

OCHRETON (ochre town)

Ochreton is a small, remote village nestled safely in the Mirror Mountains. Its citizens have developed a resistance to the constant cold, and are only lightly bundled against the snow and ice. In early mornings like this one, a thin sheen of frost blankets the rocky soil, clear enough to cast reflections of the sky and horizon.

The scene is peaceful, and quiet, and utterly empty. No one wanders the cobblestone streets, and no one tends the bamboo stalls. Because today is the greatest day of the year.

GRADUATION

Mrs. Merriam-Webster.
Zane Axel Phoenix Jett
Danny-O

Today, you graduate the Academy. It's a celebration that will last a week, honoring you and your classmates as the newest members of the Ochreton Rangers. Literally everyone you know has come to support you, and to get unabashedly wasted.

The graduates are seated in the practice room. Groups of four at a scattering of circular tables that cover the floor of the atrium outside the Academy's gymnasium. The other graduates chat loudly at their tables, trying to be heard above the anticipatory rousous from the other room. A few professors are with you, rushing side to side, desperate to fix the broken P.A. System.

At the furthest corner table we find the three of you, sitting alongside a girl you've known for as long as your can remember: your friend Danny-O.

She's ten, preppy, dependable, and nearly brilliant. You always expected her to skip a grade, but she never quite did.

She braids her hair idly, rolls her head to the side, and sticks her tongue out at a passing teacher.

DANNY-O:

You *do* know they're going to make us do the ice breakers? They always make the graduates do the icebreakers. My mum makes sure they do. I love her but it's so silly. Like we don't already know who all of us are!

Are you nervous? A lot of graduates get nervous for the ice breakers.

It makes sense in their adult sort of way. Graduating, it's like you're a different person now, so you're supposed to re-introduce yourself to the world. Would you like to practice? It'll be fun! Just us four. Would you like me to start?

My name is Danny-O. I'm ten years old, and I've been in Ochreton my whole life. (Thanks mum). I don't know where I'm going, but I know I'm going. I'm going far and far away and I might just never come back. I just want to see *anything* else.

She takes a deep, solemn breath.

Okay, your turn!

The players can now introduce their characters.