

## THE END OF THE WORLD AS WE KNOW IT.

The virus was created by botanists in London testing their theory that by cross breeding certain flowers and plants they could create a more enriched source of food for the population - the newest "super food". In doing this, they unintentionally created a monstrosity that would eventually be the catalyst for the apocalypse. The experiment the botanists created carried a toxic pollen that, when ingested by humans, caused a chemical reaction within their bodies.

Of course the botanists were the first carriers of this deadly pollen, not realising to begin with the danger that they had created. The virus contained within the particles of pollen took anywhere between three to five days to take effect, meaning the particles had spread through the lab and further when the effects were realised. Botanists and scientists seemingly dropped dead where they stood, only to reanimate in a twisted and gruesome version of life -- "zombies."

The pollen spread fast from person to person, the lab was unable to cover up the debacle any longer and eventually the press were notified of a potentially life threatening virus plaguing the world. Of course no one believed it would truly end the world as they knew it now, earth had seen it's fair share of viruses and outbreaks and each time had bounced back with a new lease of life.

However soon they realised just how wrong they were. Soon the full effects of the virus were realised. Those that dropped dead only to reanimate were named zombies. And it seemed that their bite would also infect you to some extent, along with the mysterious source of the virus. Scientists tried to understand how it worked, how it seemed to change its effects in different people -- how could a virus differentiate between them? What was it using to decide which areas within the body to attack? It took six months for them to discover the connection.

Within that six months, with no end in sight and plenty of zombie media to help people understand how to defend themselves, the world was beginning to fall apart at the seams. Gun stores were raided, people tried to band together and plan for their survival. The governments in each country did their best to remain organised and in control within the midst of a global chaos. Masks were given out to filter the air before it reached your lungs and rations began on essential items within supermarkets -- canned food, toilet paper, survival gear. But with no end in sight, the world was growing restless.

The connection that was discovered was that this virus differed in effects based on your blood type. The effects vary massively, and sometimes are not the same for everyone with the same blood type. They go from being immune, to having the virus attack your immune system, to having the virus attack your whole body and eventually turning you into a "zombie" -- a blood lusting version of yourself with no memories of your life before or the people in it, only one thing exists within you and that is the need to survive; by any means necessary.

When this information was shared with the public, it caused a worldwide panic. Most people did not know their blood type and so could not predict the effects this virus would bestow upon them. People were angry, riots eventually started and people began to turn upon one another. The world turned to chaos and fire, and those that could went underground.

## THE RISE FROM THE RUINS.

The richest of the population and those who had been preparing for doomsday for their entire lives were the highest percentage of those that survived. The government had also built top secret bunkers for their top intelligence officers and politicians, equipped with everything one would need to survive a long period of time underground -- stocks of food (enough to last at least six months below), weapons, entertainment, sleeping quarters. But things ran out, people grew restless and soon enough it was time to venture out into the "above".

The bunkers built by the rich, the survivalists and the governments became permanent camps for those of whom had been granted permission from the beginning. No "outsiders" were allowed within, or near the perimeters of these places for fear of their lives. Those "below" banded together and created roles for each person within their camps -- professional cooks made food from what could be scavenged, accountants and bankers kept records of all the resources they had, mothers cared for the children when needed -- continuing to teach basic skills. Technology creators and computer specialists joined the scavengers and scouts on their outings to obtain parts and materials to rebuild communications with other parts of the world. Everyone had their part, no one was left with nothing to do.

The top ranking government agents and spies took charge of the supplies runs, teams were created to ensure the skill level was evenly spread, no one team went on a run twice in a row and each team went through a rigorous decontamination process on their return. Those that had made it through without the help of a survival bunker roamed the ashes of the old world and became known as the "supes." Most of those that survived the apocalypse without the help of the government or without building themselves some kind of bunker are mostly those whose blood type means they are not as susceptible to becoming a zombie version of themselves, however the biggest reason that this virus could not be controlled was down to the fact that most of the world's population were unaware of what their blood type is -- and this remains to be true.

Everyday is a gamble that you may contract this virus, and with no way of knowing whether or not it will affect you in the worst way, the world cannot find its way back to some semblance of normality. Groups form between those that know one another, and suspicions rise for those outside of the groups unless they are able to prove their type. Zombie's still roam through the deserted streets, bloodied and crazed and looking for their next target -- their next source of food to satiate the deep rooted hunger that fills their mind.

## THE HYBRID.

A crossbreed of a chamomile flower and a lettuce plant -- both belong to the same family of plants and so crossbreeding would be easy to achieve without any assistance from technology. The intention was to create a new superfood -- a mixture of chamomile's more healing nature and the nutrients and fibres that lettuce is rich in. It has a similar look to the chamomile flower shown here:



However the stamens that produce the pollen look more unusual and have taken the look of a lettuce plant, with folds that contain the pollen within.

The head of the flower remains an off white colour and looks incredibly similar to the common daisy found in most green areas. Eventually when the hybrid finds its way into the world, it is only distinguishable by its stamens making it incredibly dangerous to walk through large open areas of greenery.

The intention was that this was the part of the flower that was to be eaten as it would be enriched with all the benefits and nutrients of both its parents plants.

## THE EFFECTS.

As previously stated above, the effects of the virus, found in the pollen of the hybrid, varies based upon your blood type. Here is a handy list of those effects:

**O positive:** This is the most common blood type. Highly susceptible to becoming a “zombie.” No other effects recorded.

**O negative:** Not as susceptible to becoming a “zombie.” Other effects include the virus attacking the muscle mass, weakening the host.

**A positive:** The second most common blood type. Very susceptible to becoming a “zombie.” Other effects include the total rewiring of the immune system -- common illnesses are now very high risk.

**A negative:** Low level of susceptibility to becoming a “zombie.” Other recorded effects include the virus attacking the thyroid causing fatigue and weakness and depressive episodes.

**B positive:** Low level of susceptibility to becoming a “zombie.” Other effects include the same as A negative. Additionally, the virus can also attack the metabolism of the host.

**B negative:** Very low level of susceptibility to become a “zombie.” Other recorded effects include an increase in muscle mass linked to the virus.

**AB positive:** Very very low level of susceptibility to becoming a “zombie.” Other recorded effects include an increase in the brain’s synapse response -- allowing for faster reactions and sharper senses.

**AB negative:** This is the rarest blood type. No susceptibility to becoming a “zombie.” Immune to the virus.

### **THE BITE.**

Being bitten or having your blood contaminated with that of a “zombie” can have different effects to the inhalation of the pollen carrying the primary virus. Over a short period of time, the “zombies” saliva has mutated to contain an infection. Though the bite will still turn those with O + blood, it won’t necessarily turn those of other blood types. However the infection carried within the bite can affect any of the blood types, including AB - ( who would remain immune to the primary virus. ) Though the infection can be overcome with the proper medical attention, it lasts for a long time and severely weakens those who have contracted it.

### **THE SQUADS (SUBS).**

This is a short summary of what a **supply run** team would usually consist of for those that occupy the “below” (also known as ‘subs’) -- i.e. government intelligence agents, athletes, wealthy doctors and surgeons and technology specialists. Most of the subterranean bases house enough skilled occupants that it can be split into four teams -- though most decide to always have one team within the base at all times to protect against any attacks.

**SQUAD LEADER.** The Squad leader is responsible for the welfare of his squad at all times, the continuation of weapons and hand to hand combat training along with the discipline for the squad. In a combat situation, the squad leader is responsible for the tactical deployment and movement of their squad. This role is usually filled by the most senior of the intelligence officials within the bunkers.

**SCOUT ALPHA.** The scouts role within the squad is to explore their surroundings before their squad reaches it. It requires stealth and weapons training, along with some knowledge of silent communication. These roles are usually filled by athletes (with additional weapons training if needed) or spies.

**SCOUT DELTA.** This role is the same as scout alpha, however neither scout will explore the same area together. For example, when attempting to investigate a building or home both scouts will search either side of the perimeter before meeting in the middle and ensure it is safe for their squad to proceed.

**RIFLEMAN.** The Rifleman will initially lead the rest of the squad, on the orders of the squad leader, usually taking one side of the group. Responsible for the majority of the firepower, they will be the first line of defence in any violent situation.

**GUNNER.** The Gunner will lead with the Rifleman, both flanking either side of the group. Although responsible for a considerable amount of the firepower, their main objective is protecting the Squad Leader and Medic.

**COMBAT MEDIC.** The Combat Medic is responsible for providing emergency care and medical treatment for those wounded on a run. They carry the kit to enable them to care for the Squad and also hold the rations.

**RADIO/COMMS OPERATOR.** The Comms Operator holds the comms systems that link the Squad with the Sub Base. Responsible for reporting their location along with significant findings that cannot wait until returning to the Base. Although skilled in combat, their objective is keeping in contact with the base and also keeping a look out for any parts that can be used.

## SUB BASE TRISTAN.

### ALPHA SQUAD.

Squad leader: **Floyd Weatherford.** Intelligence agent. Formerly with MI6.

Scout alpha: **Valerie Monroe.** Sprinter. Formerly training for the olympics.

Scout delt: **Benji Monroe.** Long distance runner. Formerly training for the olympics.

Rifleman: **Maeve Walden.** Colonel. Formerly a liaison between MI6 & the military.

Gunner: **Antonio Diaz.** Major. Formerly a part of Walden's team.

Combat medic: **Tamara West.** Associate Specialist in Emergency Medicine.

Radio / Comms operator: **Julien Fawtly.** Technology specialist. Formerly CEO of his own tech business.

## SUB BASE ROLES.

COOKS.

CARERS.

RECORD KEEPERS.

TECH EXPERTS.

BASE DOCTOR.

BASE NURSES.

COMBAT TRAINERS.

WEAPONS TRAINERS.

COMBAT MEDICS.

SCIENTISTS.

## THE GANGS (SUPES)

As a Supe (someone who does not live in the sub-bases below ground), you learn very quickly to trust yourself and your own instincts. Most Supes start with no one else at their side, no one else to look out for them. Though they started out alone, most tend to form groups with other Supes they meet on their travels for supplies. These groups are known as gangs to those below ground. But to those above? These groups become their family.

## BESSIE ADAM'S SUPE GANG

Bessie Adams: Scavenger and documenter.

Weapons trainer.

Cook.

Radio "technician".

"Scientist."