/GIA

Mito!!!

The room is filled with red light as a siren starts blaring. The monitor changes to: "URGENT WARNING! INCOMING TRANSMISSION!" COMMANDER CORTEX appears on the screen at his desk.

COMMANDER CORTEX

This is Commander Cortex speaking!  
Due to a sudden increase in popcorn consumption, tonight's

movie night glucose spike will be  
bigger than expected.

Images of VICTOR's body begin appearing on screen. There is also  
an image of him watching TV with ERICA and DIMITRI and another  
where he is asleep on the couch with doodles on his face.

COMMANDER CORTEX (CONT'D)

Victor had an apple just before  
leaving home. Half an hour later,  
he and his friends got  
cheeseburgers and ice cream before  
heading back to Victor's house to  
eat popcorn and watch "The Beta  
Cell Chronicles." He currently has  
102.9 grams of carbs in his  
system.

The images of VICTOR disappear. The monitor returns to COMMANDER  
CORTEX at his desk.

COMMANDER CORTEX (CONT'D)

I'd like to remind you all that  
this is the final season of The  
Beta Cell Chronicles. It's crucial  
that Victor remains awake through  
the night. If our watch schedule  
is delayed, we risk being exposed  
to spoilers before Victor can  
watch it.

NOVA

Say no more, Commander! We'll have  
X insulin Proteins ready ASAP.  
We'll make sure Victor doesn't  
miss the best parts!

COMMANDER CORTEX

I can always count on you, Nova.  
To your stations, Cell Casters!  
Commander Cortex, signing off.

The monitor returns to normal. NOVA turns to address the group.

NOVA

Let's get casting!

The group strikes a triumphant team pose before running to their stations. This concludes the opening cutscene for Level 3.

FADE TO:

INT. VICTOR'S HOME, LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

VICTOR, ERICA, and DIMITRI are watching The Beta Cell Chronicles. The room has the lights down. The teens are illuminated by the light of the TV. VICTOR and ERICA are wide awake. DIMITRI is asleep with his mouth open and doodles on his face. We hear a bit of dialogue from the TV series, spoken by the lead characters.

FEMALE LEAD (V.O.)

I don't understand. We saved the universe from collapsing in on itself. Everything is fine now! Shouldn't we be happy?

FEMALE LEAD (V.O.)

The universe is safe once more, but it came at a cost. Sacrifices we'll never forget. That's the cost of victory in this war.

VICTOR

See, the lesson here is that winning isn't everything. It's the friends we made along the way that matter most.

ERICA

I thought it was about iconic compounds?

VICTOR

Hey, no science talk outside of school, please.

DIMITRI snores loudly. VICTOR and ERICA turn to look at him.

ERICA

I can't believe he slept through  
that whole thing.

VICTOR

Hang on, watch this.

VICTOR aims and tosses a piece of popcorn into DIMITRI's mouth.  
Still sleeping, DIMITRI swallows it, which then startles him  
awake. He glares at VICTOR.

DIMITRI

Victor! I thought we were done  
with food-based weaponry!

VICTOR

I couldn't resist!

DIMITRI

I'd love to throw some popcorn  
back at you, but I'm choosing to  
be the bigger person.

VICTOR

That, and you know my parents  
would throw a fit if they caught  
us having a food fight in our  
living room.

DIMITRI

(sigh)

Call it even?

DIMITRI puts his hand out to VICTOR. The two shake hands.

VICTOR

Even. Thank you for being a friend  
and not messing with my house.

DIMITRI

Yeah, sure.

VICTOR



I know that I make fun of you two a lot, but I appreciate you being here for me this past week. It was honestly really stressful, but it helped to have two good friends to keep me company.

ERICA and DIMITRI look at VICTOR with surprise.

ERICA

Okay, where is this coming from?

VICTOR

I guess "The Beta Cell Chronicles" inspired me. Made me remember what good friends I have.

DIMITRI

Oh, Victor! You're going to make me cry!

VICTOR

Don't make fun of me! I'm being serious!

DIMITRI

Alright, you're asking for it.

DIMITRI stands up from his seat.

VICTOR & ERICA

What?

DIMITRI

Group hug!

DIMITRI leaps in to give VICTOR and ERICA a big bear hug. Both seem taken aback, but they accept and return the hug.

ZOOM TO:

INT. CELL CASTERS HEADQUARTERS - NIGHT

The Cell Casters are cleaning up their workstations. NOVA looks at a photo on their desk. It's a photograph of the team when they first met. Looking at the picture makes NOVA smile.

MITO (O.S.)

Hey, Nova! We have something to  
show you!

NOVA turns around and sees MITO, LYSA, RUSTY, and GIA standing  
before them. MITO holds a tiny ribbon that says "#1 Nucleus."

MITO/LYSA/RUSTY/GIA

Surprise!!!

NOVA

Woah! What's this all about?

GIA

You've been working so hard this  
past week. We thought you deserved  
to be recognized for it!

MITO

Victor wouldn't have won the track  
and field race without you!

LYSA

Or aced his science exam.

RUSTY

And he wouldn't have gotten his  
fancy new smartwatch!

GIA

You're a great leader and a  
wonderful friend, Nova.

NOVA accepts the ribbon from the group. NOVA looks emotional.

NOVA

Thank you everyone. I think it  
goes without saying that we  
wouldn't have gotten through this  
week without everyone's  
contributions. We're a really  
great team.

MITO

And nothing is gonna keep us  
apart!

LYSA

Okay, it's finally time for that  
group hug from yesterday!

LYSA opens her arms and brings the team into a group hug.  
Everyone smiles as they embrace each other. We see a montage of  
the Cell Casters shutting down their stations for the evening.

NOVA

Victor has a bright future ahead  
of him, but he'd be half the  
person he is without his friends.

We see a montage of the Cell Casters shutting down their  
stations for the evening.

NOVA

The same goes for me as well. As  
the leader, I'm counting on my  
crew to help me finish the job.  
Each of us has an essential role  
to play in controlling the  
organelles.

The Cell Casters begin to leave the headquarters. NOVA looks  
back into the room and smiles.

NOVA

Together, we can handle any blood  
sugar spikes that come our way.

NOVA turns the lights off, and the scene cuts to black.

FADE IN

INT. VICTOR'S HOME, LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

VICTOR, ERICA, and DIMITRI are all asleep on VICTOR's couch.  
Each of them is wrapped in separate blankets. The light from the  
TV is still illuminating them. VICTOR is dreaming about the Cell  
Casters. A thought bubble above his head shows the picture from  
NOVA's desk. At the bottom left of the screen, the word  
"Congratulations!" is displayed in large text.

FADE OUT.

THE END