

"A story of a name, an identity whom prized survival above all"

As part of a new batch of junior researchers. He had kept his head down. Toading behind those with greater ranks. Often sided with caution and followed containment procedures religiously. His time as a Researcher was constantly overshadowed by other researchers as he became a senior without distinction. He kept his eyes open whilst others literally lost theirs.

An offer came to him in the form of a towering Lab Coat.

"Write up a bunch of bullshit so we can drive up the budget requirements. You'll get a cut of the profits".

An offer disguised as an order. The scam was a simple seed that grew. The Site Director wanted to max out the budget every quarter but noticed the R&D budget was slowly declining as personnel had a great track record of maintaining the equipment given to them (considering the nature of their work).

Therefore he would re-order equipment that was fully functional then send for a cash reimbursement. Pocketing the cash himself. Keep in mind this was during a time when the Foundation was in its infant stages as a corporation. As it heavily relied on Sites to deal with Supply Chains and most of the administrative burden. Site-01 was under intense stress from trying to keep with worldly affairs. As the Foundation struggled in its early days to be recognized by World Governments and keep its head above water.

The Head Researcher got in on this. His proposal would grant them a bountiful pocket to dip in. He viewed this man as a simple man that followed orders.

He didn't act on morals or justice. More so out of Logical Reasoning. This scheme wouldn't last. If the Foundation wants to realise its mission statement. Therefore opting to not bite the hand that fed him considering his Doctorate. He compiled all documents from most of R&D and pointed out discrepancies in documents. Coming to the realisation that the entire R&D department was in it. The Security Lieutenant pondered over his efforts.

His reward was the back of a rifle slammed into the side of his face as he was in on it as well. Lined up in a cell, awaiting execution as a saboteur to "site operations".

Providence intervened as the infant state of the Foundation allowed for a breach mid-interview. Amongst the firefight and unlikely to be accepted into a breach shelter by Site Administration. He strived for the surface whilst a D-Class angled a pistol to the back of his head. Whilst he had lost his clearance for the doors he still understood the layout of the site. The clearance issues soon cleared up after he helped the D-Class in the manslaughter of that security personnel for his card.

A breath of fresh air rushing from the Gate Entrance soon followed was a serving of a dirt sandwich. As Epsilon-11 witnessed his actions over CCTV. He was then lined up for another round of questioning.

The outcome of that incident was that most of the R&D and Security were freely let go as they acted under duress. Notably there wasn't much security left to deal with after the incident to begin with. Site Administration was punished heavily.

The case wasn't unique per se. As the Foundation was clamping down on Site Embezzlement as a whole. His actions however were debated. Rather than a demotion to Class-D he was given an in on a different department that would allow for his redemption.

A precursor department from the 1990s. Before Alpha-1 overtook the department in 2020 and the creation of Internal Affairs. A legacy department from the past named "Internal Security". It was looking for members who had weak 'hooks' to dub it. Methods that could forcefully sway to those that act in accordance.

It was looking for employees that could easily be written off. Disposable as you will. But a step higher than D-Class. Employees who failed in their duties, could be written off and silenced as hostile infiltrators.

Mr Winters was one of many conscripted in its ranks. However, in the years to follow. He would attempt to seize his freedom one way or another.

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In 1999, Avery Winters released an informational packet over all channels of the Foundation. Records, access clearances, anything and everything needed to create and establish a brand new identity within the organisation. Whilst what could be sealed and revoked by Site Command was done within hours. The last point within this informational packet distressed them all.

And an agreement. If all those that wished for a new identity, they must all agree to name themselves "Avery Winters" and pool their information to ensure each other's security. To create a network of "Avery Winters" dopplegangers.

To further back this network. A failing faction of the Council agreed to back this network. As to ensure their collective survival. Citing through this network, they would continue their hold over the Foundation. As the power of the network continued to grow. It raised them back to prominence, securing their positions for more years to come.

The damage was already done. Over hundreds of employees escaped or evaded punishment from IS. Some of them were IS Agents themselves. Some of them, Council members in exile who held key asset information...

An order to hunt all of the Avery Winters instances couldn't be issued. As there was argument and infighting among Site Command as the livelihoods of thousands were on the line if the showrunners of the Foundation were killed. However.. Compared to allowing hundreds to escape prosecution. It seemed tempting.

But an internal struggle formed within this so-called network. As not everyone within this network shared the same ideals. Internal factions were created. From those simply desired to continue their lives, those who wanted to continue their climb within the Foundation and those who wanted the destruction of this network. Which created a web of espionage, diplomacy and intrigue.

And so.. This incident stands as a testament to the importance of RAISA's role. As all of this, would have been avoided if the books were kept in order.

Throughout the years, many would claim the name of Avery Winters. To compassionate idealists, brutal bureaucrats and any and those in-between.

Nickname: "Spark"

Considered to be the original Avery Winters. The researcher who became an IS Agent died at the hands of a combined task force of IS Agents and Alpha-1. In a CCTV control room within Site-19. His bloodied corpse was riddled with a magazine emptied into him from an AR-15.

For when he released the informational packet in 1999. His last dying words to the taskforce with barrels pointed to his bloodied chin.

"I'm gonna come back.. Can you say the same? "

Nickname: "Silver"

Operating within Africa. The Foundation needed a conventional army to contend with other PMCs and rival organisations within the region. Its solution was AMTF Nu-7.

Although this was during the time. When the "Hammer Down" name was recognized as a fully standing army. Complete with Generals and a General Staff. Of course, this story tells the tale of how Nu-7 fell from grace.

And as Council wars go.. Factionalism formed once again within the O5 Council. This time it was over the topic of empowerment to the Ethics Committee. And one bright eyed Council member thought "We have a very large standing army".

And so.. In collusion with the General Staff of AMTF Nu-7. A coup d'etat was hoped with the combined force of the entire Task Force. However, a split occurred within the General Staff. Resulting a giant theatre of war within Africa. As Nu-7 tore itself apart, as two factions warred over remaining stockpiles and resources. Only to be then picked off by a combined task force, sent by the remaining faction of the Council.

In the end. A singular soldier whom chose to desert the entire conflict. However, wished to return to reform the Task Force with a powerful vision.

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And so, followed the development of Nu-7. His rise to the post of Commander. After

achieving his dream, he asked for Retirement... Although things didn't go to plan.

FIRE SUPPRESSION DEPARTMENT CASE ID-0258258122852SC

ISSUE:

Nu-7 Commander Avery Winters intends to enact various clauses stipulated in his contract. The following clauses range in the payout of various retirement packages and hazard pay. As well release of office and duties. All attempts to increase hourly rate and reduction of working hours has failed.

KNOWLEDGE:

No new knowledge is available at this time.

RECOMMENDED PROCEDURE:

Upon discharge procedures. Subject is to forcefully detained to undergo Amnestic reconditoning and therapy. Procedure estimated to take a full year. Subject to then be reassigned a position via Adminstrative Department

NOTES:

N/A

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Nickname: "Valkyrie"

To be elaborated on.. On another day.

Endnotes

For all that claimed the name of Avery Winters. Every story had an ending.

For Silver, he could not see past his reflection and what's in front of him.

For Valkyrie, he wanted to save everyone. But ends up saving no-one.

For Spark, brilliance had limits. Stupidity didn't.