

"Are you ready sweetheart?" Helena's mother was ready to go pick up some money at the local bank.

"I'm coming!" Helena replied.

Helena was a teenager and like most she had her problems dealing with boys, girls and people in general. Like most teenagers she didn't know what she wanted to do in her future, so that's why her mother wanted to visit a famous high school for doctors given her high grades it would be better if she aimed for high salary income job.

First she needed to pick up money for the long trip because unfortunately the school was about three hours away by car.

A few minutes after the mother and daughter walk into the bank they heard a voice behind them.

"Put your hands on your head! Don't move or I will shoot you down!" Yelled one of the thieves armed with a gun and a yellow hood "It's simple, if money goes in the bag, no one will be sad."

One of the other thieves laughed, "That doesn't rhyme Pedro."

BANG

"I don't care if it doesn't rhyme SHUT the fuck up and do your job newbie"

"Mom I'm scared." Whispered Helana.

"Don't be Helena, it's going to be alright. "

The yellow hooded thief noticed them.

Helena started to shake.

"What do we have here a little baby with here Mommy? You look so banal: black hair, too slim and no makeup. You are not popular with boys are you? But don't worry Daddy will take care of you." He grabbed her by the hair and threw her on the ground

"NO, PLEASE."

A large bang echoed through the bank. Helena stared horrified at her mother's shoulder. A small red circle of blood appears on her shirt. It was growing.

"WHAT THE FUCK ARE YOU DOING, I LEAVE 2 MINUTES TO BRING MONEY AND YOU ALREADY SHOT SOMEONE ?!?" The leader said, running out of the vault.

"You're the one who told us to be, 'ready to kill,' if we want our helicopter and a direct trip to Caribbean-"

"Who the fuck turned the lights off !!"

A moment later another loud gunshot exploded in the room. Helena covered her ears. They were ringing. Then a thief screamed. Another gunshot. Another thief screamed. Finally, a third shot exploded into the room followed by the ear splitting scream of a broken man. The room was silent for a moment.

" I DON'T KNOW WHO YOU ARE BUT I SWEAR I WILL SHOT HER DEAD," Yelled the yellow hooded thief. He gripped onto Helena's long hair tightly.

Outside the bank a female officer shouted, "Sir! We must turn the lights on immediately. He has an hostage. He is going to shoot her!"

"Wait until I give you the order sergeant."

She shook her head and spoke into the radio, "This is an order. Turn back the lights on. Now."

"Affirmative." The radio replied.

"How dare you undermine me!" Yelled the sergeant. "You don't understand what is happening in there!"

Helena couldn't believe her eyes in front of her stood one of the thieves precisely the newbie who got scolded earlier, but something was amiss, his eyes.

Then she noticed a thief's eyes. His pupil took the place of his iris, and his iris took the place of his sclera. It was strange yet beautiful like a galaxy moving around a black hole. The colors were astonishing blue, green, red, brown, yellow, she could see every color.

Outside the sergeant had grabbed the radio. "Turn the lights off." The bank went dark again.

The yellow hooded thief screamed and fell to the ground, releasing Helena's hair.

Helena knocked on the hospital door.

“Come in!” Her mother called out.

“I brought you roses and some chocolates.” Helena said, placing the items on a table, “Hello, Mom, how are you?”

“Fine. Like always. I can’t believe they have kept me here for a month. There is some pain when I move my shoulder, but it’s almost gone. They said one or two days and I can finally leave.”

“I’m glad the doctors made you stay. You work too hard! You need the rest. Besides, knowing you, if you went back to work now, you’d push yourself too hard and ruin your shoulder forever!”

Helena sat down on the chair, when the news came on the TV. She stood to hear it better.

“Humans with superpowers! This report may sound like a silly prank, but it is actually reality.”

The TV shows a man with large pupils. A ball was thrown at the back of his head. Without looking, his hand suddenly vanished from his side and reappears next to his head. It grabbed the ball just in time. He turned smiling and winked at the camera, tossing the ball high in the air. He looked up. It landed on his nose, perfectly balanced. A moment later, the screen cut back to the reporter.

“This is unedited footage. If you notice these strange effects in you, your friends, or your relatives, please contact Technology Today Laboratories at the phone number on screen. We will be back tonight with updates on this story as it develops.”

“Mom. I think I know what I want to do with my life.”

Chapter 2

“Hi stickfigure how you doing?”

“Oh isn’t it our bag of walking bone here”

“Come on give her some meat, she is so frail, she will break on us” said the same old group of bullies but Helena was paying no attention to them.

"Girls can't you let her alone? ruining her health was not enough ?" Anna was pissed off, she knew it was the same group who faked being helena's friend just to ruin her life, Why ? because she was too "perfect".

"Oh come on we just gave her some advice, listen , all men are dogs, so they must love bones !! that's why we told her to lose some weight, nothing catastrophic" they shared a laugh.

The truth, Helena was now weak, mentally and physically.
Due to the constant bullying and her weight loss, anxiety took over her , she was now anorexic.

The summer break will soon come and she was thinking about changing school.

"If I go to another school everything will be fine I just have to put on a low profile and this nightmare will finally end, with my grades I doubt any school will refuse me"whispered Helena trying to convince herself

Driiiiiiiiiiiiiing

The last class session has started

"Listen here everyone big new, we are the first and only school who will have an exclusive partnership with Technology Today Laboratories we will work on the new "Passionate" effect, for those who want to subscribe here is the paperwork necessary. Helena can you distribute them" said the professor who just entered class.

"Do not fall!"

"Professor are you sure she can handle it ? it may be too heavy for her"

"Silence! Another commentary and you will be telling jokes in the director's office"

"He knew it and he don't care does he like to see me suffer ?" Tough Helana

"Even if, this partnership could mean a lot; access to their office, access to their experiment, hell even access to one specimen, i can't let this chance go"

"Are you daydreaming Helena, or too lazy for it?" said the professor

'I told you she was too weak" replied on of the bullies

Helena stood up and distributed the registration paper.

-Home-

"Sweetheart finally you came back!" said Anna, Helena's mother.

"Have you passed a great week? How was your last day of school? Did you eat well?"

"Not right know mother I need to sleep" said Helena going to her room.

Anna was worried, Helena calls her mother only if there is a problem, and usually she calls her mama or mommy...

She told herself that everyone have their moment where they want to distance themselves from their parents

Helena needed to think will she register in the new class, will she even attend to a new year, she didn't know and while thinking she falled asleep.

Helena just woken up "did i fall asleep ?" she asked herself, having nothing much to do she grabbed her P.C. and started browsing her favorite new site related to everything about the "passionate" they were few topics like "What are the passionate" "how do they active their power" "how do you know when you find one"

Helena already knew all those things, she knew that the passionate were people that invested a lot of time and energy dedicating their life to one hobby or passion to finally unlock the "phase", a second state where the pupil grew larger and the subject could see and feel everything in slow motion, giving him sur-human reflexes.

"Again nothing similar to what i saw that day ..."

After half an hour of scrolling "WHAT !!?" yelled Helena " blablablabla cyber café full of passionnate the heck i need to see this."

Chapter 3

"oh no, not again" since the rumor started the owner of the "arcade mania" cyber-café had more and more visitors... only visitors, they didn't come to play nor come to consume, he was seriously thinking about making a membership card who will allow the owners to access the "cyber" part, to keep the visitor from annoying the customers.

And that's what he did

-Few days later-

A young woman could be seen in the front of the "arcade mania"

You can do it Helena just be cool and nice DO NOT be too excited that's what Helena thought, how disappointed she was when the owner told her that she couldn't "see the installation downstairs".

The owner Max was well aware of her real intention that's why he threw her out, "Hey Maximus you don't need to be so rude, she just wanted to see our PASSION" said one of the player with a sensual voice present here "We need some females down here, I swear to god one more dude and I will start to fear for my ass" said his fat friend.

"You know she is only here to watch if I start to accept anyone without a membership card problem will start to appear" said the owner worried, if he let people without a card enter he could be fined by the other for "refusal to sell"

"Don't worry I got it" said the fat guy.

Helena didn't know if she was glad or if she had to be worried, she didn't know what this pig had on his mind, but she wanted to see what was really happening here.

-Back home-

Helena was disappointed no one did enter the "phase" state it was like they avoided to enter that mode when she was near, could they knew? Did the owner pass the message via the computers? She didn't know and she will not give up, she intended to pass every day of her vacation into this place until she sees what she want.

She was too stubborn to give up "passionate" were rare; their ratio is only 1 /10000 and the chance the "phase" activates when they are studied is really low.

-Arcade mania-

"You know Helena you should try to play one day, if you continue like that everyone will hate you before the summer end" said the fat guy.

"Oh don't worry It will be like always" said Helena clearly displeased by the remark.

Hints of sadness could be seen on his eyes he don't wanted to be rude "If you ever need me just ask for Alyor" he said going back to his occupation, Aylor was his nickname in games in general, people here prefer to be called by their nicknames, it make them fell different like everything was different and like this place was theirs, were they could choose what they wanted to be.

Like if I ever will need your help porc thought Helena, it was not nice but after the commentary he heard the first time she saw him, she grew to hate him at first sight.

And like that another night passed with no "phase" state in the horizon.

-1 week later in front of the arcade mania-

She cursed herself all the week she tried to see the "phase" but every time someone activated it, there were always a group of people to block her way. What did she done to piss them all ? it could not be the owner he seems nice, and she didn't recall to annoy anyone maybe they just don't like newbies ?

Nevermind I will try again today and if they block me again I will just push harder until I reach him

"hop hop hop sorry Helena but today is special you can't go down" said the owner with his hand on her shoulder

"What makes today special ?" said Helena still slightly trying to go down.

"The cyber is reserved you can't go down."

And it was at this moment just in front of her downstairs someone looked at her with his eyes big like bottle caps, and it was at this moment she realized it was dark all the cyber part was in complete obscurity only a little bit of light could enter per the stairs.

"they are all in the this state isn't it ?" said Helena slowly realizing what she is missing.

"Yes"

Chapter 4

"You can't go down here" said the angry owner pulling Helena "I NEED to see this you don't know how long I've waited !" replied Helena still trying to downstairs "Let me just see I promise I will not annoy anyone"

"I just can't, the one who reserved said that he doesn't want any disturbance" said the owner finally blocking the way his whole body.

"Sorry max can I go out" said Aylor trying to pass him "yes sure" replied max

Helena jaws dropped the pig was a passionate or was he just here because of his friends, she now regretted acting rude in front of him, she was about to speak when Aylor dropped this "You want to come in ? well too bad I don't think you can but we can make a deal "

Helena didn't understand why he had so much interest in her, but it was a chance she couldn't miss "What kind of deal ?" she said with a harsh voice *shit I have to be nicer*

"You know the kind of deal where on part have to give something and the other give something in return let's meet in the Zozan kebab tomorrow at 12:00, and max I think you know how people hate to be seen when they come out after this kind of meeting ?" he said the last part with a really annoyed voice.

"Yes I know and I'm working on that"

Helena was finally thrown out of the arcade mania.

-Back at home-

"SHIT SHIT SHIT SHIT SHIT" "I HAD THE BEST OCCASION AND I COULDN'T MAKE IT"
"FUCK THEM" Helena was angry if she shouted a little bit higher her parents would burst in her room

She was angry at herself because she had missed the best occasion for her to study the "phase" mode, and this pig *fuck this pig* she thought how can someone be so annoying.

She didn't know what he wanted and that was infuriating, was it sex ? nooo I don't think he will go that low, money ? maybe...

It was useless to predict what he wanted nor she did know what he will give her, maybe all of this was just a waste of time.

She started to fall asleep.

-Zozan Kebab-

It's been half an hour she was waiting, she was about to go when she saw him running here "Sorry I had to finish a game" he said while breathing, " I think we started in bad term my name is Jack Tigue and you ?" he said as he was picking a chair to sit.

"Helena Marale" Helena was still in the defensive she still didn't know what to expect.

"What do you want to..." "Can we get to the point ?" she said interrupting him, he looked at her with disapproving eyes, "what do you want to eat ?" said Aylor expecting an answer.

"Nothing" replied Helena.

"This is not a choice, what do you want to eat?" Aylor was getting insistent.

"I said nothing" replied an angry Helena.

"I insist" Helana was fed up she picked her things and strated to stand up when

"I can give you access to the cyber at that moment and even tell my friends to let you study them, and I can even be your main subject " Aylor had now the full attention of Helena

"But it's a give give remember, here is what I want"