

The Soul Computer

by Thomas Walter Fogarty the III

CHAPTER I

"What are you doing?" My mom said from the back seat.

I turned the speed knob of our car up to 50. "I'm just adjusting the speed a bit, I don't want us to be late" I looked out the window of our car. My brother was up in front with me. My younger sister sat in the back with my mom playing a card game with her.

"Well, I think we should go slower, I heard on the news yesterday about a car crash and I just think we should be more careful." My mom said in a worrying tone. (It wasn't her fault. She was just a mom after all)

I turned the dial down. "Mom, that almost never happens. This isn't 2010 anymore. People almost never get in a car crash; I'm sure the guy who got into the last crash was driving manually. I trust the computer in the car."

"Okay, I suppose..." She said. She didn't sound very happy about it though.

I leaned over and started to fall asleep on the cold door. "I'm going to take a nap. How long till we get to Michel's house?" I asked.

"About half an hour." Jacen replied.

I was already about half asleep. My head was beginning to hurt but I didn't want to bother anyone about it.

"Tenoptry, how fast did you set the car to go?" Jacen asked.

I opened my eyes and stoked my hand through my red hair. My head rattled with pain. I looked at the speedometer it was making its way up the tick marks of the dial that controlled our average speed. "50 but.. I think were speeding up." I put my head in my hands. The pain was becoming increasingly more unbearable.

"Are you okay?" Jacen, asked? "You don't look so hot..."

I glanced up at him. His face was full of concern. My hands were covered in sweat. "I should be good" I brushed the sweat off and started fiddling with the speedometer knob. No matter how much I twisted it our speed continued to increase. "uggghhh". My head felt like power cells in a trash compactor ready to explode.

"Mom, what do we do!" Jacen yelled

She looked around panicking. "Put your seatbelts on now!"

I kept trying to work on the car. I looked out the window. The city was speeding by faster and faster. The dial reached 80 then 85 and then 90. "It's not working!" I shouted

"Mommy, are we going to die?" Elizabeth sobbed.

I looked back at Elizabeth. "Were going to be okay Elizabeth. I'll fix it, I promise." I unscrewed the panel that led to the wires. My hands were shaking I just had to cut one wire. "Almost there" I whispered to myself.

Beep Beep. I looked at my watch that was ingrained into my wrist. Michel was calling me. I answered. "Umm... Michel we're kind of busy."

"Are you okay Tenoptry? You s--d kind-- so good" I looked at my watch. The screen began blinking red. The conversation kept going in and out.

"I'm fine! I can't talk though. Bye." I hung up. I didn't have time to deal with Michel or my malfunctioning watch. I saw the wire I needed to cut. Sweat dripped from my bangs. My head was killing me. I reached for my pocket for my pocket knife. I leaned in close towards the wire with the knife that controlled the manual settings. I was about to cut it when the pain in my head began to eat at my skull. I dropped the knife "Ahhhh!" I grasped my head.

My mom pointed in front of the car. "Tenoptry!" My mom yelled.

I looked up to see that we were coming up fast to a wall. We slammed into the wall. I blacked out.

"He is waking up."

I opened my eyes. My body was little sore. My head didn't hurt anymore. I looked to see a Dr. with his note book.

He looked at my chart and then looked up at me in amazement. "My name is Dr. Blackel, you're lucky to be alive. "He continued through the chart "You have no broken bones or any injuries. It's really quite fascinating actually." Not even a bruise..."He put the chart down and stared at the ground

"Yeah... is there something wrong?" I asked.

"Your mom is in critical and your sister is not doing very well either."

"What!" I almost leaped out of my bed "Take me to them!"

He put a hand on me. "I can't. There still in the ER. Even with all of the advances in modern day technology the chances are very slim"

"What about my brother?"

He looked at me puzzled and picked up the chart again. "Hmm?"

He seemed rather confused. "My brother.. Jacen Obipor?"

"He wasn't found in the wreckage.."

I didn't know what to take of this. I had no idea where he could be. I felt very confused.

The Dr. held out his hand. "Well... I also have this not for you.

I reached out and grabbed it.

It read

Dear Mr. Obipor

I know this must seem very sudden but we must meet. I have your brother (I meant to grab you from the wreckage... oops). He is in good condition, so no need to worry.

I have been keeping an eye on you for sometime now and I think now is the time that we should meet. So meet me as soon as you get out of the hospital. Come to 86902 Ty Hillos street.

Sincerely

Dr. Marty

Ps. Come as soon as possible

Another Dr. came in. "The boy can see his mom now, she is conscious"

I jumped up from my bed and began to run out the door. The Dr. grabbed my shoulder. "I'll take you to her."

My bare feet followed the Dr's footsteps down the cold hall. It felt.. uncomfortable. The walls bore a gray tone. I couldn't seem to focus on my surroundings. It was gray. We got to a room.

"Is she okay?" I asked.

He paused and looked at me. His face showed little hope. We went in. She looked so sad. Her brunet hair was

matted and her face was full of scars. Her heart beat softly.

"Mom!" I swung my arms around her.

"Tenoptry..." her voice frailed with pain "Did you get a note?"

I grabbed her hand and looked into her sad brown eyes.

"Yes..."

"...good..." Her eyes shut. Her hand lost her grip.

beeeeeeeeeep She had.. died. I just looked at her. I clenched my fist. I stared. Her life was gone and.. it was my fault. I whipped my face with my sleeve. "I love you.. mom"

The Dr. put his hand on my shoulder. "I'm sorry" and then left me to be alone.

I stood up and just couldn't move.

I laid in my hospital bed waiting to hear news of my sister.

The door opened "Hey"

I glanced up to see Michel holding a big bouquet of daisies. "Hey..."

She put the mob of flowers next to me on the small table next to me. "I brought you these flowers..."

"Yeah.."

"Yeah.. soooo..."

"It's okay, I should be good.. I guess... you know.. I could have stopped it.. I couldn't cut the wire."

She gave me a comforting hug. "Tenoptry, You can't blame yourself. It was a computer malfunction. It's not your fault. Even if you cut that wire you don't know what could have happened"

"Yeah.. but I didn't.. things could have been different and she could still be alive. I just wish things were different."

She let go of me. "Tenoptry.. I don't really know what to say... I'm here for you though."

"Thanks.." I felt a little better but.. well.. yeah.. "So is anything going on with you?" I asked trying to change the subject.

"Not really," She said as she sat toward the bottom of the bed. "I got some really funny cards at my party during this really stupid party game that my step dad made us play. It was-"

"Speaking of notes." I grabbed the note from the small shelf next to me. "I got this really weird one." I handed her the note to look at "soo yeah.. It's really strange"

She skimmed it over quickly. "Well at least your brother's okay."

"Yeah, well I need to get out of here as soon as possible to see if he is okay."

I heard the door swoop open, I looked up to see Dr. Blackel walk in. "Well, that's actually today; you are actually scheduled to leave this afternoon"

"Aren't I supposed to be here for a few days to be checked out and stuff"

"Well there is nothing wrong with you at all. So we can't keep you"

"What about my sister?... is she okay?"

"She is in a coma recovering "

"Is she going to be okay?"

"We don't know... she could be though."

I felt a little sliver of hope. "kay.. well can I see her?"

He gave me a small smile "Sure" and I got up and followed him out.

We entered my sister's room. "Here we are" Dr. Blackel said.

Her face still held life. I touched it with my hand. Her skin was warm. She was only 8.. She has so much life to

live. I pulled my hand away. This was not going to be her death bed. I kneeled down and leaned towards her. "It will be okay, I promise" I stood up and looked at her sleeping there. Then I turned to Michel. "Can I have a ride?"

She smiled. "Sure thing."

"Thanks, let's go"

We checked out of the hospital and got into Michel's junker of a car. "Why do you still drive this thing? Don't you get tired of like... driving?"

She put the keys into the ignition and smiled at me. "I like driving. It stimulates the mind and quite frankly I don't really trust computers driving."

We began to pull out of the parking lot and headed towards the main road "I still don't get why you would want to work so hard.. but whatever. It's your choice. I suppose I could see why you wouldn't like comp. cars after what you have seen me just go through. But this thing still has wheels."

"Where are we going again?" she said.

I pulled out the note. "86902 Ty Hillos street.. I think it's out of the way. I'll punch the address into my watch"

She turned to wheel and made a U-turn. "How can you live with that thing? It's drilled into your wrist right? I wouldn't like it."

"Well it's annoying sometimes but I like it. It cost my parents a lot of money to get it and I really wanted it so yeah."

"I still haven't ever heard of one or even know where to get one."

I snickered a bit. "Well there supposedly illegal now. My mom said not to show it off to the world."

She glanced into her rear view mirror. "Uh oh"

"What?"

"Look behind us"

I looked to see red and blue flashing behind us. The cops... "great, I bet it's because were in a junker"

"Well I bet it's because of your stupid watch"

"Whatever!... Just slow down and pull over Mrs. 'I don't trust computer cars'"

We slowed down and pulled over. The police officer walked up to Michel's window "Get out of the car"

Michel stared at me for a sec "umm.. What are the charges?"

"Just get out, both of you" He seemed angry, I didn't like him but I suppose he is a police officer. I began to open the door.

"Woah woah" Michel said "What did we do? Shut the door Tenoptry"

He pulled off his aviators. "Look, this is the last time I'm going to ask. Get out. Now."

"Not until you tell me why" She said in a very childish tone.

He pulled a gun out. "That's why!"

She put her hands up. "Okay then..." We both got out and he put the gun away.

"Put your hands behind your back." He said. Michel put her hands behind her back and hand cuffed her. Then he took his gun out. He raised it in the air above her head. He threw it to her scull. I grabbed his arm before he was able to strike her cranium. A shot went off. I threw a punch at him and the gun flew underneath his Police car. Michel stood helpless with her hands cuffed.

"Get in the car!" I yelled.

We grabbed his jaw. He scowled at me. I ducked and kicked him in the gut to push him a few feet away. He slammed me up against Michel's car. He began to run for the gun he was bending over and I kicked his behind and his face slammed into his car. He fell down and I flipped him over and took my knife out up to his throat. I grabbed the gun from under the car and pointed it at him "Don't follow us" I got up and ran Michel's car. "Scoot over." I got into the driver's seat and jammed down the accelerator. The man had gotten up and gotten into his car and began to pursue.

"That was impressive." She said with a smile. "Are you sure you know how to handle this car?"

"Yes," I grinned "It's just like a video game. I'll be fine" I looked into the rear view mirror. The police car was gaining speed. "Can this thing go any faster?"

She gave me an offended stare of irritation. "Unfortunately no"

We began to weave in-between traffic. We were breaking 90. At least the other cars were adjusting to our speeds since they are smart with there auto driven cars. He was right on our back bumper. We swerved over a median into the other side of the road.

She put her hand on her eyes. "What are you doing!"

"Shhhh! He can't follow us since his car isn't programmed for that." He then flew over the median.. "err. . . never mind. I then found myself facing on coming traffic. I looked behind me for a second. and he was still right there. The cars were coming faster than I could think almost.

"Your going to get us killed!" She yelled

I looked at the cars speeding at us going about 100 and felt a lump in my throat. I swerved over to the right side again. "How good is your car at off roading?"

"umm.. I don't know"

"Well were going to be finding out here real quick." I spun the wheel to the right. I pulled off the road into a field. The car seemed to be sustaining itself over the bumps in the grass. We then got onto the free way. I then looked behind us to see more police cars behind us.

"Now what are we going to do?" Michel asked.

"Umm... Just hold on tight" I pulled a hard right turn onto the off ramp and then headed towards the TDTBT3 Bridge. "Unbuckle yourself."

"Tenoptry! I have hand cuffs on!"

"Just do it!" She unbuckled herself. "Come here." She scooted over and I grabbed her and opened the door. It opened.

Her eyes grew huge. "I have a bad feeling about this!"

We jumped out of the car. I scraped the ground with my back and we flew off the bridge and into the water. Pain seared down my spine from the impact. We plunged down for a bit. I grabbed her and pulled out of the water. We trudged over to shore under the bridge. It was cold. It was wet. My cloths were heavy. I got us to shore and collapsed from exhaustion right there.

CHAPTER II

"Tenoptry? Please get up"

I opened my eyes slowly to see Michel's worried eyes looking into mine. "We need to keep moving! I'm sure it won't take long for them to realize where we are.

I looked at my watch to see how far we had to go to get to Marty's house. It was about 4 and half miles.

"We are probably going to have to walk the rest of the way. I'm sorry about your car."

She looked at me. She rolled her eyes.

"Yeah, it's okay I guess" We could hear the sirens from the police on the bridge." We should probably get going."

"Yeah let's go." I stood up from the ground and started to head towards Marty's house.

"Hey, could you help me up? I kind of can't move very well." I realized that she still had hand cuffs on.

"No, I was just gonna leave you there "I said with a smirk. I reached down and pulled her up from the ground. We were both soaked from the lake. "We should probably try and find a way to fix your hand cuff problem soon".

"Yeah, that's probably a good plan." She smiled

"Okay well-

"Hey!" I looked behind us. A police officer was coming down the ridge. "Don't move!" We started to run. "Stop!" We went under the bridge and started to climb the ridge. Michel was stumbling up the hill. She fell and her face landed into the dead grass and gravel. I ran down and picked her up from the ground. The officer was stalky so he was slow but he was picking up ground behind us faster than we could make it. I ran into an indentation of the bridge's structure.

"Michel! Come here" She slipped again. My heart was pounding. I ran out and carried her into the shadows. "Okay, we need to find a new way to approach this and we need to get those cuffs off" The police officer was wandering around. He ran a little ways. He pulled out his walkey talky from his belt.

"I lost the suspect but I'll find him." He said "Don't you worry."

"You better find him or you will regret it."

"Yes, sir" He looked around. He faced away from us. I took a deep and took out my knife from my pocket. Michel looked at me in disbelief. I ran out. I grabbed him by the mouth and held my knife to his throat.

I bit my lower lip. I didn't know what to say. "Look, I don't want to hurt you, but I will if I have too." I said.

"Okay, just don't kill me. I don't want to die." He stuttered.

"umm.. I just want the keys to some cuffs and I want to know what you want with my friend and me." I brought the blade closer to his throat.

"We just know that you have something. My superiors might know more but that's all I know."

"Wait, what?" I looked at Michel. She was still in the shadows resting. "I don't have anything of value"

"That's all I know, I swear. My cuff keys are on my belt." Michel stood up and ran over and I grabbed his gun with my free hand and pointed it at the frightened cop.

"Okay, unlock the cuffs" He struggled with the keys a bit. "Now put your hands up. umm" I looked around to see what I could use. I didn't want kill him. "Cuff yourself to that pipe." I pointed in the shadows where we had hid earlier. He went over there and cuffed one of his hands. I grabbed his walky talky. "Let's go Michel"

"Okay," She said. "We need to be careful. Chances are we're going to have to deal with more of them."

"Well let's try and not let that happen and not get spotted then." We eventually got up to level ground where streets and buildings covered the landscape. The bridge was full of cops and police cars. We began heading south towards Marty's house leaving the sirens of the police cars behind us. It would be another 4 miles till we reached his house. I took a deep breath and calmed down.

"We should take back routs. It's probably safer." Michel said.

We continued down alleyways and streets. What would have taken us a good 50 minutes took us 2 hours. It was starting to get dark. We actually made it out of the city. It was a good feeling to see some openness. The air felt clean and crisp. We walked to Marty's front door and knocked.

"Hello!" I yelled. I ran to the windows and looked in.

"Do you think he is home?" Michel asked.

"I think so. His car is in the drive way." I tried knocking on the door again. "ugh... this isn't cool" I sat down and leaned against the door. It creaked open a bit. Michel began to go towards the door to open it more.

"Michel, What are you doing?" I said "braking and entering is against the law."

"Yeah, and the law has been doing a real good job for us lately." She began to go in. I stood up and began to follow her in.

"Whatever.." I let out a sigh. "I would rather just rest a bit."

"Well I would rather be inside where it's warm." She said. "I don't know about you but I'm freezing."

"Fine, but when he comes in. I'm blaming you." There was a nice couch and chair in the living room, a few closets here and there. It was your average American home. The walls were littered with modern art. I plopped down on the couch. "So... what are we gonna do?"

"Well.. I'm tired." Michel said. I think I'm gonna take a nap right here. She sat down on a comfy looking chair.

"Well, I'm going to look around." I stood up from the couch.

"Kay" Michel already sounded half asleep.

I went into another room. There was a computer screen with a keyboard and bookshelves lined the wall. I walked over to the book shelf. The books were all about Science and Math. I looked at the computer. I hopped into the seat

in front of the computer and pressed the power button. The computer then proceeded to scan my face.

"Identification confirmed: Master Tenoptry Obipor" the computer said. I sat there puzzled for a moment. Not only at the fact that the computer just scanned my face (This may be the Computer Age and all but there still not that far in technological upgrades) but the fact it knew my name kind of creped me out.

"What do you wish to know?" The computer asked. I sat there for a moment.

"umm.. Where is Jacen Obipor?"

"Location unknown at the moment Master." It sat and paused for a moment. "Do you have any other questions Master?" The screen asked for a password.

"What's the password for the computer?" I asked.

"Master, you should know that." It laughed at me. "If you really must know its 2384948502892819"

"Could you repeat that slowly please?"

"Oh, just let me do it Master." The numbers appeared on the screen. The screen went black and had a picture of a man with a women and their son for its background. It looked like every other average computer screen. A file caught my eye. It was called *Holographic Records*. I clicked

on it. It projected a blank square on a blank spot beside the computer. I looked at the screen. I scrolled down. I clicked on one that read *Retinal Eye of SC*. A diagram of an eye appeared. Then the computer screen went black and the hologram disappeared.

"Hey! Bring it back!" I leaned back in my chair. I felt irritated.

"Master, do you have any other questions?" It asked.

"Yeah, why did you shut the computer off?"

"It was my Masters orders."

"I didn't say to shut down."

"Calm down Master, Master Marty told me to shut it down. I'm sorry for the confusion."

"Right.." I crossed my arms and leaned back in the office chair.

"Master you still have free rein to ask questions. That is all I'm aloud to do for you right now I'm afraid."

There was a silence in the room.

"Master?"

"I'm thinking."

"Somebody needs a new processing chip" It laughed its dumb fake computer laugh.

"Just give me a second." I was getting frustrated with this dumb computer. Its rudeness was very irritating.

"uhh.. How do you know who I am?"

"Master, that is a silly question. You are one of my masters so how would I not know you?"

"Who else are your masters?" I asked

"Only you and Master Marty." This computer was probably the dumbest smart computer ever. I like my computers to not be like people.

"Okay... Well... do you know why the police are after me?"

"Oh no Master, are you in trouble with the law again?"

"What!?! Again? What do you mean again?" I leaned toward the desk.

It laughed. "Oh Master it was just a joke. Nothing more."

I let out an irritated sigh and put my hand on my forehead. "When did you see me last?"

"Oh, it's been a very long time Master. 17 years 1 week 3 days 2 hours and 2 minutes to be exact."

"Yes...hmm.. how does that work when I'm only 18?"

"Master that question is dumb. It doesn't make sense at all"

"Well you're the dumb person here."

It laughed "I'm not a person Master"

I rolled my eyes. "Whatever, Do you remember what we talked about 17 years ago?"

"Of course Master. You were talking about how Master Marty had a great journey for you to go on but that's all I. You left in a bit of a hurry if I recall correctly."

"Mhm... Okay then, Do you know where Master Marty is?"

"Oh yes, he is right behind you."

"What?" I stood up and turned around to see the old man in his 50s behind me leaning on the door way. "How long have you been there?" I asked.

"Shut down for a bit Jaden." Marty said.

"Right away Master Marty."

"So, How are you?" He asked.

"I'm irritated at your stupid computer."

He laughed "Come with me" He walked into the room where Michel sat patiently on the couch with a smile."

I sat down next to her. He sat opposite of us on the other couch.

"Can I see my brother?"

"Of course, he is in the lab watching TV. But before we see him I would like to discuss today's events. You

seemed to have caused quite a ruckus with the police today."

"Yeah. You could say that" I answered. "Why are we here?"

"You are here because we need to talk about your current condition."

"Which is?"

"Come with me. I'll take you to your brother." He stood up from his chair and headed towards the computer room.

"This guy is really... odd." Michel whispered.

"Yeah.. well he seems alright" I said. I followed behind Marty.

Marty stopped in front of the bookshelf. "Jaden, Open passageway 1 please."

"Yes Master." Then the bookshelf swooped down and he began to head down a set of stairs. The lights began to turn on. When we got down there I was baffled by the size of the room. It was a gigantic room. It had computers and lights and buttons. The whole nine yards. It took me a while to absorb it all. I looked over to my right to see my brother sitting on a couch watching the television.

I snuck up behind him. "Bwah!" I yelled. He shot up and turned around. "Hey man." I said.

"Don't do that." Jacen said.

"Calm down man, What's going on?"

"I have been rotting in cyber jail for the past few days but all in all I would have to say I'm doing pretty good." He smiled. "This Marty guy basically saved my life." He patted Marty on the back. "How are mom and Elizabeth?"

I frowned. "Mom is dead and Elizabeth is in critical condition."

He frowned. "Oh.. I see."

I hugged Jacen. "It will be okay, I promise." I let him go and turned to Marty. "What are we doing here?"

He sat down at a large table. "Sit down and I'll tell you." We all sat down. Okay, first, I don't believe we have been formally introduced, I am Dr. Man Marty."

"Haha Dr. Man." I snickered.

He glared at me. "You are only permitted to call me Dr. Marty. Anyway, I believe I know all your names. Jacen, Michel, Tenoptry." We all nodded in acknowledgement that he had gotten our names right. "Okay, good, I had meant only to summon Tenoptry but the rest of you have gotten dragged

into this as well so I suppose I have no choice but to involve you. Tenoptry, put your left hand on the table."

I put my hand on the table. "Like this?"

"Yes, Don't move" He held out a scanner and scanned my wrist where my watch was imbedded. Then a monitor popped up. He pointed to the diagram of my wrist "This is the soul computer." He then slapped my wrist and ripped the watch off.

Pain seared through my whole body. It hurt more than any pain imaginable. "GAHH! What did you do?"

"Sorry Tenoptry. I need to alter this"

I grabbed my wrist. The room started to spin. I stood up. My legs gave out and I fell face first on the floor.

"Tenoptry!" Michel yelled.

I blacked out...

CHAPTER III

When I awoke I felt disoriented. I was lying on a medical table. The room was filled with computers and projectors. Everything was very blurry.

I wiped my eyes with my hand. "What happened?" I said. I looked around. "Hello?" I looked at my wrist. My implant was in my wrist. It looked very different though. I taped it.

"Hello Master, I see that your awake" Jaden's voice said from the watch.

I put my hand on my head. "Oh no, not you again." I said.

"Oh Master, Don't be so rude."

"Right... Okay, well where is everybody?"

"In the house. Master Marty is in front of you though."

I looked up from my wrist. There Marty was standing. "You need to stop sneaking up on me like that" I said.

"I'm sorry, How do you feel?" Marty said.

"I actually feel pretty good." I stood up from the medical table "What did you do?"

"Just some minor adjustments."

I paused for a moment. "Like what?"

He walked over to his computer and sat down in a chair in front of it. "Just minor ones. There very difficult to understand. I don't think you will get it."

I followed him to the computer. "How about you tell me and then you can go ahead and make that assumption."

He pitter pattered on the key board. A hologram of a human body appeared on the table. "Well... here it is."

I sat down in the chair next to him. "Here what is?"

He looked at the ceiling and was tapping his foot. "Well.. you're different."

"Yeah?" I paused waiting for more of an answer. "Marty whatever you have to say I'm sure I'll be okay with. Just say it."

"Okay" He stood up. "You are more than the average human. With the *Soul Computer* you are able to live. It is your life force. It gives you the power to be.. well more."

I looked at my wrist. The numbers read on it read 100%. "Where did I get this Marty?"

"I created it. You are it's holder. Your body had to be different in order to contain it's full power."

I just looked at him. I was a little disturbed. I put my hand behind my head grabbing my hair. "How come I don't remember you? Jaden said that you sent me on a 'great journey.'" "

"I cannot explain that right now. What I can tell you is that you are probably the most powerful human being on the planet right now."

I grabbed his shoulders. "Why me though? Why didn't you pick somebody else?" I said.

"You were not picked. You didn't choose your fate. You were born into it. You were born to destroy. To win wars. To kill; you are a weapon of mass destruction; more powerful than any nuclear bomb."

I sat down and put my head in my hands. I found this very difficult to believe. I looked up at him. "I'm having a hard time wrapping my mind around this sir."

He sat down next to me. "I know it probably is, but you will be okay." He patted me on the back. I'm sure of it.

"Tenoptry!" We stood up and turned around. Michel flung her arms around me. "You're awake!" She smiled.

"Hey, What's been up with you?" I asked.

"Nothing really. Jacen and I have just been waiting for Dr. Marty to get done with you." She turned to Marty.

"What's the conclusion Doctor?"

"Oh, uhh, he is perfectly alright. His illness is cured but he needs to stay here for a bit longer."

"How do you feel Tenoptry?" Michel asked.

I looked at Marty confused. "Umm cured.. yeah.. all better"

"Good!" She smiled. "Okay well--"

"Hey Michel, can I talk with Dr. Marty for a bit longer alone." I leaned towards her ear. "We have embarrassing Dr. things to talk about"

"Ohhhh, okay, Well I better go then" She laughed and left the room.

I laughed "What on earth did you tell her you were doing with me?"

He put his hands behind his back. "Well just some minor surgeries.. I told her you were very sick." Marty replied.

"I'm surprised she bought that." I said.

"Well she did and that's all that matters."

"Okay, well what do I do now?" I asked. "I don't plan on going out in tights and being a super hero" I smiled.

"Well as you are well aware of, someone is out to get you and-

"Hey Tenoptry" We turned around. Jacen walked in "phones for you." He handed me my cell phone.

I held it up to my ear. "Hello?"

"We need the Soul Computer." The voice replied in a disoriented and disguised tone.

"Well... I don't have it." I said.

"Don't give us that bull. We know who you are. You have it and you are going to hand deliver it to me."

I looked at Marty. "Umm.. no I'm not."

"You will. You will come to the Liikes Tower by 7:00 with the computer. You must be alone."

"Right, and what if I choose not to?"

"Then we kill your sister."

I stood there silent.. I felt like I was going to puke.

"Hello?" The gruff voice said.

My hand was shaking. "I'm here."

"Well do we have a proposition then?"

I looked at Jacen "Yes, I'll be there."

"Good, I'll see you then."

I hung up the phone.

I left out the door and headed up the stairs. "Who was it?" Jacen asked.

"Jaden, open the door." I said.

"Yes Master." The bookshelf swooped down.

Jacen followed me up the stairs. "Tenoptry! Who was it?!" He asked.

"Look Jacen, I have to go. Things are rough. Stay here. I don't know when I will be back. Just stay."

"You can't leave yet though." Marty said. "I still haven't explained everything."

"Where are your keys?" I asked Marty.

Marty grabbed me. "Tenoptry, I don't think you heard me."

"I need to go." I pulled away. "Jaden, Where are the keys?"

"On top of the fridge in the kitchen Master."

I went to the kitchen. I grabbed the keys from the top of the fridge. I headed toward the door that lead to the garage. Marty stepped in front of me. "You cannot go yet."

"They have my sister. I'm leaving." I walked around him. Marty turned around and ran inside the house.

I hopped into the car. "Where to Master?" Jaden said.

"Liikes Tower." The other door opened. Marty hopped in with a brief case and put his seat belt on.

"If you're going then I'm coming to. You have much to learn still and you're going to need it."

I looked at him. "They said alone and alone means singular. That means it doesn't include you sir."

"Look, I don't care. You will be fine. I'll wait in the car and be back up." He said.

I stared at him irritated. I grabbed the door handle. I was going to pull him out of the car if he wouldn't leave on his own.

"Drive Jaden!" Marty yelled!

"Right away Master"

I flung back into my seat. I let out a sigh. "Fine then, you can come."

CHAPTER IV

We exited the garage leaving Michel and Jacen at the house.

"Okay Tenoptry," Marty pulled down a monitor from the ceiling of the car. "I don't have much time to explain everything so I will just give you the basic schematics of your updated Soul Computer." An eye ball came on screen. "See this" He pointed at the screen. "Your eyes are able to switch between normal, night vision, and even thermal. To activate these, you just have to shut your eyes and press on your watch and it will activate the one your thinking about." I shut my eyes and tried the thermal out. The world was in a barrage of colors.

"Woah, that's so weird. It's like watching.. I don't know.. it's just woah."

"Yes yes, good good, Moving on." He touched the screen and dragged over the next slide of an arm. "Your skins molecular structure can be manipulated to change the color to whatever it is surrounded by. So if you need to disappear you just disappear right there; invisible to the world around you."

I tried it... I couldn't see my arm. Then I came to the realization that my cloths are not exactly part of my skin. "Umm.. my cloths are kind of.. yeah.." I turned it off again.

"Well, if 'somebody' didn't just leave my house on such short notice then we wouldn't have this problem." He opened his brief case. "I have gear for you to use also but most of it is at the house." He pulled up a box "Alrighty, lets see what we have in here" He pulled out a pistol and pointed at me.

I lunged toward the opposite side of the car. "What are you doing!" I shut my eyes *BANG*. I looked at my arm where a bullet was meshed into my skin. My mouth gaped open.

"Now, you must be wondering, 'why on earth would I need stealth if I can't even get shot'" He grabbed my wrist, "This is how much your body can sustain." There was a percentage number on the watch it read 98%. "Every thing in the universe brakes down Mr. Obipor, That includes you." He reloaded the gun and handed it to me. He pulled out a syringe.

"What is that stuff?" I asked.

He injected it into the arm. The number bleeped back to 100%.

"It contains all of the substances that make up your body. The basics of it are plasma and microbes."

I snickered "When you said I was different you weren't kidding." I said.

He handed me the brief case. "You will need all of these things to survive what your about to do. I still have much I need to show you but we must stop here." The car slowed down and stopped. "Jaden will be with you always. He is a smart computer. Ask him of your counsel if you ever need some."

"Great. I have a new pal" I said in a sarcastic tone. I turned to Marty. "I guess this is goodbye for now."

"Oh its not goodbye, you're going to rescue your sister and bring her back. I'm going to be waiting here. You need to get her back with out being captured. There are many things about you I have not told you about who you are that could result in the world's destruction. If you are detained then they will make you do what they want. Don't underestimate them. You were born to destroy and kill. They will find a way to make you"

"I'll be careful sir" I opened the door and exited the vehicle.

It was starting to get dark. The time 6 o'clock. I let out a sigh. I looked at my brief case and headed towards the restaurant in front of me. The door swooped open. People were littered through out the room.

"Where can I seat you sir?" The waitress smiled at me.

"Umm, I just need to use your bathroom."

She pointed past the counter. "Oh, it's next to the kitchen. Just go down there and you will see it."

"Thanks." I walked toward the bathroom. I pushed open the door and opened the stall and opened my brief case. A hologram small hologram popped up.

"Hello Master" The hologram stated. "May I brief you on your 'brief case'?" He let out a laugh.

"Err.. sure Jaden," There was a knife and 3 syringes of the healing serum.

"Well Master first--"

"Actually Jaden, never mind, I think I have it. You can just go away." I laughed.

"Oh I see how it is Master, I do enjoy helping you, but not if your going to be difficult." The holographic figure distorted and faded out. I exited the stall and saw

my reflection in the mirror. I snickered and turned my invisibility on and off. I turned it off and went into the bar. It was crowded still and it felt uncomfortable.

I walked toward the exit.

"Give me your money!" I turned around. The waitress who had greeted me earlier stood there with meaty hands gripping her throat.

She squealed "Put me down and I'll give it to you." She looked at me with glassy blue eyes."

The gigantic man looked at me. "What are you looking at?" The thug asked. He pointed a pistol at me and laughed and fired two rounds into my chest. I fell over onto my back with a thud.

Everyone dove on the ground. He looked at the scared women in his hands. "Now where were we?"

I looked up. I slowly reached into my pocket for my pistol.

"Where is it!?"

"Hey steroid face" I pointed my gun at him as I lay on the floor.

His eyes looked as if he had seen a ghost. I wouldn't blame him though. He pointed his gun at me. I fired a round into his forehead. He fell to his knees and a river of red

poured from his skull. I rose slowly from the ground. The bullets that were ingrained into my chest pattered on the ground. Everyone looked up from the ground. The women looked at me. She put her hands over her mouth in astonishment. I took a step back.

"I have to go..." I took another step back and then turned and ran out the door.

"Wait" she yelled.

Marty's car was still out where I left it. His window rolled down. He looked at me and shook his head and smiled a bit. Marty pointed at his watch. "You better get going, boy."

I looked at my watch. It was 6:30 and those two bullets had knocked out 10% of my life force.

I nodded and at him and began to head towards the bridge. Police cars pulled up toward the restaurant. I turned around and saw the waitress I had saved talking to an officer. She pointed at me and the police officer yelled at me to stop. I shook my head and began to sprint as fast as I could from him.

"Wait!" He yelled and he began to pursue. I have had no luck with them so far and I was running out of time. I ran into a dark ally. I switched on my night vision. He

followed me. I leaned against a dumpster and I turned on my invisibility. Everything was illuminated. A beam from his flash light flew over my body. My heart began to pound. I tried to control my breathing. He turned it off.

He pulled out his radio. "It seems our hero has run off and disappeared. I'm heading back."

Bling bling...*Bling Bling* He turned around and flashed his light back on me. My cell phone was ringing. I stood up.

"Hello, is anyone there?" He started walking towards me. He pulled out his flash light again and turned it on. "Hello?" His voice was shaky. I looked behind me to see a dead end. I clinched my teeth. *Bling Bling*

I jumped up and slammed the gun and his flashlight out of his hands and ran out of the ally down the street. I turned off my invisibility and ran into a clothing store. I opened up my phone and held it up to my ear. "Hello?"

"What is taking so long?! It's 6:45 and your not here yet. You must not care what I do with your sister. It would be a shame if I accidentally pulled the trigger when I happened to be pointing this pistol at her."

My grip tightened around the phone. "You said 7:00, I still have time."

Tenoptry" Elizabeth's voice echoed in my ear from the phone speaker. "Tenoptry I'm in-" The phone was pulled away from her.

"Sorry she had to go" The gruff voice said. "Be at the bridge with the soul computer by 7:00 or things will begin to get ugly."

"Yes, yes. I'll be there."

"Good bye Mr. Obipor" He hung up the phone.

I put the phone on vibrate and put it in my pocket again. I let out a sigh and I put my hands over my eyes and whipped my face.

"Can I help you sir?" I turned around "Oh! Are you okay?" A young lady stood there in her navy blue uniform.

"Yeah why?"

"Your eyes look... weird. Are you sick?"

"Oh oops. Haha, uhh yeah, I have to go actually. Thanks." I turned around and exited the store. I shut my eyes and pushed on my watch and turned my night vision off. I blinked a few times. It's going to take some time to adjust to this new ability. I looked up and saw the moon behind the Liikes Bridge. "Here goes nothing."

CHAPTER V

I arrived at the Bridge, I put my hands on the railing of the bridge. I let out a deep breath. I looked at my watch. It was 6:50. I sat down against the wall. A few cars speed by here and there. I tilted my head back and rested it against the bridge. A car stopped in front of me. I stood up. The window rolled down.

"Get in." The window rolled back up and I opened the door and opened the car door and sat in the back next to a large man.

"I am Vladimir van Strogan first things first, let me see it." I looked up to see the man who was speaking.

I slowly pulled my wrist out toward the old Russian man. He turned, he had a red beard and sunglasses on. He nodded and gave a devious smirk "Is that what you wanted?" I asked.

"Only partly" He laughed. "What I want is not that chip in your wrist, I want the whole package."

He pulled a pistol and pointed it at my face. "I'm sure you know I can't get shot." I said.

"Indeed" He pointed it at my leg and *Bang!*

I put my hand on my leg. Pain seared through my whole body. "Awwww! What the crap did you do?!" I moved my hand and looked at my leg. It was oozing blood. I felt light headed. I looked at my watch. The numbers flickered in a downward spiral towards 0%.

"You are still human regardless of your thick skin." I scrambled around in my pocket, pulled out the syringe of plasma. Things began to grow blurry. I pulled the plastic off of the syringe. My hands were shaking.

"Here let me help you with that." He took the syringe from my hand. I looked at my wrist. It reached 20%. I put my hand on my leg to try and stop the bleeding. The noise of Vladimir's deep laugh sounded loudly through the vehicle. I put my hand on my chest and leaned forward and hit my head on the seat in front of me. "Goodnight Mr. Obipor."

I opened my eyes. It was pitch black. "ugh.. where am I?" The lights flew on. It was a white room. I found myself stuck on a stretcher.

A door swooped open. I saw the side of the man who had shot me. "Hello Mr. Obipor. How are you feeling on this fine day?" He walked up towards me put his hand on the stretcher.

"Where is my sister?"

"She is fine. I'll let you see her later."

I looked at him. "What do you want with me?"

"I need you to destroy America. You are going to first assassinate the president of the United States of America."

A rush of adrenalin went through my body. "What!? Why would I- How would-"

"You are going to do it and I don't care how. I just need it done and you are either going to do that or kill your sister."

I sat silently for a moment.

He started walking toward the exit "I'll give you 24 hours to decide Mr. Obipor. Goodnight Mr. Obipor" The door swooped shut.

So I sat there for a moment. I took a deep breath. What am I supposed to do? I'm pinned to a table and the world is falling apart. My sister is probably scared to death. I shut my eyes. I must have been there for an hour till I felt a shock in my wrist.

"Master?" I opened my eyes and looked at my watch.
"You really should stop wallowing here. Your not going to get anywhere by just moping about."

"Jaden, if you think it's so easy what do you think I should do? I'm kind of stuck in a spot with no way out."

"There is an easy solution Master, just wait one moment."

I sighed. "right.." I said. I looked around. The room was black and cold. The floors were concrete. What ever I'm supposed to be waiting for, I don't think it's going to happen anytime soon.

"Master, don't be so wishy washy. I can promise you that it will be alright. I would know. I'm coming."

"What!?". A light flickered in my cell window and-
Boom! I shut my eyes tightly. I opened them again to see Marty's vehicle inside the large room with a hole in the wall where it had entered. The car door opened. Marty exited the vehicle. He ran up to me. Pulled out a pen like utensil and drew on my couplings holding me down.

"Come on! Let's go" Marty said.

I moved my hands and pulled my legs off of the table holding me down. The shackles fell apart like a jigsaw puzzle. Marty ran into the car. I followed him into the car

and the car door shut behind me. The car backed out and flew out into a court yard. The car turned around.

"See Master I told you that you just needed to wait." Jaden said from the car. The car stopped. There was a wall of men that stood before us and pointed there guns at the car. "Oh no Master, what ever will I do?" Then two prongs stuck out of the hood of the car and it shot two little mettle balls about the size of golf balls onto the ground. The men looked at it and stared. They pointed there guns at the car again. Then a shockwave came from the spears. All of them shuttered and quaked from the electrical shock.

Our car made our exit toward the gate. Guard pillars began to rise from underneath the ground. "Look out Jaden!" Marty yelled. The car slammed into the pillars. I closed my eyes. Our faces flew into the air bags. I opened my eyes. Marty began to open the door. "Come on boy, let's get out of here!" He started to head out the gate.

I ran towards the warehouse "Not without my sister!" He grabbed my arm.

"Your sister is not here, now let's go!" He dragged me out.

I looked back and in the window I saw Vladimir looking at me. He nodded his head. He pulled out his phone and put

it up to his ear. I felt a vibration in my pocket. I stopped. I grabbed it and held it up to my ear.

"Don't think the deal is off. You have an assignment and if you don't pull through, your sister will not breathe another breath. You have 3 days." He hung up.

"Come on boy!" Marty yelled. I followed him. He ran up to a wooded type area where Jacen and Michel were waiting. We ran past them. "Come on!" Marty pulled out a walky talky. "Blow the car up Jaden."

"Right away Master."

Boom! I turned and saw a gigantic explosion.

We made it to a clearing. "Bring in the helicopter Jaden." Marty said.

A helicopter flew in and landed.

"There they are!" A bullet flew by my head and hit the mettle of the copter. I turned around and a mob of men. Sputters of bullets flew off. Michel, Jacen and Marty got in.

"Jaden shut the door and lift off!" I yelled over the gun shots.

"If you say so Master." The door shut and the copter began to lift off the ground. The men sputtered off a few shots.

"Jaden open the door!" Marty yelled. The door opened.

"Just go Jaden" I yelled over the sound of the blades of the copter and gunshots. The helicopter began to lift up more. I jumped and grabbed onto the copters landing gear with one hand. We began to lift off. Bullets continued to sputter against the copter. We were up about 15 feet and began to fly away when I felt pain throb in my hand. My hand started to slip. One of the men got a lucky shot off. I tried to reach up with my other hand. Marty opened the copters door.

"Don't let go!" He yelled. Michel looked over his shoulder. She nudged around Marty. She put out her hand. I grabbed it with my other hand (My not shot one.) I let go with my shot one. She almost fell out of the helicopter. I couldn't hold on much longer. I then got shot in my arm. I flinched and pulled and she flew out of the copter and we both fell through the night sky.

"Hold on Michel!" I grabbed her and took the blow to the ground. We landed in another clearing. I stood up. I looked at my soul computer. I had 15 percent left.

The helicopter stopped and began to turn around when I felt the wind of a bullet fly by my face.

"Let's get out of here!" Michel yelled. We ran into the woods that were only a few feet in front of us. We pushed through the trees.

"How far to civilization Michel?" I asked

"I don't know," We jumped over a log bullets blew up the bark behind us. I looked to my left and spotted a ditch.

"Come here" I whispered. I jumped into the ditch. She jumped in with me. I turned on my invisibility and night vision.

I poked my head up. I saw a man's boot hit the ground right next to my face. I almost fell over. Michel found a spot in the shadows. He continued walking around. The men were both sides of the ditch. Lurking around slowly. One was heading towards Michel's hiding spot.

"If you come out now we won't hurt you." The man said. He was about seven yards from her. He then started walking in her direction. I knew that she would be spotted if I didn't do something. I stood up. I came up behind him. Grabbed his gun and fired. I shot the men. One jumped behind a log. He pulled out a walky talky.

"Umm sir-" He said. I jumped over the log and bashed him with my gun. I grabbed the walky talky.

"Hello? Do you need us to come over there?" The walky talky asked.

"Umm.." I looked over at Michel. She looked at me clinching her teeth.

"Hello?" it said.

"Umm.. No, Were fine. Everything is under control. One of our guys is just a little trigger happy, but were fine... yeah.."

There was a pause for a moment. "Okay, whatever you say. Over and out"

I let out a sigh of relief. I looked at my watch.

"Jaden? Can you pick me and Michel up?"

"Oh yes, of course Master. We will fly over to your location immediately. Just keep walking forward to the next clearing and we will pick you up there."

"Thanks."

"I can't believe that guy believed us." Michel said.

"Well, I think they let us go." I began to walk forward.

"Why?" She asked.

"Because."

"Because.. why?" She followed me.

"Well, Michel.." I bit my lip. "Michel.. I have to.." My words trailed off.

"Have to what?!"

"I have to kill the president." I put my hands on my head. I felt sick just saying that.

"What!? Why!? That's dumb and stupid and I can't believe you! Why would-"

"Look Michel," I turned around and faced her. "They have my sister. They're going to kill her if I don't. I have three days. I have to do it."

"No you don't!" She said.

"Well then what should I do. It's either her or the president. I have to do something."

"I don't know, just don't.. It's wrong. You can't murder like that. It's stupid." She sighed. "This isn't cool. You should talk to Marty."

"No!" I yelled "He won't help me with anything. I cannot tell him." We continued our walk towards the clearing.

"Marty is smart. He can think of something I'm sure. He seems smart." She paused. "He told me who you were."

"Yeah?" I asked

"Yeah."

There was silence.

"Well..." I said "that's great. Can you trust me?" I asked.

"Of course." She smiled. "Tenoptry, you're my friend. You're still human. You're just a special human." She smiled.

"Master?" Jaden said from my watch. "You're approaching the clearing. We're going to be there in a few seconds as well."

"Okay Jaden." I stopped and turned and looked at Michel. She smiled at me and gave me a hug.

"It will be okay Tenoptry." She said. "You will be okay."

"Thank you Michel." The helicopter flew in. "Let's get out of this place." I hopped into the helicopter. I put out my hand and pulled her in. We lifted off and headed toward town.

CHAPTER VI

I looked at Marty who was in the front seat of the helicopter. I held out my hand. "Marty, I thought you said I couldn't get shot."

He turned around and looked at the scar on my hand.

"Interesting" he said, He turned around and opened the glove compartment.

"When I got in the car, he shot me in my leg and I passed out almost instantly." I said.

He turned around again, holding a syringe with the components that would heal me. "let me see your leg." He said.

I pulled up my pant leg revealing a bullet still imbedded into my leg.

He put his hand on his chin. He turned around and grabbed a small box. He opened it and pulled out some tweezers.

Michel looked at my leg. "That doesn't look good." She said.

"That's because it's not" Marty said, "Lets get that bullet out of your leg." He took the tweezers and wedged

them into my leg. I grabbed my thigh and inhaled a sharp quick breath. I felt a jagged pain in my leg.

Jacen turned around from the front seat. He made a disgusted face and then turned around.

"I got it." Marty said and then ripped it out.

My leg started to bleed again.

"Here inject this." Marty tossed me a syringe over his shoulder. I injected it. The bleeding stopped instantly. I looked at my Soul Computer. It read 100% again. I let out a sigh of relief.

"What do you have there Marty?" Jacen asked.

"I'm not quite sure yet, but I will keep you all posted on my findings." He replied.

I leaned back in my seat and brushed my hands through my hair. "Marty, I need to go once we land. I need to save my sister."

"You can't leave now!" He turned around quickly. "I need to solve this problem. You are very vulnerable you could very easily be killed or captured. I cannot let you leave just yet. You will have your chance though."

I slumped back in my chair. "Okay, I guess..."

"Master" Jaden said through the helicopter speakers.

"We are about to land."

The blades began to slow down and we descended slowly toward the ground behind some trees onto a helicopter pad.

"Where are we Marty?" I asked. The door to the helicopter opened.

He walked out of the helicopter. "We are at my main Lab."

I jumped out of the helicopter and Michel followed me out. There was nothing but trees and foliage.

"Where in the world are we?" I asked, "This doesn't look like any place I would know of in the U.S."

Marty squatted down and put his hand on the ground. A light scanned over his hand.

"We are in a secluded part of Germany." Marty replied. Michel and I looked at each other confused.

Marty stood up again. A hole in the floor swooped open with stairs to a basement below.

"Come along now." Marty said.

We followed him down the stairs. We got to the end of the stairs.

"Jaden please turn on the lights" Marty commanded.

The lights turned on. I was in shock of the size of the room. We were just on the top floor. We stood on a mettle runway that cut right through the middle of the room

and around the room as well. In the middle of the room were three sets of stairs coming out of the center pillar leading to the first floor.

Marty pointed to some doors across the balcony to our right. "You will sleep in those rooms over there. Michel, Jacen, why don't you two go settle in." He pointed at me. "I need to talk to this Mr. Obipor alone."

So Michel and Jacen went to there separate rooms.

I waved slowly "Goodnight you guys."

"Goodnight." They both said in unison.

Marty started heading down the center walkway. "Come on boy" He said as he was walking. "I have things to show you." I followed him and we went down the stairs and through one of the doors.

The lights turned on when we walked in. The room was very long and had a big table (but still wide enough for it to be comfortable). There was a monitor and on the wall that showed nothing but blue. In the center of the room against a wall was a container about the size of a refrigerator.

He graced his hand toward the big cylinder type object. "To show you what I need to show you I need you to

step into this" The glass around the front sloshed up like liquid.

I walked past him and in front of the big round contraption. I turned and looked at Dr. Marty one more time. He nodded his head. I stepped inside and the glass sloshed back down over the front of the small compartment. Marty walked over.

"Now Tenoptry" He yelled through the glass, "I'm going to tell Jaden to activate this and it's going to make you feel like jello. Are you ready?"

I felt very claustrophobic. It was uncomfortable but I suppose I'm as ready as I'll ever be. I nodded my head and gave him a thumbs up.

He gave me a thumbs up. He told Jaden to activate the machine.

A blue liquid started to rush in from the sides. It poured down the walls like a water fall. I looked down. My feet were under the liquid and it was rising fast. I tried to lift my leg. I couldn't pull it up. I felt my heart racing. I felt like my body was becoming mesh.

"Marty!" I yelled. It was up to my waist. I banged on the walls. "Hey! Marty!" but Marty was no where to be found. It covered my neck. Marty ran in but I couldn't yell

because it was over my mouth. I shut my eyes and it molded over the rest of my face.

I was disoriented. I opened my eyes. Everything was blue. I tried to inhale but I couldn't but... I didn't panic either. I felt fine. Then everything began spinning around and around. Everything went black. I held my hand up in front of my face. I could see it. I looked down but all that was there was blackness.

"Hello?" I yelled.

"Hello Master"

I let out a sigh, I didn't really want to talk to Jaden but I suppose he is the only pers-err thing that I can talk to right now. "Jaden," I pulled up my Soul Computer,

No one answered.

"Jaden?"

"Master, I'm behind you so why are you talking to your wrist?"

I turned around and there stood a man holding a brief case.

"Hello Jaden?"

"Hello Master" He smiled. He held out the brief case "Here are your things."

I took it from him and open and rummage through it. I found a small card that looked like a memory chip. "Where are we Jaden?" I held up the computer chip "and what do I do with this?"

He held out his arms out wide. "This is the Soul Playground. This is where we will teach you all sorts of things about yourself." He grabbed the chip from my hand. "Give me your hand Master." I held out my hand my right hand. He rolled his eyes "Not that one, the other one; the one with the Soul Computer on it." I held out my other hand. He grabbed my wrist and inserted it into a slot.

A monitor popped up on screen and on it was the long room which I had been in earlier. Marty was standing there against the wall. He looked up and walked to the screen.

"Tenoptry, can you hear me?" Marty said

"Yes, I can hear you perfectly. Where am I?"

"Do you remember that blue screen that you saw when you walked in? Well, that's where you're at." He smiled.

"What?" I replied. I was very confused at this predicament.

"You're on the blue screen." He ran over to the cylinder and held his hands up to it. "I broke your body

down in HYLOSOFIC FLUID and put you in the Soul Playground. Isn't that cool?"

"No, you could have drowned me in that stuff!" I said in a harsh tone.

"But I didn't and on that note-" He ran over to his computer and banged on a few keys. "I will now show you something that can not be done by any other human." He turned around and smiled and hit one more key. "Take a deep breath" He chuckled.

"Wait, what?" I heard something behind me. It sounded like static. It was getting louder. I turned around. A never ending wall of water was coming at me. I immediately turned and ran. The monitor was beside me.

I looked at the monitor with Marty on it. "What are you trying to do!" I yelled at him.

"Keep running if you want he said, there is no way you can out run the water." Marty said.

I ran faster and harder. I looked back. The water was only a few yards off.

"Gahhh!" I took a deep breath and stopped running. The water over came me. The current stopped. I looked around. I couldn't hold my breath much longer. I began to swim frantically towards the top. Jaden swam up along side me.

"Come on Master" He said in a mocking tone. "You can do it." He laughed and swam up at a rapid pace. I couldn't hold it much longer. I could see the sun. I knew I had to be almost there. Just a few more feet. My lungs were collapsing. I had to inhale. I inhaled and water filled my mouth but I felt okay. I exhaled and inhaled again.

The monitor of Marty popped up beside me. "What did you do?" I asked. It felt weird talking though.

He smiled. "Your body actually takes what oxygen is in the water and makes it breathable." He put his hand on his eyes and laughed, "You should have seen your face though it was so great."

"I'm glad you enjoyed it Marty" I suppose it probably would have been pretty funny but I thought it was still very un-cool. "Can you get me out of here yet?"

"Not yet!" he clapped his hands with glee and ran over to his computer again and clicked some keys on the keyboard. "I have one more thing. I won't scare you this time." He smiled "I promise." He pressed the last button and the water level went down and I receded down to a large open desert.

I inhaled the dry air. The sun beat down. Jaden walked up beside me. He held out a pistol to me. I grabbed it from his hands. The monitor of Marty appeared next to me.

"All right Tenoptry," Marty said "Do you see that speck way out there?"

I squinted my eyes. "I think so."

"I want you to shoot it."

It was silent for a moment. I looked at him a little overwhelmed at the goal set.

"You know? Like" He held his hands up like a pistol
"Bang bang"

I looked forward again. "I'll try I guess." I held out the pistol with two hands. I squinted my eyes and fired.

Bang!

Another monitor popped up and it showed a target. I waited for a second.

I let my arms down and frowned. I looked at Marty "I don't think I did it write Doc."

"That's okay, you were supposed to not get it." He smiled.

"Jaden, give him the card."

"Right away Master."

I turned around Jaden held up a computer chip. I took it from him. "Thank you Jaden."

"Oh, you're welcome Master."

I put it into my Soul Computer.

"Now what Marty?"

"Try taking the shot again."

I held up the Pistol. I squinted my eyes.

"Focus Tenoptry." Marty said.

I focused harder, and the target that was about 300 yards away came into perfect visibility.

"Fire!" Marty yelled.

I squeezed the trigger and another monitor popped up on screen. I waited about three seconds and let out a sigh.

"Sorry Marty. I just--"

"Look boy!"

I looked at the monitor and there it was, a perfect bull's eye.

"I don't know how you did it Doc. But I suppose that's why you're the doctor and I'm the patient" I smiled.

"Well, that's all I have to show you for today. I'm going to pull you out of there." He pushed a button on the computer. "I'm going to warn you though the exit is a lot weirder than the entry"

"It's cool Marty, as long as--" Everything turned blue.

I lifted my hand but couldn't see it. I felt a pain in my wrist and then my head. Then I felt like I was on fire.

"Gah!" I sat up and opened my eyes. I looked around. I looked around. I was in a dark room. I shut my eyes and turned on my night vision.

I was in a bed room. I looked to my left and Jacen was in a deep sleep in another bed on the other side of the room. I laid back down and let out a deep breath. I shut my eyes and tried to go to sleep.

CHAPTER VII

I must have twisted and turned for 30 minutes. I couldn't stop thinking about my sister. She was somewhere out there in the clutches of that evil man.

I sat up, I only have two more days. If I don't do anything she will die. I slouched forward and put my face in my hands. I stood up and turned on my night vision and headed across the room. The door opened. I stopped and looked at Jacen sleeping in his bed on the left side of the room.

I promised and I will save her. Even if it means I have to rot in a block of concrete for the rest of my life. I entered the spacious main lab. The lights were turned off. I made way to my left towards the exit.

"Where are you going boy?"

I looked over the balcony to see Marty standing on the floor below. "I'm just heading out to.. uh.. the bathroom."

"Right.. well, why don't you hold your fluids and come down here." He replied.

I made my way down the stairs. We went into a door where there were a few seats and couches in a circle around

a table; much like your average living room. A brief case was on the table. The lights turned on.

"Sit down my friend" He said.

I turned my night vision off and rubbed my eyes and sat down in one of the chairs.

He sat down. "Alright Mr. Obipor, what are you doing at the early hour of" He looked at his watch. "2 o'clock in the morning."

"I couldn't sleep." I replied "Did I do something?"

"Not yet, Michel has informed me of the task you have been given by your ransomers."

I looked down at my feet and gagged. "I'm sorry Marty, but I don't know what to do. I-"

"Calm down Tenoptry, I'm not going to stop you but I am going to present you with an alternative." He opened the brief case and pulled out a syringe and held it out to me. "Inject this."

I took it from him and looked at it. "What is it?"

"It's to help with that problem of yours that you had earlier."

I injected it into my arm. "No more bullet problems?"

"Well.." He sat there for a moment. "I'm sorry Tenoptry."

I put my hand on my gut. I felt like puking. I fell out of my chair on my side, gasping for every breath.

The door opened. Michel stood in the door way and looked at me. She ran over. "Tenoptry!" She flipped me over. "What did you do!?" She exclaimed. She banged his chest with her fists. "You promised you wouldn't hurt him."

"Calm down Michel," he grabbed her by her shoulders. "He was going to kill the president! I couldn't let him do that. It would lead World War IV. Life as we know it--"

"You were supposed to help us find his sister!" She yelled at him. She kneeled next to me and looked at me with her green starlit eyes. She looked at Marty. She stroked my hair. She laid me on my back. "Fix him and help us find his sister."

He just stared at us.

Michel began to sob. She looked at me. "I'm sorry Tenoptry." She kissed me on the mouth. Her tears ran from her cheek to mine. She sat up. "I will bring you back, I promise"

I shut my eyes. I thought I had died right there.

* * * * *

When I opened my eyes I was flung over Jacen's shoulder like a sack of potatoes running through the night.

"Hurry up Jacen!" Michel said.

I let out a groan.

"Michel, I think he is waking up." Jacen said.

"Keep running. Were almost at the copter." She replied.

We got to the copter. Michel put down the brief case she was carrying and started feeling around looking for the copters door handle. "How do we open it!" She exclaimed.

Jacen leaned me against a support. He started to feel around the copter. I turned on my night vision. "I can't find it!" He said.

"Jaden open the door." I said. The door opened. Michel looked at me.

She grabbed under my arms. "Help me get him in." She said. Jacen grabbed my legs and lifted me up into the copter.

"Where are we going Master?" Jaden asked from the helicopter.

"Take us to the other lab" I said laying in the back seat.

The blades of the copter began to whirl around and the helicopter lifted off from the ground. I sat up and looked out the window. Marty ran outside from the helicopter pad. He waved his arms and jumped up and down.

I laid back down. Michel turned around from the front seat. She got up and sat next to me.

"What's happening?" I asked. "What day is it?"

"You have been out for one day. Jacen and I brought you out of your incarceration. Marty was going to put you completely out of commission but its okay now."

"Where is my phone?" I asked. She gave me my cell phone from her pocket. I looked at it. It had 2 missed calls. I called the numbers. It said that the number I had dialed is no longer in use. My body tensed up. I leaned my head against the wall.

"Is everything okay?" Michel asked.

"No, Vladimir called me twice and I can't call him back."

"What are you going to do?" she asked.

I looked into Michel's eyes. "I'm not sure." I looked out the window. The Blue blur of the Ocean was below. I let out a sigh. Michel put her hand on my back and rubbed softly.

"Master, we will be at the house shortly." Jaden said. I looked out the window. To see the world wiz by below. We suddenly stopped over a grassy field above a run down barn. The sun was about to set. We began to descend. The barns roof opened up. We landed on the helicopter pad. The barn was just big enough to hold the helicopter.

I jumped out. Michel tossed me the brief case she had grabbed from the other lab. I opened it up. I pulled out a black shirt and black pants. Underneath that, three syringes of the blue liquid for my Soul Computer laid in hard foam as well as my pistol and silencer. I put the cloths back and shut it.

Jacen walked up behind me. "What's the plan?"

I looked at my watch. It was 6:15. The president's speech started in five minutes at the Jackson Center in New York.

"I'm going to do it." I said. I took the brief case and got back in the copter. "You guys stay here."

Michel ran up to the helicopter. "Tenoptry, there has to be a better way."

"I'm sorry Michel, I have to. I-"

Bling Bling

I put my hand in my pocket and pulled out my phone.

"I have to go Michel. Jaden shut the door." The door shut. I looked out the window. Michel looked as if she was going to cry.

"Where to Master?" Jaden asked.

"Oh uhh, the Jackson Center." I said. I sat down and answered the phone. My hands were shaking. We began to ascend.

"Where have you been Mr. Obipor? You know that you not answering your phone isn't very responsible." Vladimir's voice said over the phone.

"I'm sorry. I-"

"I don't need an excuse. Just are you going to execute President Waltson or not?"

I bit my lip. My hands struggled to keep the phone steady.

"Well?" He asked.

"Yes Yeah. I'm going to kill him."

"Good. Call me before you take the shot." He hung up the phone.

I put the phone down next to me. I looked at the brief case in the passenger seat. I grabbed it and opened it. I pulled out the shirt and pants and threw them in the back. I went to the back where there was a little bit more

changing room. I put the pants and shirt on. It was light and comfortable. I switched my invisibility on. Me and my cloths disappeared. I turned it off again. Pulled the pistol out and put it the built in holster attached on my pants. I grabbed my cell phone and knife from my old pants pocket. I took the syringes from the brief case. I let out a deep breath.

I looked out the window to see the tall buildings of New York below.

"Jaden I need you to drop me off right here. I don't want them to see the copter coming."

"Right away Master." We descended downward to one of the sides of a building. I hopped out. "Master?" I turned around "What are you going to do?" Jaden asked

I paused. "I'm not sure. Can you just come in if I need help?"

"Of course Master."

I looked over the edge of the building toward the Jackson Center. "You can go now Jaden."

The helicopter flew away. I let out a sigh. I turned and ran toward the elevator doors and pushed the button and went inside. We got to the 40th floor when it stopped. The

doors opened and a man walked in wearing a suit and tie. We both stood there in awkward silence. He glanced over at me.

"So.. are you like a ninja or something?" He smiled.

I looked at him and gave him a quick smirk then continued to wait for the elevator to reach the first floor.

"Are you a police officer?" He asked.

I looked at him surprised.

He pointed at my side. "You have a gun."

I put my hand on the back of my neck. "Uhh.. yes." I replied. "I'm a... special police officer."

"Oh.." He replied. "You look a little young to be a police officer."

A bell rang and the elevator doors opened. I looked at him. "I actually have to go right now. Uhh.. yeah." I walked out of the elevator quickly and pressed one of the buttons on my way out. The doors shut and the elevator quickly ascended to floor 193.

I left the large office building. It was dark out side. I turned on my night vision. I looked toward the Jackson Center. It was roughly 4 Miles away. I squinted and focused on the building. My eyes zoomed in. The place was crawling with security guards. I let out a sigh. My eyes

adjusted back to normal. I began to run toward the building.

I turned on my invisibility to avoid anymore unwanted attention. I began to sprint. I looked at my watch. It was almost 7:00. The speech ended at 8:00. The street lights luminated the side walk. I saw a man in front of me waving his hand around with a brief case in the other.

"Taxi!" He yelled. A taxi pulled up the door opened.

"Where to?" The driver asked. I stopped running.

"To the Jackson Center." He replied. He got in.

I quickly ran into the taxi and sat next to the man right as the door shut behind me. The car began to continue down the street toward President Watson's speech.

"Do you mind if I turn on the radio?" The taxi driver asked. "I would like to hear what our President has to say."

"Go right ahead." the man replied. He set his brief case in between him and me.

The taxi driver turned on the radio.

-safety and peace. We are working on cleaning up our major issues with Russia. In these next four years I will be changing our nation into something promising, something wonderful; A country that we can undoubtedly be proud of.

"That's good," the taxi driver said. "I don't know if our country could with stand another war with them. I really think he can turn our country around."

"Yeah, I don't know though," The other man replied. "I'm a little skeptical though. He is only one man."

"That's true I guess. I'm just trying to be optimistic. Our tensions with Russia are high right now and I really believe he can make sure they don't try and pull anything."

Their conversation settled after that. I stared out the window. Rain began to come down from the night sky. I felt like dieing. I still could not believe what I was about to perform.

"Were here" The taxi driver said.

The door opened. I turned off my night vision and I got out and made my way toward the building.

Security guards waited at the gate. I would need to go through a meddle detector to get into the building.

I looked behind me. The man from the taxi walked toward the building. He gave the brief case to the security guard and began to head in.

I followed as close behind him as humanly possible as we went through the meddle detector.

BUZZ

"Sir I'm going to have to search you." One of the security guards said.

"I could have sworn I wasn't wearing any meddle." The man replied.

"I'm sorry sir." He began to search him.

He let out a sigh.

I walked behind them and continued toward the building. It was about 30 yards off. The area had a flag pole in the center of multiple side walks that branched out. The building was in front. People were mingling about politics under tents.

I made my way across to the front and tried to pull on the door handle. It was locked. It needed a key card to open. I let out a sigh. I looked around. I saw windows at toward the roof of the tall building but they were barred. I began to walk off, when the man from earlier walked up and opened inserted his key card and opened the door. I quickly ran and toward the door. I grabbed the handle. It had already shut.

"Dang it." I said in frustration.

"Can I assist you Master?"

I looked at my wrist. (or where it would be if I could see it.) "Not really Jaden, I'm just having trouble getting into a building with a card lock on it."

"Why don't you just borrow one Master?"

"From who? All the people out here would be inside if they had a key."

"From a security guard of course."

I looked at one of the security guards. The card was around his neck. "Jaden, there is no way I'm going to be able to get it off of his neck."

"Nock him out. That's what I would do if I had limbs."

"Fine."

I looked around for anything that I could use to lure him into a darker spot. I don't want to just have a security guard fall down where everyone could see him.

I looked at two guards standing around toward one of the corners of the building talking. They looked very agitated.

"It's your turn to guard the entrance next to the port-potties!" He took a sip of his Dr. Pepper.

"Come on man, can't you? It makes me gag standing next to those things."

"They don't even smell that bad."

The other man frowned. "Will you give me your Dr. Pepper if I go over there?"

He held out his Dr. Pepper. "Fine."

I slapped the Dr. Pepper in the other ones face.

He whipped the soda from his face. "What the heck man? Now I have to wash all this off. You know what? You can go work the port-potty entrance now." He began to head toward the front door. This was a much better plan. He slid the card in the key card slot and we both went in. He headed down the right corridor behind all the seats. I looked over the crowds of people to see the president at the podium.

I shut my eyes and whipped my face and put my hand over my mouth. My felt like my heart was going to erupt from my chest.

I entered the large room. People were all sitting in there seats listening intently. I looked up to see rafters in the shadows. That was going to be where I took my shot. I looked to my left, there was a thin mettles pillar. I grabbed it and shimmied up it. I got to toward the top. I looked down. It was a long ways to the floor. I reached out my hand and grabbed the edge of the rafter. I pulled myself up.

I stood up 20 feet in the air. I shook my head and shut my eyes. I don't know if I could do this. My hands were shaking.

I felt a shock on my wrist. I looked at my invisible Soul Computer. I turned visible so I could see it. Michel was calling me. I answered.

"Hello?" I whispered.

"Hey, Tenoptry, I just wanted to try and-

Beep Beep

"Just a second.

I pulled out my phone Vladimir was calling me.

I hit talk.

"Hello?" I said.

"Well.. are you going to take the shot or aren't you?"

"Yes I'm going to. I'm in the rafters right now." I replied.

"Tenoptry you can't!" Michel said from the Soul Computer.

"Who is that? " Vladimir asked.

"You can't kill him Tenoptry!" She exclaimed.

I reached into my holster and pulled out the pistol I turned my invisibility on.

"Hello?! Tenoptry? Answer me. The speech is almost over." Vladimir said angrily.

All these voices were overwhelming me. My hands were shaking. I dropped my phone next to me and hung up on Michel. I took a deep breath. I tried to hold my hand steady. I tried to squeeze the trigger. I exhaled in a stutter. I held the gun to my side again. I inhaled and exhaled deeply. I grabbed it with two hands and focused in on the Presidents Walton's head again.

I took a deep breath.

CHAPTER IIX (draft 1)

I squeezed.

Bang

The world had just fallen before me. I just stared at the chaos that lied before me; Spectators ran about in mobs trampling each other in fear; security looking around trying to find the shooter. President Waltson laid on the ground in a pool of his own blood.

What had I done?

I leaned my head back against the pillar I had been using to hold myself steady. I shut my eyes. The screams of the people burned in my ears.

I picked up the phone and held it up to my ear.

"It's done..." I said.

"Good, now turn yourself in."

"What!?" I yelled in a hushed tone

"Turn yourself in, or your sister dies."

"That wasn't the plan Vlad!"

"I lied Mr. Obipor. I hold all the cards. I want the whole world to know who killed the President of the United States."

"Now?!"

"Yes, Turn yourself in and don't tell them your name."

"I don't see the point of me turning my--"

"Do it now or your sister will die." Vlad said angrily.

He hung up the phone.

I put the phone in my pocket. I slid down the pillar. I walked through the mobs of people toward the podium. My head was throbbing. People were shoving me the other direction as I was trying to weave through the crowd. Everything was growing blurry. I fell to one knee trying to support myself.

What was wrong with me. I got pushed over and fell on my face. I tried to push myself up. Someone wrapped there arms around me.

I blacked out.

I opened my eyes. Everything was black. I turned my night vision on. I was in a crate. I pushed up on the lid. Something slammed it shut again.

I listened.

"I'm just taking this box out to a store in lock."

"Well I'm going to have to check it."

I turned invisible. The lid came off. I looked up to see a clean cut man.

He brushed his chin. "It's empty." He said in a confused tone.

Marty looked into the box. "Yep, that's empty all right." He smiled and put the lid back on. "Can I go?"

"Pfft yeah, there is nothing dangerous about an empty box."

I turned on my thermal vision. I hadn't gotten used to it but right now seemed like a practical time to use it.

Marty pushed my box that was on a levitating platform. We were exiting the Jackson Center courtyard. There were no people around. We moved across the open field.

"Marty? What happened?" I said.

"Shh"

We walked to the front gate. He waved at the man on guard. He waved back as we continued past him. He walked me across the street. He put me in the back of a semi truck and shut the door.

I turned my thermal off and looked around in the truck. We started moving. It was empty if you excluded the box I was in.

"I should end this right now."

I turned around. Marty was in the door to the front of the truck.

"Why haven't you?" I asked.

"I can't bring myself to it." He replied.

"You were going to do it earlier. What's stopping you now?"

He walked in and sat on the ground in front of me against one of the walls of the truck. He looked at the floor of the truck. "I just can't. I couldn't do it before either." He paused. "I was about to, but I couldn't. I created who you are." He let out a sigh and looked up at me and smiled.

I sat down against the opposite wall with my legs extended. "What do I do Marty? I killed a man;" I leaned my head against the wall "and not just any man! I killed the President!"

It was silent in the room.

"Tenoptry, there is a new threat."

A shock went through my spine. I looked at him.

"Vladimir has hid himself from the world and is threatening the United States with nuclear warfare." Marty said.

"What can I do?"

"I need you to work with me. I need you to find Vladimir and stop him."

"How, I have no idea where he could be or how I could find him." I stood up and put my hands behind my head.

Marty stood up and came over and sat next to me. "Well, maybe I can help with that." He held out his hand. "Let me see your phone."

I gave him my phone. He pulled off the back and took out the memory card.

"What are you going to do?" I asked.

He stood up and ran to the front of the truck. "I'm going to find our adversary!"

I followed him into the cockpit of the truck. He sat down in and put the card into a slot in his dash board.

"Jaden find Vladimir" Marty said.

"Right away Master. Just give me a moment to process the information and I'll have it for you."

Marty clasped his hands and smiled "Good" He sat back in his chair and put his feet on the dash board and let out a sigh. He looked at me.

"How are you Mr. Obipor?"

"Me? Well I'm-

crash The truck veird to the left. I fell into the other driver seat.

I rolled down the window and looked outside. I couldn't see what hit us. I turned my thermal vision on. I saw another directly behind the car trying to brake through the back.

"Uh oh, Marty, we have a problem."

"What would that be?" He asked.

The back of the semi opened up. "Well I think it's pretty obvious now don't you?" I said sarcastically.

They started walking into the truck.

"Do we have any weapons or anything?" I asked.

Marty smirked, "We have you."

I gave a nervous laugh "Yeah, thanks." I disabled the auto pilot on the truck "Why don't we try this."

The steering wheel came out of the dash board. I grabbed the wheel and hit the accelerator. "What are you doing!" Marty exclaimed.

"I'm driving isn't that obvious?"

"Tenoptry I hate to be a downer but were going at an extremely high velocity of" He looked at the speed dial. "90 miles per hour already and the traffic is starting to thinking."

People were starting to get into the truck. I turned the speed knob all the way up.

"Tenoptry!"

"Would you stop whining, I can't focus." We started to pull away from the car but we were coming up on the car in front of us. "Marty, can you disable the auto brake and switch the drive mode to foot peddles." I swerved the truck into my right lane. Marty pushed a button next to the speed dial and I felt the peddles under my feet.

The car was gaining on us again. I slammed the accelerator. I honked the horn on the truck. Our speed had reached 130 mph. The cars were starting to slow us down. People were getting out of the way. The truck was hard to maneuver.

Marty pointed to the right side of the free way. "Get on this exit!"

"There are cars in the way!"

"Hurry, were coming up on it fast."

"Ughhh..." I said. I swerved through the lanes I almost clipped a few cars.

"You better slow down or you're going to launch us off the exit or into another car." Marty said.

The truck began to swerve off the road. I turned the wheel really hard to try and keep it stable. The car was on our tale.

The car magnetically latched itself to the back end of the truck.

We reached the high way. It was a little more barren than the free way.

I looked back. Men were starting to exit from the roof of there with guns in hand.

"err... take the wheel for a sec, I'm going to see what I can do about our friends in the other car." I got out of my seat and Marty grabbed the wheel in an uncomfortable manner.

I ran back and hid behind the box and turned invisible. The man got in the truck and walked up to Marty.

He held a gun to Marty's head. I came behind him and grabbed him around the neck.

He hit me in the gut with his elbow and toppled us both over.

He got up and looked around to find me.

"I know where you are. I'll find you." He was looking around. He held a pistol in his hand. He threw a device on the floor of the truck. It let out an electrical pulse. I suddenly found myself being visible.

He held the scoped pistol up to my head. "There you are" The man grunted. I put my hands up. "It's time to die friend."

"Jaden drop the bed of the semi" I yelled.

"Right away Master"

The bed of the truck began to drift away from the cockpit of the truck.

The man looked toward the front of the truck. I slapped the gun out of his hand and then punched him in the face. He fell to the ground and I ran to the door that lead to the truck that Marty was in which was drifting away.

I ran and dove through the air. I grabbed the back of the truck. My legs were dangling just above the ground due to the speed of the truck.

I looked back. The man picked up his gun and took a shot. It hit one of my hands. I let go with one of my hands.

I looked at the concrete of the road below as it whizzed below. I looked up again. "Marty! Marty! Help me right now!" I yelled. I tried to pull my other hand back up but I couldn't do it at the speed we were going.

Marty ran to the door that used to lead to the bed of the truck. A bullet whizzed by his head and hit the windshield. Marty screamed a bit.

He knelt down and grabbed my hand. He braced himself with his legs. "Okay, let go!" He yelled over the wind.

I let go and my body was parallel to the ground. My arm began to hurt. He started to stand up. I looked at Marty's face as he tried to pull me in. He reached back and grabbed the steering wheel and pulled us back into the truck. I pulled my legs in and shut the door and sat down in the passenger seat and let out a deep breath.

It felt so good to be in the car again.

"That was fun." I said sarcastically. I looked at my soul computer. It was at 85%.

"Were almost at the lab" Marty lab.

"I looked up. Did we find Vladimir yet."

"Of course" Jaden piped in. "I have had him for a while but you weren't exactly listening."

"Well, Jaden it's kind of hard to listen when you're dangling out of the back of a car going 130 miles per hour." I replied.

"Well--"

"Would you two stop arguing" Marty interrupted. "We have bigger things to deal with."

"Where is he though?" I asked.

"He is on some sort of air base above the Gulf of Mexico" Marty replied. "We will have to use the helicopter to get there."

"Sounds good" I replied. I looked out the window. We were almost to Marty's house. It would be nice to see Michel and Jacen faces again.

We sat there in silence for the rest of the way there. It was a nice brake from all the chaos of the world though. Even though it only lasted about five minutes.

We stopped on the side of the road next to Marty's house. Me and Marty hopped out and went into the house.

Michel was reading a book and Jacen was watching TV.

"Hey guys." I said.

Michel looked up at me and ignored me. My heart sank a little bit.

Marty clasped his hands together. "Soo..." Marty said "We found out where Vladimir is."

"Really" Jacen said, "What are we gonna do?"

"We're going to end this here and now." I replied. "He has thrown the world into chaos and it's time to make things right."

Michel stood up. "No, that was you." She said as she stormed into the office.

I let out a sigh and followed her where she sat in the office chair facing the computer. "Michel, I'm sorry... what should I have done? I know I did wrong."

"You could of... I don't know!" She with a snap in her voice. "You shouldn't have done that. You can't just murder people. You can't choose who lives and who dies. It's not right and you know it."

I looked at the floor. I felt horrible. I did know it. I had to though, but she was right. I felt torn, I could never make it right again.

"Michel... I'll..." I paused.

"You'll what?"

"I don't know... I just.. I can't fix it. I don't know how."

"Yeah..."

"Can you just help me end this? I'll turn myself in when were done. I'll face up to the consequences."

She stood up and looked me in the eyes. "Okay." She wrapped her arms around me. "I know this isn't fair Tenoptry. I'm sorry."

"Me too... Me too."

CHAPTER IX

I walked into the living room where Jacen and Marty were seated.

I stood before them with Michel behind me. "Alright, we need to finish this. We know where Vladimir is located. I'm done being manipulated by the power he has over me. We are going to go in and save my sister and stop him from destroying United States."

It was silent in the room for a moment. It was a little awkward.

"Okay then, so let's go." Jacen said.

Marty stood up. "Let's finish this then." He walked around me into the office. "Follow me."

The bookshelf opened and we followed him down into the Lab. "Jaden, Bring in the jet." Marty commanded with excitement in his tone.

The first floor opened up where all the balconies met in the middle. A black jet rose out from the ground. It was almost completely vertical. It was so big the ceiling opened up.

Jacen stared in awe of its beauty. "Wow...That is pretty much amazing."

Marty began to walk across the balcony that led to the door. "Come along friends. We have a lot to do and not a lot of time I'm sure."

We followed him to the jet. Marty just seemed to walk up the almost impossible incline like there was no problem. I stepped in half expecting me to fall all the way to the back of the jet. I followed Marty to the pilot seats.

"Take a seat." Marty said with a grin. "I need a good co-pilot."

I looked back at Michel and Jacen. Jacen had loved planes since he was born. I really wanted to co-pilot but... I thought Jacen would enjoy and understand the piloting system better than me.

"Hey Jacen," He looked up from admiring technology of the plane. "Marty needs a good co-pilot."

He ran up to the front of the plane almost in a prance. "Really?!" His smile almost engulfed his whole face. He jumped into the co-pilot seat and put on the head set. He grabbed the steering mechanism in front of him. "Let's get this guy!"

I walked back and sat next to Michel and put my harness on.

Marty sat down and put his head set on. "Alright, are you guys ready?" He shouted.

I looked at Michel who looked like she was going to melt into mush. I didn't see what the big deal was but whatever. I laughed a bit at her facial expression.

I leaned over to her. "What's wrong?"

"Were going to explode! I know it!"

I didn't see the problem. She was fine when we went on the helicopter. I grinned. "Michel, Were not going to explode."

"Well I don't care if you're ready or not because were going." Marty shouted. "Were going to be leaving in 3... 2..." He grabbed a lever. "3!" He pulled it back.

Michel put her hands over her face. I looked out the window. We were already out in the night sky. I couldn't feel the lift off almost at all.

"Uhh Michel, you can open your eyes." I chuckled.

She pulled her hands off her face and looked out the window. She let out a sigh.

"Are you going to be okay?" I asked.

She crossed her arms and leaned back in her chair.

"Yes, I'm fine."

Marty told Jacen to take over for a bit and turned around and looked at me and Michel.

"Okay," He said, "Were going to be coming up on the air base very quickly. I don't know what to expect yet but were going to go into stealth mode and try to land. Tenoptry, were going to drop you off because you are the only person who can get around unseen. We will wait for you to get back but I need you to hurry. If we're spotted then we will have to lift off. Understand?"

I nodded my head.

"Okay good." He turned around and pulled a lever and all the windows shut.

I sat their. I pulled out my gun and check the ammunition. I still had plenty of rounds left. I put my hand in my pocket. I felt my knife inside its sheath.

I took a deep breath and sat. I looked at my Soul Computer. It still read 85%.

"Marty do you have any more syringes of that stuff?" I asked.

"Yeah, it's on the desk in the back in a brief case. You can go get it."

"Okay." I unbuckled my seat belt and headed toward the back of the jet. I went into the second corridor and went

to the desk. I couldn't find the brief case on top of it. I looked under the desk. It wasn't there. I put my hands through my red hair. "Hmmm..."

I opened one of the drawers. I accidentally pulled it out to far and papers and pencils got everywhere.

"Dang it."

I grabbed the pieces of paper and was about to put it in the drawer when I saw a picture. I set the papers on the desk and pulled the picture out and sat down. It was a picture of a red headed man with a much younger Marty. Marty had his hand around a woman. They stood in front of a building with a big sign that read "Soular Industries" In big blue letters. It looked like it was taken in the late 2000s.

The other man puzzled me. It was almost like looking into a mirror. I suppose I was a clone of somebody though. If I had to pick somebody it would probably be that man right their.

It had never occurred to me though; the fact I was indeed a clone. I had never felt such a strange combination of curiosity and sadness. Being a clone of somebody felt kind of degrading in a twisted sort of way but I also was curious of whom I was cloned.

I put my hand on my head.

My brain was hurt from all this comprehension. I put the picture away and put the papers back on top of it and put the drawer back into the desk.

I saw the brief case in between the desk and the wall.

"Oh there it is."

I grabbed it and put it on the desk and opened it. I found the syringes and some ammunition for my pistol. I shut it and ran back to my seat.

"What took you so long?" Michel asked.

"It wasn't on the desk." I said in an exaggerated tone.

Marty glanced back. "Sorry, I haven't been in here for a while. I thought it was on the desk. Were coming up on the base soon anyway, so hold on tight."

I waited for a second expecting an impact.

"Alright, were here," Marty said.

"This thing lands amazingly." Jacen said.

"Yes, I do enjoy the idea of a stealthy landing."

Marty replied. He looked back. "Alright, go on boy, save your sister and kill Vladimir. We'll wait for you here. Just be careful."

The lights turned off. I turned my night vision on. I went down and the door opened up and I hopped out into the night. The wind almost blew me over.

I stabilized myself and turned on my invisibility. I took a deep breath. The ship was huge. Where was I going to start looking in order to find my sister?

I saw guards walking around with flashlights. I decided that I was going to grab one of the guards and interrogate him. I didn't like threatening people. It was the only way.

I walked over behind one of the quartering buildings. I saw a guard waiting outside the entrance.

I let out a sigh. "Here goes nothing." I began to walk up behind him. My adrenalin was starting kick in. I had to stay cool though or I would make to much noise. I stepped lightly on the ground. I pulled out my knife and unleashed the blade from its hilt. I stood behind him and shut my eyes for a moment to get into focus.

I grabbed him and held the knife to his throat.

"What the!?! What's going on?" He said nervously.

"Don't say anything." I said in my gruffest voice possible.

"Yes sir.. I mean... I'll be quite"

I pulled him into the shadows and pulled out my gun.

I put pressure on him with my knife. "Okay, kneel down here with your hands behind your head.." I held my gun to his head. "Don't turn around."

"Yes sir.." He said "Why are you doing this?"

"Is there a little girl being held on the air base." I asked.

"Yes, of course. You-

"Where?!" I held the gun closer to his head.

"Umm... Umm.. in the detention block. Just go into the quartering block and head down stairs and it's the first cell on your uhhh... right.. yes the right cell."

"Good, good." I said in an intimidating tone.

I had gotten what I had wanted, but... now I don't know what to do with the man. I suppose I could hit him with the butt of my gun. I didn't want to shoot him or slit his throat.

I let out a sigh.

The man started to glance back. "Is something wrong sir?" He asked.

"Don't turn around... just hold still."

"Sir?"

I pulled my gun back and swung it downward and hit him on his head. He fell to the side and laid there. I grabbed his card key from his pocket.

"Okay, time to get my sister." I put my gun back into my holster and headed into the quartering building. There was a long hallway with cream painted walls. It felt kind of homey actually. There were stairs to my right. I turned my night vision off as I headed down the stairs. I went down several flights of stairs before I reached to cell blocks.

I got to the last floor and tried to open the mettles door. It was locked. I felt stupid for thinking it would be unlocked. I turned on my thermal vision. There was a figure of a small girl lying on a bed huddled up in ball. I slid the card key into the slot and opened the door. I turned visible.

I walked in and shut the door. I kneeled beside the bed and took the blankets off of her face.

I stroked her blond hair "Elizabeth?"

She opened her beautiful blue eyes and smiled. "You're here to-

"Shhs shh we got to be quiet"

"Oh," She smiled "You're here to rescue me." She whispered. She wrapped her small arms around my neck. A tear drop came down from my eye.

"Tenoptry, Why are you crying?"

I held her back and looked into her in the eyes.

"No reason." I sniffled. "Are you ready to go?"

She held out a cell phone. "Mhm, The nice man told me to give this to you. He said that you should call him or something bad was going to happen."

I looked at the phone and opened it. I called the only contact inside the phone. It rang twice.

"Hello Mr. Obipor." The gruff voice of Vladimir's voice echoed through the speaker. "Did you have a touching reunion?"

"What do you want? You-" I looked at Elizabeth who was listening intently "You female dog" My voice trailed off.

He laughed "You have a real potty mouth. Anyway, Mr. Obipor. I just thought I would talk to you one more time before you became invisible permanently."

"What do you mean?"

"You see, when you opened your sister's door it triggered a timer that will go off mmm... I gave you about 5

minutes I think but I don't remember. It doesn't matter. You're as good as dead. Tatah."

The phone hung up.

"Crap."

"Tenoptry, Mama doesn't like it when you use that word." Elizabeth scolded.

I grabbed Elizabeth and ran out the door. "I'm sorry but we need to get out now."

In the halls there was a timer where the digital clocks used to be. There was one minute left. I began to sprint up the stairs. I needed to make it. I ran up the stairs with Elizabeth thrown over my shoulder.

"Tenoptry what's wrong?" Elizabeth asked.

"Nothing, were going to be fine. I promise. Just stay calm"

By the time I had made it to ground level there was 30 sec. left.

There were guards outside still I was sure of it. I covered Elizabeth the best I could and ran out. I needed to make it to the jet.

I opened the door.

A flashlight's beam flew over to where I was standing. "There's someone on the bridge!" A guard yelled.

"Keep your head down Elizabeth and cover your ears." I said.

Gunshots rang out. I got shot in the back.

Elizabeth screamed. I was not going to fail, not now. I kept running. My soul computer read 75.

I got shot again, this time in the back of the head. My soul computer read 57%.

The jet turned visible. I could see the door.

I got shot a few more times. 43%, 27%, 19%.

I made it a few feet from the door. I got shot in the head again. I fell to the ground. My soul computer read 5%.

Michel ran out and grabbed Elizabeth. She tried to grab me.

"NO, Go now! There is a bomb!?"

"Not without you!?" She grunted as she struggled to drag me to the door. Jacen reached down and grabbed Elizabeth and put her down inside. He then grabbed my arms and Michel lifted me up by my legs and put me in. She started to pull herself in. A bullet grazed her head.

She screamed as she fell out of the plane on her back.

"No!"

"Go!" She yelled "there is no time!"

"No! Jacen get here!" I yelled.

Jacen reached down but she pulled away.

She threw something into the plane it landed on my chest. An explosion went off at the bridge.

The door shut.

"NO!!" I yelled.

I injected myself with the syringe and tried to open the door but we were already in the air.

Below I saw the air base fall into the Gulf of Mexico in a ball of fire. We speed off before I could see anything else.

It was silent... I stood up and went into the office. I threw the desk on the floor. I sat against the wall in the dark. I shut my eyes. I sat huddled up in the corner of that office for I don't know how long. I couldn't even bring myself to cry.

Vladimir... will die...

CHAPTER X

"Tenoptry" I looked up to see the silhouette of my 7 year old sister. "are you okay?"

"Yeah, I'll be alright."

She came up to me and wrapped her small arms around me. I put my arms around her.

"It will be okay Tenoptry, Michel is in heaven now."

I pulled her back and looked at her. "Your right." I smiled. "Everything will be fine."

Inside I knew all was not fine though. I felt angry, I felt pain but strangely I also felt nothing almost.

Elizabeth looked at me and smiled. She held her hand out in a fist. She unclasped her fingers. Inside was a locket, she placed it in my hand. "I found it on the floor."

I opened it. It was a picture of Michel and me. I felt the cold metal of the locket in-between my fingers. I closed it again.

"Tenoptry" I looked up at Marty.

"Yes?" I replied.

"We found him."

I stood up. "Where is he?"

"He is in Russia, we are going there right now. We will be there soon."

"Russia? Hmm... okay, well when will we get there?"

"Very soon." He replied. "I suggest you go take a seat till we arrive."

Marty left the room and I followed him into the cockpit of the plane where Jacen was flying the plane. I sat down and looked at the cockpit.

"We're making our descent soon." Jacen piped in. "You better buckle up."

The plane started to descend. I looked out the window. The terrain was snow covered. We landed in a clearing. The landing site seemed far from civilization.

I let out a sigh. I didn't really like cold weather but I suppose that I was going to just have to suck it up.

We landed on the ground. The plane skidded along the ice.

Marty grabbed the stick in front of him and stabilized the landing. "Would you be careful Jacen?! This isn't your plane!"

Jacen smiled a bit and let go of his controls so Marty could have complete control of the plane.

The plane stopped sliding on the ice. "Sorry" Jacen said in a chuckle. I laughed a bit myself

Marty put the control stick down and turned to around in his chair. "Alright, we need to get to the lab unseen." There was an awkward pause.

"Sooooo what are we going to do?" I asked.

"Well... I'm not sure. I have been looking at the lay out of the building and it's security seems pretty tight."

"Let me have a look at it" I said.

Marty turned around and grabbed the buildings schismatic. He held out the hologram of the building.

The building seemed big. There was a big center room and lots of corridors. Around the facility were watch towers. There were corridors below the building. They seemed strange though. They were smaller and went from inside to outside.

I pointed at the lower corridor "What are these?"

"That's the old plumbing. It would be almost impossible for a person of your size to go through there. Besides it's flooded with... err fluids."

I looked at the small pipes. I didn't really know what to do. It seemed like the best way to go. There was no way that I would get detected but I wasn't very comfortable

with the whole cramped space plus who knows what the smell would be like down there. I needed to get in there though.

I let out a sigh. "I think that's the best we can do Marty."

"You sure you want to go that way?"

I stood up. "Yes, Let's go." I walked over to the door of the plane.

"What do you want us to do?" Jacen asked

"I want you to stay here and watch Elizabeth. Alright?"

Jacen nodded his head.

The door opened outside of the plane. I looked out into the open world. I hopped out and the snow crunched under my shoes. It was uncomfortably cold.

I clinched put my hands in my pocket and felt Michel's locket. I will find Vladimir. I will avenge her.

I started to trudge through the snow. It was getting into my shoes. I hate the cold.

I pulled my wrist up to my mouth. "Marty, do you think you could have landed closer to the plane?"

Marty laughed through the com. "Sorry Tenoptry, I think we are almost to close now even. Just keep walking

the direction your walking. You'll be there in about an hour or two at the rate your walking."

I let out a sigh. I did not want to walk for an hour in this weather. The wind felt like it was slicing through my skin. I breathed in my hands to try and keep warm. I rubbed them together. My feet were starting to go numb. I continued for a bout an hour. I could see the building. It was a lone building; all by itself in the open. I found it strange.

"Alright Marty, where do I go in at."

"It should be actually a few yards in front of you."

He replied.

I walked for ward about three yards.

"Alright, stop." Marty said. "It should be right under your feet."

I squatted. I brushed the snow around. My hands brushed up against the solid ground. I felt the mettle under my finger tips. I found the edge of the lid to the sewer. I tried to squeeze my fingers around the edge but there was no way in the world I was going to lift this thing.

I sat down in the snow, "Dang it." I said frustrated.

"What's wrong Master?" I looked at my watch.

"Jaden, I'm cold, I'm tired, frustrated and I don't know what to do! I can't open this dumb... whatever this lid thing is called and it's stupid!" I covered my face in my hands to try and keep warm.

"You should just pull out your knife and cut it open Master."

"It's mettle! You can't cut it open with a knife."

"Well, not your knife. Don't be stupid, use your Souler Knife."

"What?!"

"The knife on your wrist. Just put your hand into a fist and push on your Soul Computer."

I followed his instructions and a pinkish red light came from my wrist. It was long and pointed at the end. Electrical pulses flowed through the beam.

"Why didn't you tell me about this earlier!?" I asked.

"Because you didn't need it. I'm only instructed to tell you what you need. If I told you everything and something happened then you might be too powerful to stop."

This answer made me a little angry. I suppose I couldn't blame Marty or Jaden for this limitation of knowledge but... I don't know. I could see their reasoning from their perspective.

I sat up and pushed the blade of light into the mettle. It melted. The heat from the burning mettle felt good. It was almost too hot to bare though. I was making around the circular lid "Anything else I should know?" I said as in an exaggerated tone.

"Nothing you can know now. Just talk to me if you run into another problem. I am here to help you Master."

The lid fell into the water below. It smelt nauseating. It was the worst thing I had ever smelt. I put my face into the whole to see if I could even breathe in there. I pulled my face out. I gagged.

I had to go in. I just wouldn't think about it. I looked at the whole. Here goes nothing. I grabbed my nose and hopped in. The liquid came up to my knees. I looked up to see where I had jumped in. I tried to focus on breathing through my mouth to avoid the smell. It was dark; I turned my night vision on. I put my hand over my mouth. I had to dive into the dark green liquid in order to continue. I shut my eyes. I held my breath. I knew I would need to take an underwater breath eventually. I didn't want to. I opened my mouth and the liquid filled my mouth. It tasted like... something horrible. I can't even describe it. I exhaled and inhaled. Every breath tasted disgusting. I would almost

rather be dead. The pipe I was in made me feel claustrophobic.

"Alright Tenoptry," I looked at my Soul Computer. Marty's voice groggled from under the slime "How are you holding up down there?"

"Horrible. It tastes like crap down here."

"Well that's probably half true" Marty laughed a bit. "You should be there in about half an hour."

I puked a little bit at Marty's joke. The idea of swimming in this for a half an hour... Dang it.

"Thanks Marty, I needed to hear that."

"Just be careful not to go to far. I'll tell you when you get there."

"Alright."

I felt my hand squish in something. I didn't even want to look down. I just kept going.

"Tenoptry, if you go up, you will be inside the bathroom. There is a drain that you can cut through. Just turn invisible and find Vladimir and do your stuff."

"Finally!?" I saw the drain and turned on my Souler knife and cut open a large enough whole to get out of the sewers.

I turned invisible and pulled myself out. I inhaled the fresh air. It was musky but it was better than the air in the sewers.

I looked around for something to cover the whole up with. The room was your average public bathroom. It seemed like the facility was weathered by years of decay. The tile on the ground was cracked. The stalls were gray and the sinks still had knobs on them. I looked in the stalls to try and find something. All I could find was toilet paper. I shut the door. I suppose it wasn't that big of a deal.

I opened the door and looked around the corner. It was time to find Vladimir and end this where he stands.

CHAPTER XI

I didn't know where I was going to go, but anywhere was better than where I was standing right now. I wasn't going to let anything stand in-between me and Vlad. I dashed down the hallway.

"Tenoptry, there should be a door at the end of the end of the next hall. Go inside there first." Marty said over my Soul Computer. "It should be the main lab."

The hallway was long. A door opened down the hall a ways. I slowed my pace. Two men entered the narrow corridor. I stopped and leaned against the wall. I held my breath. It was too narrow for me to just scoot around them. I didn't want to start knocking people out unless I had to. They were getting closer.

They stopped. One took a sniff through his nostrils.

"Ughh, what's that smell?" One of the men asked "It's like... Ughh!" He covered his mouth.

The other man smelt his friend. He covered his mouth. "I think it's you Geth."

"Nuh uh!" Geth turned and faced his friend. He sniffed around him. "I think it's you! You smell like you bathed in the sweat that was excreted from a fat American who has

worked in McDuffles for too long and then fell asleep in his own toilet waist."

The other man threw his hands up in disgust. "How dare you accuse me of smelling like... whatever you just said!" The other man jabbed his pudgy index fingers into his smaller friend's chest. "I know it's you!"

Geth shoved him off of him. I was getting tired of there arguing. He got up in his face. "You know what!?"

His friend leaned in towards him. "What!?"

To this debate there would be no end (After all I was the one stinking up the hallway)... so I slammed their heads together and they both fell to the floor. I stepped around their bodies and continued walking down the hall.

I made it to the end of the hallway. I opened the door and entered. The door shut behind me. The room was a good size. It had small pedestal in the middle of the room. The ceiling had a stalactite structure above the platform. There were also canisters of some sort lining the right wall. To my left I saw a single scrawny scientist working on a computer. I took one step.

The scientist stood up. I dashed to behind some of the canisters.

He pulled a communicator up to his face. "Vladimir I'm ready. It's all done."

A wall shot up beside me. I flinched. Vladimir stood there.

"Good" He walked over to middle of the room and put his hand on the pedestal. Finger like claws clasped around his hand.

"Are you ready sir?" The scientist asked.

"As ready as I'll ever be." He spread his legs out as if to brace himself. Claws came from the ground and grabbed his feet. Another set came up around his legs. Another came up around his chest and his arm. Some came down from the ceiling stalactite. The claws were open around his head.

Vladimir nodded.

The scientist nodded back. He pushed a few buttons on his key board. All the claws tightened around his flesh. Vladimir grunted in his pain. They dug deep into his skin. Probes popped out from the claws constricting his head. They flew out and shot into his eyes. He yelled out.

All the mettle that was holding him began to glow a red hue. Vladimir's yells worsened. Blood began to drip from his head and hands. A pool of blood began to cover the

ground where he stood. Vladimir began to shake violently. The mettle began to glow more.

Vladimir let out a yelled!

I had enough of Vladimir. I pulled out my gun and stood up and fired. The bullet hit his back. He turned and looked at me. His eyes glowed in an assortment of colors.

"Hello MR. OBIPOR." He ripped his hand from the pedestal. He held up his hand. On the back of his hand read 66%.

I fired again. It hit him in the shoulder. The number on his hand didn't decrease in value. "Crap." I said to myself.

"I have much thicker skin than you I see." He laughed. He pulled out his gun. "Let's see how you hold up against my guns." I ducked behind the canister. He fired. It hit my head like a ton of bricks. I almost blacked out from the hit. I looked at my wrist. It read 7%. I reached into my pocket and injected myself. I put my hand where he had shot me. My hair was fried where the bullet hit me.

He let out a sigh, "You know, the only problem with blasters is they only fire once." He began to walk towards me. I looked around. There was no way I was going to win a fight in here. I turned on my thermal. The sewer pipes ran

right below me. I took out my Souler Knife and dug it into the ground. I cut a whole as fast as possible. I pulled away the ground and slid in. This pipe was slightly larger. It had a current too. I had to swim with the current. The end of the pipe was coming up. I splashed into a stream of slime. I turned on my night vision. This part of the sewer was larger. I could actually stand up. There was a latter not too far in front of me. I waded over there. I climbed up the latter. My hands were slippery but I managed. I looked at my Soul Computer. It read 100%. I pressed the comm. button. "Marty. We have a problem."

Silence.

"Marty?"

I opened the hatch. "Marty!?"

"Hello Mr. Obipor." Vlad's voice echoed in my ears.

I was in shock. I shut my eyes. I bit my lip. I didn't know what I was going to do. He had everything if he had Marty. "Are you th-"

"Yes Vladimir, You better let Marty go!" I said.

"You are going to have to give yourself up if you want to see him alive. I have to say your little sewer trick was quite impressive. There was no way I would ever go in that slime. I guess you proved me wrong." He laughed.

I stood in the snow. I looked at the door to the facility. I began to walk toward the door.

"You have 5 seconds to comply."

"Fine! I'm on your door step!" I turned visible and waved at the camera.

"Good." The door flew open. Several men surrounded me with goggles on and guns pointed at me. I was cuffed and braced on my hands and ankles. "See you soon." He laughed.

We walked down a hallway to an elevator. The elevator began to descend. I let out a sigh. One of them men looked at me and smiled.

"What's up with you?" I asked.

He looked at the man across from him. "He smells bad!" I looked at the man over to my left. He had a bruise on his face. It was Geth.

The other man just shrugged.

We got to the last floor. One of the men pushed me into the dark room. I slammed my face to the floor. The elevator doors shut behind me.

The lights turned on. The room was small and concrete. I pushed myself up. A door flew in front of me. Vladimir stood in the doorway.

He gestured toward a small chair in the corner of the room. "Take a seat Mr. Obipor."

I scowled at him. "I think I would rather stand."

He looked into my eyes and grinned a sick smile. He flung his face across my cheek. Pain seared my face. I touched my face. I looked at my hand. Blood dripped on my finger tips. I looked at Vlad. In his hand were little blades of Souler knives ejecting from his knuckles.

"Thank you Mr. Obipor. Now, I have a proposition for you."

"Yeah? Well.. I'm kind of sick of your propositions."

"Well, you know what I'm sick of?"

I looked up at him. "What?" I asked

"Your existence but I don't think I'm going to halt it just yet. You are still of value to me."

"It's okay Vlad, I'm sick of your existence too."

He smirked, "Glad to see were on the same page. You know, you and I, are very similar." He grabbed the wooden chair from behind him and swung it in front of him. He took a seat.

"That's great, I don't really care."

He let out a sigh. He punched me in my other cheek.

"Learn to care!"

I looked up at him.

"I have all of your friends and family Mr. Obipor. I have your brother, your sister, Marty, and your girlfriend."

I looked up at him. My heart jumped for a moment.

"Michel is alive!"

He smirked and slammed a fist into my jaw again. "Shut up! I'm speaking to you right now which means you are quiet. Now, I am going to do something... your not going to like. Just because I'm curious about your decision. He pushed a button. A red hued Hologram appeared behind Vladimir. Michel, Marty, Jacen, and Elizabeth sat back to back with their faces duct taped in chairs tied up in a room much like the room I was in.

"Pick" Vladimir said.

"What!?"

He punched me again. Blood sprayed along the wall behind me. "Pick!" Vladimir said.

I looked at the screen. I bit my lip. I looked at Vladimir. I felt so... scared. "I... I can't"

"Are you sure, because I could just kill them all?"

I stood up. "You know what?!"

"What?"

"Go to Hell" I putt my fist up to his fore head and sent my Souler Knife through his head and slammed him to the ground. I looked at his hand. There was nothing there though. I didn't know who this was. He looked like Vladimir.

I sliced my cuffs off and my ankle braces off. I pulled my Soul Computer to my face. "Jaden, Can you track Marty?"

"Yes, he is actually one floor above you Master. What is going on Master?"

"I don't know but I need you to prep the ship to pick us up. Okay?"

"Right away Master, I'll do my best."

I ran into the elevator. I pressed the up bottom. The elevator began to rise. The door opened. I ran in. They sat in a circle. Marty was the closest.

I ripped the tape off his mouth.

"Ouch!" Marty yelled.

I ripped off Michel's next then Jacen's. I got to Elizabeth but she didn't want hers ripped off.

"Elizabeth, I have to take it off." She nodded no.

"Tenoptry, we have to get out of here now!" Marty shouted.

I took out my Souler Knife and cut there restraints. Marty brushed himself off. "Everyone get in the elevator now!" He said. We all ran to it but the door slammed shut.

I heard a maniacal laugh over a speaker in the corner of the room. "Mr. Obipor, if you think you can get out of choosing just because you killed one of my men then your wrong. Now you have to pick and I give you two minutes before I fill the room with toxic gas and all your friends die."

Jacen looked at Marty, "What are we going to do?!"

"Were all going to get out of here." I said. I looked around. I took out my Souler Knife and started to splice the elevator.

"Nuh ah ah." Vladimir said over the intercom. "You aren't playing by the rules. So I will release the gas now."

The room started to fill up with gas.

"Hurry!" Michel yelled.

I split the elevator finally. I put my hands in the cracks. I pulled. It was almost impossible to open. "Would someone help me?"

Marty and Jacen grabbed the sides and pulled. The door opened enough for Elizabeth and Michel to slide through. I put my foot in the door and pushed with my legs. "Alright, you guys go next." The door sliced my hands. They ran in and grabbed the door from the inside. I ran in. The door shut.

"Mr. Obipor, you know that gas is going to leak in there." Vladimir said from my Soul Computer. "You only have a matter of moments before you all pass out and die."

I pushed the up button on the elevator. It wasn't working. "Go!" I yelled. I slammed it again.

"Let me see it!" Marty said. He pushed me out of the way. He pulled out a Souler Knife type device and scraped the panel of exposing chords and such.

He began to fiddle with them. Michel and Elizabeth sat on the ground. Michel put her hand on her head. "I don't feel very good" She said. Jacen sat down beside her. Marty kept working.

He was sweating like crazy. He was pulling chords out. "Come on, come on!" Marty exclaimed.

The Elevator began to go up. "Ahah!" He grinned and stood up.

We reached the top floor. I was just going to slice open the door so I we didn't have to hold it open again. I looked out the window. There were people with guns all the way down the hallway.

I pulled out my Souler Knife and was getting ready to cut into the door when Marty grabbed my arm and directed me toward the back of the Elevator. "This is safer and easier."

I wanted to ask how he knew but I didn't have to question his judgment. I thrust it into the wall. I cut out small enough doorway for us to crawl through. It led outside. Marty left dropped something from his pocket in the elevator and ran out.

"Let's go!" He yelled. He ran out and we all followed him. Guns were firing. I grabbed Elizabeth and Michel's hand. Marty and Jacen were running out in front. The Jet was a few feet off. Bullets shot into the snow beside us. Marty and Jacen hopped into the plane. I helped Elizabeth and Michel into the plane.

I looked back; Vladimir in the window glaring. I pulled up my Soul Computer. "Good bye Vladimir." I hopped into the plane and the door shut.

We began to lift off. Marty pulled out something from his pocket. He pushed a button and then we jetted off. I looked out the window. The whole facility exploded.

I let out a sigh of relief.

Vladimir... was gone. I smiled. I looked at Michel. She sat in the back with his sister. She looked up and smiled at me. I wanted to ask how she had survived but for right now... I was just happy to have her alive. Michel set Elizabeth down and she came up to me. She came close to my ear. "Thank you for saving me" She whispered. She kissed me on the cheek. I blushed a bit and smiled.

I then came to the realization... I still have a promise to keep. I frowned a bit.

"What's wrong?" she asked.

"I still have to keep your promise." I put my head in my hands.

"Oh... yeah." She said.

"Yeah..."

"It will be okay Tenoptry... I promise." She wrapped her arms around me, and I knew it was going to be... okay...

CHAPTER XII

I sat in my cell room in darkness. I had been convicted of treason. They had almost sentenced me to the death penalty but the laws of this day and age do not permit such things. I knew that everything was still going to be okay though. I felt that something wasn't right. I didn't know how long I had been in there for. It must have been a few days. I had only eaten a few times since I had been sentenced.

"Mr. Obipor" I looked up. I put my hands up in front of my face. The light was over bearing. "There is someone here to see you."

I stood up. "Who?" I asked.

He walked out and I followed him down a narrow hall. Doors lined the walls. I felt very...cold. We got to the end of the hall.

He opened the door. The guard gestured me with his hands as if he wanted me to go in there. I went into the room. The door shut behind me. The room was dark.

The lights turned on. A man sat at a table in front of me. He was wearing a suit and tie. "Are you Tenoptry Dekkor Obipor?"

"Yes." I replied. I didn't know what this was about but I supposed it couldn't get much worse.

"Take a seat."

I walked over to the table and pulled out the chair and sat down in it. It was Kylon Smith. He was the new U.S. President.

"Okay Mr. Obipor, I know that you probably think you will rot in prison for the rest of your life. I have chosen to pardon your crime."

I shot up from my seat. "What!? Why?" I flung my arms around in excitement. "Not saying I'm not grateful but I killed the President!"

"Would you sit down, if I had it my way you would hang you at the noose." He said in an angry tone.

I sat back down.

"Good. Now, you are being pardoned by President Watson who is in a disclosed location to all peoples of the world."

"You mean he's not dead, but I saw him!"

"No, you saw a hologram made by Mr. Marty. He called us and warned us about your threat and set up the hologram before the speech."

I slowly lifted my hand up to my mouth in disbelief.
"Why didn't you tell everyone that he was alive?" I asked.

"If we did the threat on his life would still be liable to whoever hired you to kill him."

"Why don't you release him now?" I asked. "Vladimir is dead."

"See that's the thing. We aren't very sure about that."

"What do you mean?" I asked.

"We searched the ware house you blew up in order to kill him and we couldn't find a body."

"Well yeah, duh, The ware house exploded." I replied.

"We didn't expect to find any bodies, but we found hundreds of bodies. All of which were almost all in tact. We couldn't find Vladimir and when we couldn't find him... we began to worry. Then we found foot prints leading toward town."

I paused. A shot of adrenalin went through my body. If Vladimir wasn't dead then... the world was going to be in much more peril. "How do you know it was Vladimir?" I asked.

"Because we interrogated the townsmen and they talked about a man with a marking on his hand. Much like the one

you described earlier. The man we talked to said he was missing his other hand. He seemed badly burned so the man took him to the hospital. Everyone was dead when we got to the hospital."

I just stared at him. If an explosion couldn't kill him what could. I tightened my lips with discontentment.

"Look Tenoptry, we will pardon your crimes if you take him out. Marty says you're the only one who can. What do you say?"

I thought about all I had been through. I didn't really want to do it all again. It is who I am though. If I don't stop Vladimir he will kill millions of innocent people. I looked up at Vice President Kylon.

"Well?" He said.

I stood up and held out my hand. "I will stop him." He grabbed my hand. "I promise." I said with a smirk.