

Chapter III – The Console Kid

Fella_H, as usual, got up that morning, packed his bag and headed off to school, making sure his DS was in his pocket; he never liked to leave the house without a weapon. He passed the rose gardens on Lance St, and hung back for a moment to admire the beauty, and then continued onward, down the main street to his school. He was a kid, that was for sure, and only a level 14 one, but that never stopped him from pwning. Fella_H was probably the youngest in Teh_Masterer's gamer army, but he was indeed The Console Kid. If you wanted to know something about consoles, you came to him; if you wanted info on the history of the army, you came to him, and if you wanted to get yourself spanked at Tetris, you came to him. He would have been in the intelligence division, but he knocked back the offer. He never did much like the idea of just turtling up and teching while everyone else stole the glory.

School was ordinary, and as usual he didn't enjoy himself very much there. He always just saw it as a huge waste of time, and that it could be better used for training his skills. He was constantly fatigued, mainly because the only time he ever got a descent sleep was on the weekends, since he was always up all night during the week, training on his consoles, lurking over wikipedia, and his portable database of Teh_Masterer's archives. At break time he went to his favorite spot, the tall oak tree right at the back of the school. No one ever went there, and he had some time to himself to train in peace and quiet. He was a small guy, only 5'; he had short black hair, and was wearing his schools uniform, an attire of grey trousers, a white button shirt, a blue tie and a blue blazer.

He loaded up his DS, and checked Pictochat, and it appeared that Teh_Salesman had a message for him. Fella_H had developed a habit over the years that whenever he heard something he knew information about, he would just randomly think it or speak it upon hearing the word. He mumbled to himself, "Teh_Salesman: gun expert and messenger of Teh_Masterer." In truth this was why he was such a valuable asset, he was a walking textbook.

He saw that Teh_Salesman had drawn a picture of the front gates of the school, and a very badly drawn stick figure walking through it. Fella_H rolled his eyes and closed the DS, he took his bag and strolled out the front gate. Some teachers saw him, but he didn't particularly care -- he was gamer and always would be, and he figured that if they really wanted to question him, he could just say that Teh_Salesman was his father or something.

He saw Teh_Salesman waiting across the street, and walked across the road to meet him.

Teh_Salesman rubbed the kid's hair when he crossed the street to him, *"I hope you're up for some n00b spanking kid."*

Fella_H laughed, *"If I wasn't ready, I wouldn't be here right now. What's the dice roll today?"*

Teh_Salesman leaned against the wall, and lit up a cigarette, *"Well this afternoon you're going to be planting some listening devices and key loggers onto a Big Bad forces' stronghold. Vex recently got us some information, and we want you to go with him."*

Fella_H laughed, *"So just a walk in the park then. Alright, alright, but why do you need me here now?"*

Teh_Salesman laughed this time, *"I bust you out of school for the afternoon to go hang out at an arcade, and you're complaining!"* He then proceeded to smack the kid gently behind the head, and interrogated, *"What's wrong with you, micro boy!"*

Fella_H laughed, and continued up the road with Teh_Salesman, to Silhouette Arcade.

When they arrived, Fella_H ran over exactly what the mission with Vex this afternoon was, to make sure he understood everything, and then went off to wait around in the arcade. He immediately started hitting up some street fighter, then some Time Crisis. He genuinely was enjoying the wait. It wasn't until after he had been there for about 2 hours that he noticed the older guy watching him. Fella_H had his suspicions from the start: for the past 4 arcade machines he had walked to, this guy had always been 2 up on him in the rows. He decided to try and see if the man was actually following him, by moving over to one of the machines in the far corner. He walked casually and confidently over to the machine, and started playing. When the other man appeared, as usual just 2 machines up from him, Fella_H turned and spoke, *"So you wanna tell me, Mr. Stalker, what you doing?"*

The man looked at him blankly. By the look of him, he was about 17 years old, and looked startled from the abrupt discovery. He replied, and it was one that made Fella_H laugh: *"Vex, and I assume you are Fella_H?"*

Fella_H, in between the burst of laughter, managed to blurt out, *"So you figured scaring the shazbot out of me was going to make me pick up on you?"*

Vex shook his head, *"Well no, they just..."* he paused for a moment, *"They didn't tell me you were so young."*

Taken aback a little by the remark, Fella_H smiled, *"Yeh? well I'll 1v1 you some time pal, and then we will see who's spanking who."*

Vex extended a hand towards Fella_H, and shook his hand. *"Nice to meet you, I've read all about you, it just didn't mention your age."*

Fella_H smiled, *"So let me guess you're Teh_Vex?"*

Vex leaned against the arcade machine next to him, *"No, what do you mean?"*

"Well you know what, I'm down right amazed. What I have noticed is that it seems everyone in this dam army has 'Teh' in front of their name. I mean, it's kind of redundant, I mean, come on, Teh, wtf does that mean anyway?!"

He seemed to be pretty wound up about the issue, but all Vex could do was laugh, *"So you know what we got planned? Any ideas?"*

Fella_H let show a broad grin, *"Yeah, I know what's going down. Go in, guns a blazing I say. I'll distract them, you plant the listener, and hopefully we will get out of there. I personally put the odds at about 34% success rate for this mission."*

Vex raised an eyebrow, *"34%? Don't you think that's a bit low?"*

Jokingly, Fella_H replied, *"Yeah, but I get bored of n00bstomping all the time, should be good times."*

Vex looked over the kid, and couldn't help but wonder what his weapon was like. Curiosity was getting the better of him, he had been wondering since he first suspected him, when he arrived at the arcade, *"So tell me kid, what you packing?"*

Fella_H did nothing more but tap his index finger against the side of his forehead a few times, and that gave all the information Vex needed to know. It made him fairly confident: with a thinker and a shooter, he now put the odds of success for this mission a lot higher, even if they would be outnumbered. They finished talking in the arcade about some strats they would use, and they decided that the best way to get in would probably be to walk right in, guns a blazing. There was no way they would not be found out trying to place the key logger, so they might as well save themselves the hassle, and start the fighting early. After they had confirmed this, they walked out of the arcade, side by side, and strolled on up the street to the BB forces' stronghold location they had been given – it was Civic Side Office.

CS Office, was a well known LAN bunker. It was a below ground building which main entrance was a flight of stairs down. Although they usually let people in during the day to game, it was honestly all just a cover so that everything appeared normal. From what had

been determined from the stolen map Vex had provided, it was divided into two rooms, the commercial area at the front, for show, and out the back where the Big Bad forces would usually be training. The fact that they were starting this mission one hour earlier than they had originally anticipated might mean that there were not as many BB Forces training there yet. It also meant that they could possibly get flanked on their way out.

They were half a block away from the entrance to CS Office, and both of them had gone silent, preparing themselves mentally. Fella_H decided he wanted to go in first, and although Vex didn't agree, he figured the kid was going to do it either way, and let him. They went around the final corner of the last block, and Fella_H proceeded down the stairs, opened the door and stepped into the level. It was time for some pwnage.

Fella_H walked over to the front desk, with Vex who remained silent whilst Fella_H approached the desk and spoke to the BB forces attendant there. He was a pretty weird looking guy with afro like hair and blue eyes, He was sipping from a mug of filled with a blue liquid Fella_H didn't need to take a second glance at to know was Powerade. He had a patch with the letters "Z Master" on the side of his grey coat.

"Hey Mr, me and my brother here were wondering if we could ask you something."

The man looked at the two, slightly confused *"But why?" he asked, inquisitively.*

Vex looked down at Fella_H and winked. Fella_H spoke up, *"Well we were just wondering what this felt like on the receiving end!"* At the moment he finished the sentence, Vex drew his gun, and sent a micro bullet into the man's chest. At the same time Fella_H flung his hand out in a smooth motion, and sent a ball into the same spot.

The man screamed with pain and exclaimed, *"But How, I don't understand!?"*

Vex sent another bullet at the man, this time hitting him with full force in the head, sending him sprawling on the ground, with a crack in his skull. He was dazed, barely able to focus on the two men, now towering above him. He groaned and managed to let out a few last words before the shock and the loss of blood took him, "But...How?!"

The two moved to the side curtain behind the counter, and pushed it aside. There was a short hallway, but at the end they had walked through, two guards that had now started getting out of there seats were posted, both picking a target. Vex and Fella_H quickly sent them flying with full micro blasts.

They ran up the hallway, and opened the door they saw, and quickly counted 16 micro adepts training at the PCs. A few of them turned around to see who it was, Vex and Fella_H at the same time murmured Shazbot. This was much worse than they could have hoped for. In an attempt to get the upper hand, Vex darted across the room. There were two smaller rooms, probably used for storage, on either side. Hopefully he could use them for cover if he needed to. He started firing volleys around the room, as Fella_H started sending micro balls at different targets.

"Focus Fire!" Vex shouted across the room, and they both sent full blasts to the closest adept to Vex. It sent him flying back into one of the others, now approaching on him, and Vex used this time to dart back across the room. He was strafing in a pattern across the room, firing shots off at the guards, whilst Fella_H threw balls from his position at the door, to the same targets. One of the guards fired a micro bullet at Fella_H, but he was quick enough to raise his right hand and send a ball out of it to counter the guard's shot. He was not as lucky with stopping the other one, however, and it hit him right in his hip. It was a low shot, but it made him cry out. Vex turned his head checking to see what had happened, and when he saw the wound, he ran forward at the 4 guards in front of him, and screamed out trying to throw them off guard.

"Haxxxxxx!", he screamed at the top of his voice, and with insane fury, his hand began glowing blue as the rage intensified, and micro bullets poured out on the guards. He barrel-

rolled as the volley of micro bullets hit the guards so hard and sent them all flying. Vex didn't even have time to realize that he had hit them all, before he was standing on the other side of where they had been positioned. Fella_H flanked to the right; he was using both hands now, and the kid packed a punch. After getting hit he dived forward and under one of the closest guards legs, and rolled on his back, firing micro balls up at him as he slid to the other side. He rolled back and up onto his feet, and stretching his arms out either side, let balls flying in a fury similar to Vex, knocking them both down.

The remaining 8 guards darted to the back of the room, near the door to take up flanking positions, still slightly startled by how easily half of there clan mates had been defeated – they were a bit sluggish. Fella_H saw Vex sit down at the computer and pull out the flash drive, and stepped into the middle of the room. He intended to use this sluggishness to his advantage, and hoped he could cause some friendly fire. Closing his eyes for a split second he imagined his energy flowing through him, and darted furiously to the left side of the room and sent micro balls flying at the 3 guards there, hitting them but not making them fall. The guards were surprised at the kid's speed, but it still did not throw them off guard enough for what he hoped for. He widened his eyes for a moment in a symbolic gesture, then pounced over the top of the guards to the hallway, and started running backwards, sending blue micro balls spiraling up the hallway at an incredible speed. It was far too fast for the first adept that walked through the door, and the first 4 micro balls hit him square in the chest, sending him to the ground. The remaining 7 guards, some wounded, staggered in amazement up the hallway, firing shots off at every opportunity. The front of the shop had been cleared out, and was empty.

Fella_H burst into the front room, and slid down next to the Z Master who had fallen when they arrived. The other adepts burst through the room, but ran straight past the front desk, and didn't look behind it. Leaping up onto the desk in a pounce, Fella_H screamed out, and fired full focus micro balls out into the backs of the guards there, *"Oh yeh, oh yeh, you like my micro, you like that!"*

The three closest to the back got hit, and fell to the ground instantly, leaving the last 4 totally open. He darted across the room, and once again sliding on his back, under the guards, firing micro balls as he slid. His micro was focused, and that kept his movement fast. As one of the micro guards tried to shoot at Fella_H as he slid along the ground, he was unable to keep up, but in the process of tracking him his furious volley of micro bullets hit the legs of one of his clan mates, and the torso of the other. The first fell to the ground and the second flew back. Fella_H used this opportunity to send full focused micro balls into the two that had been shot, and that put them out of the round for good. The last two darted back up the hallway to Vex's position, but Vex appeared to be finished, and was standing mid way up the hallway. As Vex fired a volley of bullets into the guard at the front, Fella_H sent three balls quickly into the one at the back. Both of their attacks hit directly, and it sent the adepts flying into each other, knocking them out. They sent several more balls and bullets into the two guards before casually walking to either side of the bodies.

Vex then said, *"Mr H."*

Fella_H replied, *"Mr Vex."*

Looking down at the bodies for a moment, and sending another shot into them for good luck Vex said, *"It's done kid, lets get out of here. That was pretty intense, you alright?"*

Now starting to relax, he replied, *"I'm standing here ain't I? I'll be fine, but we seriously need to get out of here; a few of them could be up again soon."*

Vex jumped over the bodies and started walking up the hallway, out with Fella_H, *"Hey, no complaints from me, after this much n00b spanking I think some celebrations are in order. Anyway, I'd buy you a drink but um..."*, he looked down at the kid and winked again.

Fella_H only let out a grunt at this remark, and they both walked through the curtain. They laughed as they looked at the attendant again, and then walked over to the front door and up the stairs. Game over.

As the two walked up the stairs, both readjusting their clothing, and Vex making sure his gun was securely in his jacket, they walked around the first corner, and bumped into a tall man. Before they even had time to react, four men came from behind dressed in black, and Vex and Fella_H could feel the muzzles of the micro guns against their backs, No doubt the other two were ready for trouble as well: they had been jumped just like they had feared they would be.

The man in the cap, who was so easily recognizable, was the man that Vex had ran into on the street the previous day after he was escaping from the other stronghold with the USB flash drive. He had a grin on his face that was indeed quite sinister. It was one of content, and he had the look of Pwned in his eye. The man made a hand gesture, and in a few moments a white van came around the corner, and he spoke to the two, *"Perhaps you would like to come for a drive? I think we have a lot to talk about, don't you?"*

He let out a laugh, and the other two guards moved to the door. In this end of town, and this late in the afternoon, the few people who were around probably didn't even take any notice. The Guards that had them at gunpoint pushed the muzzles in against there backs, indicating them to move. They didn't really have a choice at this point. They got the early rush but it appeared that the BB forces had gone for the late game. They would have to hope that whatever was in store, an opportunity would present itself as it usually always did, but for now they were going to have to play it by there rules. They were pushed around, from the side, and into the back of the van. It was small, and had benches on either side. At the front of the rear cab was a bolted down chair, and in the darkness of the drawing dusk it was difficult to see who was sitting there. All that could be heard was an over exaggerated long laugh, but although Fella_H hadn't heard it before, Vex knew exactly who it was. They were pushed into the back by the guards who then got in themselves, and sat themselves two on each bench on either side of Vex and Fella_H, the muzzles of their guns still pointing into them. Deathstriker6666 looked up at them as the cab light turned on as the engine started, and looked straight into Vex's eyes. Grinning, with a sense of victory he spoke, in a quoting sarcastic tone, "No, this is Hax!"
