

The concealed war

“Five cheesy bean and rice burritos and 3 medium sized drinks please,” I asked the cashier of my favorite fast food restaurant. The cashier handed me the bill and whispered “The flash drive is in it.” “What did you say,” I asked, not sure what he said. Before he could answer the guy behind me started yelling at me saying I was taking forever and told me to go to the high chair where I belong. How old did he think I was, 5? I was almost as tall as him too. My actual age is fourteen. Anyway I returned to my table where my parents were. When the cashier called my number and I went to get my food the cashier pointed at the food and gave me thumbs up. I didn’t know why he did that and how to respond so I just gave him thumbs up back. “That was a little weird,” I thought as I sat down on the glossy chair. As I reached in the bag I thought I felt something like plastic. I reached in and grabbed it. As I took it out I realized it was an envelope, and I don’t mean the kind of envelope you get at the dollar store. It was the kind where you have to pay like ten bucks for a couple. I felt the sudden urge to keep the envelope so I slipped the envelope secretly into my back pocket. As I looked around I saw that the cashier I talked to was gone. And for the first time in my life I wanted to get out of this restaurant quickly.

As we got home I was literally shaking with excitement. What if it was a treasure map I thought to myself as I went to my room to check out the envelope. As I went upstairs I told my parents that I had to do homework and I did not want to be disturbed. When I reached my room I took out the glossy envelope and unbuttoned it in a quick motion. I took out the letter and started reading it. The one who wrote it must be fancy I thought as I examined the calligraphy handwriting. It read: *Dear Dr. Hilcrest we*

have read the blue print and decided that it is necessary to take the risk of actually making this contraption. If we do not, we will lose "The Concealed War." But we cannot reveal this to the public or we will have even more people trying to steal the blue print. I also have decided that I will be the test subject because we don't even know if there are any spies in our government from the other side. I would not be surprised if there are spies rights here, but we have no way to prove it so we just have to be careful with the blue print. The only person I trust is you and myself. And you are far too old to do this so I will conduct the experiment upon myself.

Destroy the letter after you have taken the flash drive out. Where's the flash drive I thought as I searched the envelope. Then I thought I felt something but I didn't see anything. After a while I realized it was inside the envelope. I cut the inside of the envelope with a scissors and there it was a flash drive. This is way too thought out to be a prank I thought to myself. I connected the flash drive into my Mac book pro. A screen popped up showing how to build it. "Oh my gosh, I have a top secret blue print" I whispered to myself. I downloaded the file into my I phone 4 and went to sleep. Big mistake.

Five peaceful days later...

Okay, right now I'm in a top secret government place and you are probably wondering what I did to get in here so I will give a recount of today. It was a regular day in my regular life. I almost completely forgot about the envelope and I was coming home from school. Suddenly a black van pulled over near me. 4 men with black suits and black glasses came out the car and one of them tackled me. I crumpled to the ground with a groan. "We found Dr.Hilcrest shot and we traced back the blue print back to you and we know you are a spy," they said with guns pointed at me. Then I realized they were talking about the blueprint. So it was true and now I have government officials chasing after me thinking I was a spy.

Well, I wanted excitement and now I have excitement. I really should be careful with my wishes. "I got it by mistake, in my taco bell order, and then I downloaded the file into my I phone, I can give it to you right now sir." Looking at his face I could tell that he believed me. I gave him the phone and he took it. "You better get into car kid; we still need to confirm that you are not a spy." Before I got into the car I slowly looked around me and saw scared faces of bystanders everywhere. Then I heard the police siren. Figures, nobody knows that these are government officials. The police got out the car pointing pistols at them. The man that tackled me took out his wallet and showed the police their ID's. The police took out a small scanner shaped object and pointed it at their IDs. It shot out a laser which is now moving across the IDs. It gave a small beep and the police let them go. Then I realized that it was probably a scanner. "I can't get into strangers cars," I said weakly, hoping that they would go away and leave me alone. I could tell by their expression that I was kidding myself. I slowly followed them praying that this was just a scary dream.

When I entered the van I almost fainted. There were laptops, computers, security cameras, maps, and other shiny gizmos that makes your jaw drop. I sat in one of the seats and one of the men handcuffed me. I didn't say anything. An another person started the car by first, typing a password In a computer, taking a thumb print, and then he took out a pen refill and put it in the key hole then twisted it. Then the car started. Looking at my confused face he explained that you need to do all three things to get it started. After a minute or two he looked straight at me and said, "Okay tell us now how you even got the blue print. I sighed wishing that I was dreaming, but I knew the truth that this is real as anything that happened today. Man, I should have just given the envelope back and tell the cashier that he's got the wrong dude. Well I might as tell the truth and get it over with. I took a deep breath and started speaking. "Okay, this is what happened," before I could even finish my sentence he clipped something

onto my finger. "When you lie or get extremely nervous your skin gets moist and this just detects it," he explained casually. Man, this dude was making me very uneasy. Well, I guess that's the whole point of an interrogation. Anyway, I started explaining how I got envelope and what I did with it. Surprisingly he was a very good listener which made it a lot easier to explain and not get nervous. At one point I realized no one was driving the van. I looked over and saw that the car was driving itself. Anyway in the end he just nodded. "That explains a lot," he said grimly. "Dr. Hilcrest was supposed to pick up the blue print in taco bell at that exact time you ordered, and you also gave the exact same order that he was supposed to order." Looking at my expression he realized that I had no idea what he was talking about so he explained that Dr. Hilcrest had to pick up the blue print that way so if there were any spies, nobody would suspect anything but unfortunately he was shot before he could get the blue print. "But, why?" I asked slowly. He sighed and explained that someone is spying and the spy, whoever he is, thought Dr. Hilcrest had the blue print and shot him. I nodded in understanding. Suddenly the van came to abrupt stop. "We are at our destination he said." I looked outside the window and noticed that we stopped at a gym. "Huh" I asked not sure how this is our destination. "Just follow me," he told me casually. So I followed him and the other 3 men into the gym and got into the elevator. "Um, why are we going to a gym?" I asked unsure where we were going. He pressed the second floor button, ignoring me. When we reached the second floor we headed straight to the janitor's closet. And guess what, instead of finding mops and brooms I found a circular room with a square platform and they started going to the platform so I followed them. I then realized we were going to the square platform. Once I got onto the platform it actually started going down! The government hiding place was underground! The platform suddenly started going down faster and faster. After a minute or two I was ready to throw up. Luckily, the platform stopped right then. "How deep are we" I asked. "300 feet deep down," he answered with a smug grin. In front of us there were 3 buttons. The first one was red, the second one was blue, and the third is green. The dude that that tackled me started pressing the buttons quickly like

it was a keyboard, probably a password but a password for what? Suddenly a door opened. So it was a password for opening the door. One of the men pushed me toward the door and I stepped in and that is how I got here.

I slowly looked around absorbing my surroundings, and man, there was a lot of things to absorb. The walls were painted blue and there were computers and laptops cluttered everywhere and there were huge screens in the wall. There were surprisingly a lot of people and they all wore regular clothes, no suits no glasses, if you saw them you would think they were an average person. The 3 men pushed ahead going out of my sight. I snapped back to reality. Only one remained by my side. He looked at me and said, "Hey my name is Daniel but you can call me Dave, and guess what, now since you know about the agency you have to become part of it so let's get to know each other, okay?" he said quickly. How can this be okay, I mean what about my family, friends, what about a normal life?!!! Looking at my expression he tried to cheer me up by saying "We have first class education." Well, at least he was trying to cheer me up. I sighed; if I was going to live here I might as well get comfortable. Why am I taking this in so quickly? I better tell this dude my name I thought sadly. "My name is Titus Kane, sir," I said uncomfortably. Yeah, I know it's kind of a weird name, but it fits me. "Titus, huh", Dave said with a little amusement in his voice. Then I asked him a question that threw him off balance for a second. "What's the war you were talking about in the letter, Dave?" I asked with sincere curiosity. "Well, um" "Tell the truth" I said cutting him off. He sighed. "Follow me, Titus", he said grimly. I passed by tons of people immersed in their laptops and computers. No excitement, nothing, just grim work. Then we reached a cabin that said S-9 division head. I slowly walked in the cabin and gasped. There were blue prints everywhere you look and laptops cluttered on the desk. I grabbed a chair in front of me and sat without permission. Dave slowly took out a chair and sat in it. He took a deep breath and began explaining. "20

years ago, the government planned a secret mission which was to cross the Bermuda triangle by boat. We felt that there was something special about Bermuda triangle. And we were right. The experienced sailors made it half way across the Bermuda triangle.” “Wait a second, there are actual sea serpents and monsters in the Bermuda triangle?” I asked interrupting him. He nodded. “As I was saying the experienced sailors made it half way across the Bermuda and they realized that there was a small island. And the island was full of riches. We named it the Bermuda Island. Then somehow an another country learned about the Bermuda island which means there’s a spy. The other country wanted the Bermuda Island to itself and so that is how the war began. We thought of telling the public but then we realized that would cause chaos. So we nicknamed the war the concealed war. It’s Pearl Harbor all over again. We were losing miserably so we hired scientists to make a blueprint that would make people’s scenes much quicker, so basically super soldiers. The basic idea was developed a long time ago but we never had a need of it until now. The original plan was that they would give the blue print to the S-9 division and if they approve it comes to me and if I approve it they would actually build it. This was because we did not want to waste any time. Any way I got a lot of blueprints everyday but the one I was really looking forward the most is the one you have. I was afraid that it would fall into a spies hand so I devised a way to give it to him secretly. He was supposed to go to taco bell at the exact time you went and give the exact order you did and then one of our people were supposed to give him the flash drive. But unfortunately it backfired on us.”

2 years later

It’s been 2 years since I found out about the government and everything. I am an official member now, but I still have to go to school. Actually school has been a lot harder since you have to become real smart to get missions. Also they train me to fight and use guns, it actually became normal. If Dave

thinks I'm ready sometimes he even let's me do minor missions. My parents know about me being in the force and Dave lets them visit once in a month. Also they found an another scientist to build the pill. It should actually be done today. Actually they named it after me, it's called Titus 900. "Titus come on, the scientist is showing the Titus 900," Dave said with genuine excitement. Finally I'll get to see how the machine works. I slowly walked where everybody else was. The new scientist started speaking, "The Titus 900 is a pill that gives you extraordinary powers. I could only make two because it uses the rarest material on the planet. I cannot make anymore because there is not anymore of the material in the world." I looked around and saw Samuel staring at the pill. Weirdo. Nobody likes Samuel because he never tries to be friendly. Suddenly he stepped forward, took the pill from the scientist and swallowed it. Samuel is a spy! He's the one who killed Dr. Hillcrest! Before I knew what I was doing I leaped forward and took the pill from the table and swallowed it. Samuel looked at me with surprise and frowned. He ran to the platform and pressed 1st floor. The platform started to go up. "We have to catch him," I said. The scientist suddenly yelled, "You don't understand, the pill gives you incredible powers, you're the only thing stopping him from destroying everything that ever existed!" If that's true I should have given the pill to Dave I thought desperately. I ran toward the staircase and before I knew it I was on top of it. So this is what the scientist was talking about. Well I have no time to waste. I went outside of the gym and saw Samuel running away. He broke a car's window and unlocked it. He got into the driver's seat and started riding away. What is with this guy, does he not know with the pill he can run faster than a car? I started running toward him hoping to catch up to him. I need to go faster I thought desperately. My stamina was running out fast and the car was only a couple feet away. I looked around and saw that we were in a busy street. Everybody was staring at me, I don't blame them; I mean if I saw a 16 year old running as fast as a car I would look to. Then as I passed a bakery I had an idea. I stopped running and I broke the glass and took a shard of it. Let's see if the pill improves my aim I thought as I threw it. The glass shard sliced a small piece of the tire but that was enough for the car to slow down. I ran quickly

and I caught up easily to the car since the car slowed down. Samuel got out of the car and faced me. He held up a pistol to me. I reached in my pocket expecting to feel a pistol but instead felt nothing. Dang it! The pistol was in the agency! He open fired on me. Then something happened. I could see the bullets. It was like everything was in slow motion, but I knew that's not what happened; my senses got quicker. I dodged the bullets easily. Samuel didn't seem surprised. He tossed the pistol aside and got into fighting position. Weapons didn't work on us, we understood that. I also got into fighting position. If I die we will lose the concealed war I thought, then I imagined bomb shelters and chaos everywhere you look. No, I cannot let that happen. I clenched my fists and opened my eyes wide. Samuel leaped in front of me and punched me in the stomach. The impact made me cough up blood but I still kept my balance. I turned around and aimed to kick him in the face. He ducked and tried to kick me in the face. I jumped backward just in time to dodge it. I looked around to see scared faces everywhere. I have to lure him into the woods I thought. I started running toward the woods. By the time I got there I had no stamina left. But Samuel kept his ground. Why does he still have so much stamina left, then I realized that I ran 2 miles from the agency to the street. I was so focused on capturing him that I subconsciously ran really far. Why did I have to get the pill I thought?

Samuel jumped upward and punched me on the head. By the impact I fell on the floor. I'm probably going to die I thought grimly. Then I had a vision of bombing, innocent people getting hurt. I can't let happen, it's going to take decades to rebuild, "I WILL NOT LET THAT HAPPEN" I yelled. My body started reacting to my anger. I let all my anger build up channeled it so I could fight. I got up quickly and dodged an attack. I came forward and punched him in the jaw making him fall backward. He recovered quickly and tried to kick me. But I was too quick for him. I was already behind him and chopped him on the neck. He yelled in agony. I came in front of him and I put all my energy in my fist and punched him

on the face. He fell backward breaking 3 trees. Once he fell on the floor he didn't move. He was dead. I swear I am never going to eat at taco bell again I thought. Just then a helicopter came and in it was Dave. Once I was in it he said, "That was a darn fool thing you did, swallowing the pill." "Well I wouldn't want it any other way" I said smiling because I was going home.

EPILONGE

It's been 10 years since that fateful day and America has won the concealed war. I still have my powers so I decided to stay in the agency. And I don't think we are ever going get infected with spies ever again, at least not as long as I live.