



Pixels
Jumpchain by Cthulhu Fartagn

The Story Thus Far

In the year 1982, the first world wide arcade gaming tournament was held. The recordings of the games played were added to a time capsule, something hopefully meant to show what human culture was, and then sent into space. Four gamers - three friends and a rival - went their separate ways. 35 years later, in 2017, they're about to meet back up.

The time capsule was found by an alien race, but due to a mistake on our behalf, they do not come in peace. The recordings of games we sent? Well, they were a bit too violent. The aliens took it as an act of war, and dedicated their entire lifestyle to mastering 'human warfare', so that they might defeat us and destroy the planet according to 'the rules'.

Humanity only has three lives - the first will be lost the day before you arrive, at an American airbase in Guam, as the armed forces utterly fail at Galaga. Hopefully you can do something about two and three? To help with that, take these.

+1000 cp

Origins

Pick one. Drop In rules can apply to any.

Free - Politician

Oh god, why would you want to grow up to be one of these? Well, either way, you've ended up as a politician of some sort. Depending on a few factors, you could even be the President of the United States of America.

Free - Nerd

Here we go, a proper gamer. Though you probably didn't end up going to MIT as planned, you are still a genius when it comes to games and less so but still more than most at basically any other technology. Unfortunately, gaming isn't a marketable skill, so you aren't exactly rich.

Free - Military

ATTENSHUN! Congratulations on joining the military and serving your country! I dunno why you would want to do that, but okay! Anyways, you are now a member of the military. Enjoy being in an active warzone for ten years? I kid, I kid, you're either high ranking enough to not be in the field, or a scientist.

100 cp - Voxel

Yeah, I know, you're thinking 'doesn't he mean Pixel?' No. A pixel is a 2d object. Voxel is the term for a 3d pixel. Anyways, your planet's culture underwent a massive shift when Earth accidentally declared war, so you've trained with your chosen game all your life, and are now ready to fight back.

Discount Rules

100 cp perks and items are free and everything else is half off to respective origins

Age

Your age is somewhere between 25 and 35. Firmly middle aged.

Gender

Same as last jump, or 50 cp to change

Location

Roll 1d8 or pay 50 cp to pick

1 - America

The United States of America, and home to the Arcaders. Site of the fourth Battle, Pac Man

2 - London

The site of the third battle, Centipede. Also the sight of the military failing to score any points.

3 - India

Site of the second battle, Break Out. Also this one dude taking a selfie instead of running away.

4 - Guam

Site of the first battle, Galaga. Humanity really isn't ready for an interplanetary war.

5 - Japan

Home of Toru Iwatani, inventor of Pac Man. There won't be any action here, so it's safe to hang out.

6 - Paris

Not actually a battle site, but only because trailers always lie. Hopefully there are no space invaders.

7 - Sydney

Again, not a battle site. With any luck, the Galgan forces won't be attacking here.

8 - Free Pick

Anywhere on the planet. Or if you're a voxel, anywhere above the planet? SPAAAACE!

Politician

100 cp - World's Sexiest Prime Minister

I don't know if you just like the flavor, but you seem to keep putting your foot in your mouth. Seriously, did you just imply the Prime Minister of Britain was ugly? Major faux pas there. Well, thankfully people seem to be more inclined than they ought to just ignore it. Maybe they think you said something else? Won't prevent you from making a fool of yourself on live television, but anything less than a crowd of, let's say 30? Just relax, you'll be fine.

100 cp - President And Accounted For

Busy busy busy, that's you! Seriously, why did you ever go into politics? It's just arguing and bribes day in and day out! Ever heard of Karoshi? It means death by overwork. Thankfully you seem to have an amazing talent - the ability to laze about. No matter how much stuff you have piling up, you always seem to be able to find an hour or two to just relax. Take some time to hang out with a childhood friend, or bake a cake with your wife. Maybe take up golf? Just beware the media - they don't like it when important people goof off.

200 cp - Smashing! Jolly Good!

The art of politics is delicate. Favors must be balanced, words carefully chosen to impart hidden meanings, leaving loopholes for you to escape from, or closing them around others. OR, you could steamroll them with a flow of slang, stereotypes, and other nonsense. Confuse your opponent into submission until the mere thought of arguing with you gives them a headache! Become the ultimate filibuster. Seriously though, you're good at political speech, but get better results when you ignore it.

200 cp - Be Along President-ly

The President is one of the most important people in the country. Is it any wonder that he would have an army of bodyguards keeping tabs on him - and anyone suspicious looking - at all times? Well, it's also kind of irritating, which is why you've developed the art of sneaking away from your minders, occasionally with toys. You probably should be cowering in a reinforced bunker, but wouldn't you much rather steal a fancy gun and shoot at aliens?

400 cp - Break Out The Taj Mahal

Normally, governments would only work together like this in times of crisis. Which this is. Thankfully, your ability to ask for favors, offer support, and other tasks involving international politics always seem to go with the best foot forward. Maybe it's your country's immense prosperity? Or something, I don't know. Either way, actual politicking seems to be a whole lot easier than it ought to be.

400 cp - Clear and President Danger

To your reputation, to be precise. An offhand comment about libraries, drinking while it's a time of crisis. Oh you naughty boy, should you really have done that? Of course not! That said, people who see you breaking rules and regulations are less likely to report you, and the mass media will lay off most of your mistakes. You aren't exactly immune, but if it's a party in a bar, you can be forgiven for having a cold one right?

600 cp - How Did We End Up Like This?

Who would ever have imagined that the fat kid in the back of the class would be the next president? Well, whatever the reason, if you had that job, you'd be good at it. No, really. It's almost like your paperwork does itself. While you were off saving DC from aliens and making pew pew noises, all the papers in need of your signature (or a big ol 'DENIED') seem to have done themselves. You do need to be doing something constructive towards your job, but as long as you aren't flat out goofing off you're in the clear.

600 cp - President of the United States of America

That's right. The big one. Mistah P. No, that name was stupid. Anyways, you've been elected as the president of the United States of America. Or another major political figure, depending what you rolled for your location. Your term expectancy is whatever qualifies as normal, so you can't be president for all ten years, sorry. But in the meantime, you can campaign not at all and still get reelected, and your popularity is guaranteed to not drop below 70% unless you start being a total tyrant and break a bunch of laws.

Nerd

100 cp - Isn't That Humiliating?

Look, I realize it's not a glamorous job... Or a very well paying one... Or a fulfilling one, but it is one. Whether it's an electronics retail store, a tech support line, a dish/antenna/cable installer, or one of those guys who goes out to fiddle with your cabling for the tv, you now find yourself with the ability to get yourself hired for those kinds of jobs. They need a nerd, you're a nerd, it's a match made in heaven right? Now, if only the pay was better...

100 cp - What More Do You Nerd?

You wouldn't exactly be a gamer if you weren't any good at them, you know? Go ahead and pick your favorite game. Pac man, Galaga, Defender, Pong, Joust, maybe even something boring like pinball? You are now in the top five for being utterly awesome at playing that game. Sadly, that game went out of style 20 years ago. I'd say it makes for a good party trick, but who actually has one for you to show off on? If you want mad skillz at more than one game, you can buy this multiple times. For Nerds, that's 50 cp a pop - for everyone else, it's full price.

200 cp - We're Under Attack By Galaga

So nuke it! Hahaha, but more realistically, while you might only be truly good at a handful of games, you have a mastery of trivia relating to basically every game made between 1970, which heralded the birth of Pong, and 1990. You could identify which version of the game was being played by the pattern on the arcade machine, or a glitch where one single fighter doesn't fire a bullet.

200 cp - What You Nerd Is A Gamer

Have you ever heard the joke about how the words 'military intelligence' are an oxymoron? Well, it's kind of like that, except fuck that. When talking about your area of expertise, people have to hear you out. No throwing you out because the idea of the end of the world at the hands of 80's video games is ludicrous, that's clearly Galaga, and you're the damn expert. Shut up and listen. ...Of course, 'what next' is probably not something you're qualified to talk about.

400 cp - The Arcaders

That's the name given to the team assembled to fight off the pixel invasion. And now, if you feel like taking a stand, it's you as well. You can now transfer some of your gaming skills to real life. Be a champion at driving games, you can race in real life. Maybe not with the best of them, but still better than the average person. Practice at crane games? Enjoy your fine control over construction equipment. This is only a minor boost, sadly. However, the boost will increase as you get more gamelike. Someone sets up an obstacle course to look like your game, you get another boost. Aliens use YOUR GAME as the face of their invasion? It's a pretty big boost by that point. Go save the day.

400 cp - Nerdocracy

One of the sad facts of life is that we still live in a world where the jock gets the girl more often than the nerd. Thankfully, the alien invasion via videogames highlights how you're better than any jock. Pure muscle power has no sway when aliens invade. Today is a day of SCIENCE! Which is actually completely unrelated to the fact that your appearance now scales to your intelligence. Go do something smart and wow all the women.

600 cp - He Invented Pac Man!

Okay, wow. Either I lied earlier or I'm just so dumb I didn't recognize you. Either way, you aren't some weaksauce gamer who never made anything of himself, you're a game programmer. Those piddly jobs from earlier? Ignore them, you're rich. You wanna be part of a big company designing games? Sure, you can do that. Wanna be a teacher for design? Go for it. Or, do you want to literally be the guy who invented Pac Man? ...Sure, why not. You now own pacman (or a different arcade game). Not sure what possible benefit being Toru Iwatani could provide, but why not. Oh, and you'll find that re-releasing your game in future worlds is way easier.

600 cp - King of Nerds

Once upon a time, a kid went to a newly opened arcade, and set the high score for every game there but one despite ever having played them before. How is this possible? Well, it's the patterns. In games like that, there are only so many moves that the computer can take, and most of them are pre-defined. If you can see them, memorize them, predict them? Well. Mind over matter. You can see the patterns that these games run on, and you can see them in real life as well. If you prefer, you can also pretend that you are the guy and that you don't want to die, but that's actually much less useful than a small level of intuitive understanding of damn near everything. But mostly games.

Military

100 cp - We're Shooting A Beer Commercial

...Yeah, sure, let's go with that. One of the banes of proper military structure is civilians. Contractors with alternate orders, civilians bumbling all over the place, citizens not evacuating properly... It never ends. Thankfully, you have a way with words - read as 'believable lies' - that tend to get them to work with you in the short term. That is, they'll evacuate a few blocks, and then turn around to watch you film the commercial.

100 cp - Military Discipline

You are an expert at controlling your emotions. Never break down into tears in front of somebody ever again! That's what the closet is for. Anyways, you are now really really good at poker faces, white lies, and generally not saying - or showing - what you really think. Please note, bottling stuff up is not a good coping method.

200 cp - What A Slappable Ass

You are no paperworking, memo carrying, utterly forgettable member of the military, you are a navy seal! Or you can just have the training of one, if you prefer. Either way, you buff now. Also comes with a slight emphasis on one particular trait. Your abs, perhaps? Or maybe ass?

200 cp - A Military Miles From Earth

So, fun fact. Scientifically speaking, the time capsule that the Voxels found, were frightened by, and then overhauled their entire culture to be able to fight back against? Is just passing Pluto. Which either means that that rocket hauled ass like nobody's business, or there are aliens on Pluto. For the sake of the argument, there aren't. As a result, anything you build, if the speed at which it can move is a factor whatsoever, gets amped up. At bare minimum, it's twice as fast, but if you really punch it, you might be able to hit up to ten times as fast for brief periods.

400 cp - Saving Sean Bean

It's a well known fact that Sean Bean dies every single time. In fact, he's a walking spoiler. You see Sean Bean, oh, looks like he's gonna die. Thankfully, you don't suffer from this. The exact opposite in fact. For reasons that sometimes boil down to sheer dumb luck, you tend to survive things by the skin of your teeth - maybe some nerd body tackles you right before you get shot? Stuff like that. ...And then steals your gun and completely out classes you because you have no idea how to fight that thing. Well, at least you're alive and know how to win the next round?

400 cp - Military Intelligence

Yes, I know, I already made the joke about how this doesn't exist. BUT! You aren't actually a member of the military, but are instead a scientist. Also, your speciality is speed. They need a new weapon to shoot some aliens in less than 48 hours? Not a problem. Keep in mind, this won't actually increase your intelligence at all, but you want something built right now? You can do that. Rapid prototyping is where you shine.

600 cp - We're Gonna Call Them Ghosts

You've had access to the cubes that were left behind from the past attack for a little over 24 hours, and while you don't know a single damn thing about how or why they work, what you do know is this - you can build a gun. Specifically, a gun to disrupt its functions, based on your limited understanding of them. I can't guarantee that you'll ever be able to wield their full power, but a gun to shoot them down will be child's play. Now, how long will it actually take to build? ...Good luck with that.

600 cp - One In A Military Chance

You know, they could have simply ended this. A single overpowering strike, launching their everything into our destruction before we ever could have fought back. Instant death. And yet, the aliens chose to honor our rules, our ways, to hold the war in the manner we (accidentally) decreed it should be fought. Three lives. Three battles. Three trophies. Even when faced with absolute destruction, you won't simply be wiped out. You'll always be given a chance. It might be unfair, not giving you the tools to fight back, nor even letting you know it's begun, but 1% is infinitely better than 0. It's on like donkey kong.

Voxel

100 cp - Cutscene

As a side effect of your whole digital computer alien thing biology, you can hijack tv signals. Ever wanted to edit a show such that the characters are saying something completely different? Well, now you can do that. Given access to a recording of some kind, or even a live signal, you could 'take over' the mouths on the television, and give your own voice over. So declare war, set up the new rules, and make it a musical.

100 cp - Take Your Pixel

The vast majority of the Voxels are, so far as we know, pure energy and or data. But by utilizing pixel technology, they retain the ability to interact with the physical world, using bodies made in the image of Earth's greatest warriors and weapons. As such, you do not technically require sustenance. You can eat and sleep, but doing so is no longer necessary. Cheese puffs are still delicious though, so probably eat some anyways.

200 cp - Trophy

When the level is either cleared, a trophy is awarded. When it is lost, the Pixels take one for themselves. And apparently that's you now. See, on the off chance that you're taken prisoner, you're not treated like you would expect. If anything, you're more akin to an honored guest, hanging out with the commanding officers, maybe playing some games and eating snacks. And on the flip side, you get along great with people you take prisoner. That said, no sabotage or similar for you or this is forfeit, and no abusing them or they obviously won't like you anymore.

200 cp - Depixelated

That name probably brings explosions to mind or something, but in truth that's not what this is. Instead, it means that you're no longer some blocky image with rough edges and whatnot. Instead, you're all smooth curves and high resolution. In addition to straight up being beautiful - by the local standard, that is, you have a limited shapeshifting ability - hair and eye color mostly, but also skin and clothes. Can't actually change your shape at all. Lasty, you can apply filters to yourself - for when you do want to be all pixelated, or maybe look like something out of an 80's movie.

400 cp - Respawn

When you deal damage to anything, you can deal that damage as pixelation. Turning the body itself into the cubes that make up your new body. An interesting wound, to be sure. However, that's not where it ends. See, upon victory, you can cause even the smallest wound that you've inflicted this fate upon to worsen 100 times over. A scratch can turn into a debilitating wound and structural damage could reduce a city to rubble. Or, if you feel merciful, you could do the exact opposite, healing wounds and restoring damage. Maybe that can be their reward for defeating you?

400 cp - Quantum Pixels

Aliens. How do they work? Well, honestly I have no idea. With that said, you can cause the same effect that makes you... Well, a pixel, to occur near you or near anything you touch, with the appropriate level of knock on effects. If you shoot a bullet or throw a barrel, not only will anything you hit be affected by the pixelation effect - or any other similar power you may have - but anything they pass by. For example, if that barrel were to pass over a fire hydrant, it would start to spray pixelated water. Or if Pac Man was to eat the subway lines, then the above ground entrances and exits would just sort of cease to exist. Scary, right?

600 cp - Final Boss

Upon someone engaging a battle with you, you are capable of sucking the nearby world into a pocket dimension for them to fight you in. The Boss Stage, if you will. This place is fairly simple, though changeable between uses. However, the real treasure to this place is that your enemies will find themselves forgetting critical things, scanners failing, missing timings, or otherwise suffering from bouts of bad luck. There are no patterns for them to exploit here - it's as if the game was possessed. For the record, this defaults to Donkey Kong, but you can basically challenge them to any game from before 1985.

600 cp - Pixel Squared is a Voxel

Things with the aliens are slightly ambiguous. Did the aliens transform themselves into energy beings that resemble video games, or did they merely make beings based on them? Either way, you can now make more. This does require a certain amount of data to get right, let alone to get anything useful out of it, but with enough recordings, maybe a copy of the game, maybe a beaten, mastered, 100% playthrough, copy of the game, you could essentially pull a character, item, or even a location from that game out and into the real world. They won't exactly be an amnesiac since they'll have all their skills and abilities, but any emotional loyalties that would stop them from following your orders and attacking humanity don't seem to be there.

Politician

100 cp - Cake Monster

Do you know what you need? An exercise routine. Do you know what you have instead? A damn near infinite amount of baked goods, and even more ingredients to make your own custom delicious goodies. Even the stuff they don't make anymore is here, since this collection was ordered by the president. If you ever run out... Well, you'll likely be too fat to move, but any store that sells sweets will also give them to you for free.

200 cp - Paycheck

Did you know that the president earns \$400,000 a year, along with a few other expense accounts that he can charge stuff to? Now I realize that he's a very important person, and makes very important decisions, but did you also know that the job was originally unpaid? Yeah, a whole lot of money to do very little (comparatively). Now you too get that much money per year... even if you have no job. Though, I'm actually rounding up to \$550,000, since that's including the extras that you aren't getting.

400 cp - The War Room

A man of your stature needs to be kept far away from the action, where you can safely command from the very back of the backlines. You may not want to, but that's the public's perspective on it. Regardless, located in either a property of your choice or fairly close to the center of government, you now have a heavily fortified room that is remarkably durable and also fairly well stocked with brandy. While inside the room, the piles and piles of inbuilt communications equipment allow you to speak with just about anyone regardless of any issues. Want to coordinate with your field team and the nearest military base at the same time? Go ahead. There won't be any communications lag either. Hell, you can call people who don't have phones.

600 cp - Private Island

Now, lots of politicians and big business folk get into a lot of trouble for using bank accounts that are offshore, but you? You seem to have gone completely overboard with things and acquired your very own private island. How is that related to banking? It's not! Anyways, you now have a personal island with what amounts to a five star resort hidden away on it. And yet, the only people here are one or two lovely young women who keep it running. The only customer is you after all, so only a handful is needed. There's also paperwork to give this to whoever you want with minimal issue if you need a really big bribe.

Nerd

100 cp - The Van

And this van is... not the van to end all vans. Or even mildly cool. It's the company car, basically. On the other hand, it has one neat feature that I think you'll like. The back of the car is always full of electronic accessories and similar materials. You're missing a cord, or your dog chewed it up? There's one in the back. Basically, out of a high end 'better than a movie theater' home theater system, the only things not here are the tv and the couch. And the movies.

200 cp - Old School Games

Here to relive your childhood? Well, you've come to the right place. This arcade is shoved to the brim with all the classic games, circa 1990. While you don't own the building, you do have a free pass to play anything here at any time. If you prefer, you can instead pick a handful of the arcade cabinets to have in your home or arcade?

400 cp - 'Ghost'

Now strictly speaking this is A not yours and B doesn't exist yet, but sure. Have one of the ghosts. And by 'ghost' I mean A cool car with a longass name I can't recall, painted and with a license plate based on one of Pac Man's ghosts. The car is shielded against the effects of the aliens' voxel technology, and can temporarily deconstruct them. Works similarly against other 'videogames are attacking' situations, such as virtual reality.

600 cp - Konami Code

Up up down down left right left right B A, sometimes followed by select start. The oldest cheat code in the world. Using this code on any game or computer can allow you to achieve any one effect, regardless of the fact that it may not be programmed or even built to do so. Want to connect an old fashioned television to the internet? Maybe give your pac man themed car superspeed? Sure. Ignoring the fact that's not possible, it lasts for no more than ten minutes, and is only usable once per system (per ten years).

Military

100 cp - Security Clearance

A simple ID tag with your name and face on it. Wearing the thing allows you to bypass pretty much any form of security. If the standard thing is biometric scans, a lie detector, voice pattern analyser, whatever, this just lets you bypass all of it. Won't give you more clearance than you actually have though. Unless of course you were to be invited into a location by a ranking official, such as the President of the United States of America?

200 cp - 'Film Crew'

No drinking on the clock, and definitely no drinking while heavily armed and preparing to fight aliens! Oh, wait, the beer commercial is a cover. Nevermind. Anyways, what this is, is an evacuation order. Simply pick a location, send in your so-called cameramen, and you can have the whole thing evacuated inside of an hour. Keeping them out without a valid reason isn't so easy, but if you need to set up an emergency frontline to fight aliens with, well, at least the civilian casualties will be on the low end. And yes, you can potentially evacuate all of New York with this.

400 cp - 'Micheal'

You may be wondering, "who exactly is Micheal?" Well, he's a cutting edge piece of technology - specifically, a rather dumb yet capable ai housed inside a robot shell. The nerds have been using him as a lab assistant since they need all hands on deck for the whole alien invasion thing. Normally that's not that useful, but he can go through the night while they sleep, so it balances out. Oh, and you also get a fully kitted out laboratory to go with him. Or, does he come with the laboratory?

600 cp - Blocky Things

Yes, I know, what an amazingly descriptive name to give something. As for what it is, it's a bunch of blocky things. Shut up. Anyways, they fell off some of the aliens when the military was shooting at them. But that's not actually important. See, this item is less the blocks themselves and more the military being on the ball for once. Anytime the world comes into contact with aliens, you will have a sample of their tech, biology, weapons, ships, etc etc, within 24 hours of first contact. Not a terribly large amount, but more than enough for you to make sure the science gets done and make a neat gun for the people who are still alive.

Voxel

100 cp - Spare Pixels

You know, it wouldn't be properly unfair if all you had to your name was what was in your character sprite. Most game characters have an inventory of some kind nowadays. This small collection of voxels are your props. You can form them into just about anything, signs that grade your opponents anitics, swords and guns, maybe some barrels to throw at those irritating jumpmen. Just be aware that you don't have very many of these - two or three 'bigish' objects are all you get out of your stash, though it does refill daily.

200 cp - Jumper Quest

You know, when you became a pixel, I left it up in the air what character you were, what game you were from. But now the answer is this game. Your game. A franchise loosely based on you, your travels through the omniverse... or maybe you've just been retroactively added as a character to an already existing major game franchise? Or maybe you got a spinoff? Well, I'll leave it a bit open ended and let you decide the specifics.

400 cp - Battleground

Given that the probe the pixels encountered was full of nothing but video games, you have to wonder how they knew where all the famous landmarks were in order to attack them. Regardless, I'm going to offer you two things. The first is one of those landmarks - the Empire State Building, the Eiffel Tower, and so on and so forth. Ideally this would be one of the battlegrounds, but it is not required. The second thing is an attack squadron of your choice. Maybe it's a set of Centipedes, maybe it's the Galaga fleet, could be anything really.

600 cp - The Bomb

Here it is. The big Kaboom. In another world, a bomb would detonate in the heart of New York and wipe out the entire world. This is one such bomb. It's the size of a house, and it's blast radius... Well, I did say it wiped out the entire world. When set off, it will pixelate the entire planet, killing everything until the world itself is nothing more than a large black cube. What to do after that? No clue. A power source maybe? Fuel to reach another world?

General

50 cp - Ancient Memorabilia

Is this something you picked a while back? It's a collection of hats, t-shirts, coffee mugs, even candy and certain branded foods, all featuring the game of your childhood. I suppose this was how they advertised back in the day, and you must have really bought into it. Looking at these things never fails to inspire a sense of nostalgia in you, no matter how much you've grown beyond wanting them. ...I suppose if you were particularly heartless, some of these things might be worth a decent amount of money to a collector?

Companions

50 cp - Canon Companion

Do you know this person? A childhood friend of yours, perhaps? Well, as fate would have it the two of you are about to be forced to meet back up. And for the low low price of 50 cp, you can take them with you when you leave this world. If you leave this world, I guess.

50 cp - Companion Import

Right, no, nevermind. You've got these guys to back you up, who needs newbies? They'll never be able to keep up. Pick a prior companion of yours and bring them into the jump. They get 600 cp to buy perks and items with.

100 cp - Lady Jumper

Who is this lady? I mean, it's kind of obvious what with how the apocalypse is themed after games that she'd be a videogame character, but still. Pick a single video game character circa the late eighties and you can companion their Pixel representative. They'll have most of their normal loadout, albeit redone in pixel style, but otherwise they're a mostly blank slate beyond the fact that destroying humanity doesn't feel right.

Drawbacks

+100 cp - Go Back To Your Old Life

They say that the status quo is god, and for you that very literal. You have an extremely difficult time improving things about your life. Even something as simple as hiring a guy to mow your lawn might see three different companies flake out on you, and actually making improvements is damn near impossible. If you were to save the entire world from aliens, maybe you'd get a promotion and a ten cents raise, but you sure as won't be getting much beyond that.

+100 cp - Videowhatnows?

You must have been an incredibly boring child, one who never went anywhere or did anything cool. I bet you even read books that are educational instead of actually fun. Well, regardless of how weird you may or may not be, the end result is the same - you have next to no skill at or knowledge of video games. In and of itself, not a terrible thing, people can function perfectly well without that knowledge. Unfortunately, the world is being invaded by video game shaped enemies, which makes knowing literally anything about them a massive help. I suggest brushing up on everything you missed.

+100 cp - Somebody's More Important

Isn't it wonderful to have the last word in an argument? Knowing that there's nothing they can say to one up you simply because they're out of time... Breathe it in. Memorize it. You won't be seeing it again until the jump is over. During your stay here, people are going to be excessively, hilariously, petty to you for the flimsiest of reasons. Getting one up on them isn't impossible, but staying there basically is. Worse still, should you get caught sniping back and forth with them then you will always take the blame for starting, continuing, escalating, this particular verbal spar. Is it really worth it?

+100 cp - Launch the Capsule!

Please ignore the bit at the start of the jump that says the first attack will be happening the day before the jump starts, because we are going retro. You'll be starting the jump out as a rather awkward tween all the way back in 1982. If you're exceptionally skilled at games, you might even see some of your records added to the space capsule that will be bringing the Voxels down upon Earth - sadly, not sending it won't save you. It might even make things worse. Still, the jump will be ending at more or less the same time as it was scheduled to, so have fun relieving your life through the decades until something actually interesting happens. Your perks and items for this jump are equally scaled down, though I'm sure you'll grow into them.

+200 cp - If She Were Real

Peach, Zelda, that darling Lady Lisa... You have a most horrendous flaw with your love life, jumper. Though you are utterly devoted to the woman who has captured your heart, the truth is... She isn't real. That's right, you're the kinda person who pines over 2d girls - well, girl - and rejects all things 3d. The good news is, she'll be coming to life shortly. The bad news is, you turn into a complete moron around her, and she'll be trying to kill you. Good luck with that?

+200 cp - Second Best

Any form of loss whatsoever kills your motivation, pep, or other related positive emotions. Even so much as losing a single videogame match might send you into a depressive streak for weeks. If it was an important match at a tournament or something similar, you might be in your depressive state for anywhere between a month to several years. And don't expect any 'he cheated, that makes me the champ' vindication anywhere along the line to snap you out of this, you lost and that's final.

+300 - No Items, Jumper Only, Final Destination

Oh dear. I hope you weren't planning on being able to jump tall buildings in a single bound. See, you've officially begun this game on hard mode. All of your powers, abilities, tricks and techniques, all your secret weapons, are gone. Don't worry, you'll get them back when the jump ends, but right now all you have is your bodymod and an emptied out warehouse - and that's assuming that you had those things in the first place.

+300 cp - Fireblasted

Nobody likes a cheater, Jumper. That's why I'll be keeping a close eye on you during the jump, as well as encouraging everyone else to keep one as well. You aren't a believer in fair sportsmanship, you're a cheating cheater who cheats. You'll be starting the jump off in a prison cell of some kind, though I suppose if you're useful enough you might be let out to help with the alien invasion. Actually, you definitely will, though if you don't contribute you'll end up back in there. But, the drawback - any attempt to "cheat" on your part will be met with an extreme amount of blowback. Using precognition to win lottery tickets, super strength to arm wrestle, any time you explicitly stack a competition in your favor or enter into it knowing that you're way beyond them, you will suffer random bouts of massive amounts of bad karma. I don't suggest using your powers on the aliens, that would likely cost of the planet.

The End

Stay Here

Move On

Go Home

Q - Does the companion have to be from the 80's?

A - I don't actually care, but for the sake of simplicity, yes.