

# Chapter IV – Admin Abuse

The Van sped away from the parking, the two guards on either side of Vex and Fella\_H who were knocked unconscious after Vex had stolen the maps. They definitely, under no circumstance, wanted The\_Masterer's gamer army to know the location of the BB forces interrogation center in the off chance that these two did escape. Whilst the van took them to the location, the guards under orders from Deathstriker disarmed Vex. This was the second gun he had lost in a single week. Fella\_H, being a thinker and not using any weapon to control his micro, they did not search however, and despite what he had just done in the LAN bunker, they foolishly still did not consider him a large threat. Because of this lack of caution, they never found his DS which remained safely in his jacket pocket.

When they became conscious again, the two agents didn't understand at first: although their eyes were open, the room was pitch black. The guards had dragged them into the basement of some building, and left them on the floor. Unaware if they had been separated, Vex, being the first to wake up, softly called out for Fella\_H. The moment he spoke the boy's name, a dull, lonely red light turned on in the center of the room. He could immediately see his friend's body, not too far from him, but Fella\_H was still unconscious.

He murmured to himself with a sarcastic tone, *"Yeah, takes a total pro to pistol whip a young kid."* The room was small; it had one glass window to the left, and could only be viewed by those looking in, and a single door, which was in front of Vex. It seemed to be made of reinforced steel, and had a turning wheel much similar to those on a navy vessel. As for the rest, it was concrete wall as far as the eye could see. For the remaining three minutes, he continued surveying his new found prison, but was unable to see any way out. This was no surprise to Vex. They wouldn't have gone to this much effort just to let him go. They must want something from him. If it was merely for revenge, they would have taken both of their lives at the LAN bunker.

The wheel on the large steel door slowly began to turn, and even after it had clicked open, telling him that it was now unlocked, it was to Vex what seemed like an eternity before it opened. When it did, a man wearing a long cape and a strange device on his arm instantly walked in. Behind him were two guards who kept their eyes fixed on Vex the entire time.

The man spoke in a low, husky voice, *"Welcome to my playground."*

Vex lifted his chin up quickly, in defiance, *"Should have gotten some better games; looks to me like you're n00bin' out!"* The man with the cape raised a hand, and one of the guards lifted his arm in a quick movement, and shot Vex in the hip with a mid focus micro ball. He was already weak from the previous confrontation, and with a cry of pain, he fell straight to his knees.

The man looked down at him, *"I won't have any of your quips here today. I have the advantage on this map, hehehe!"* Vex looked up at the man for a moment, before he once again hung his head, gazing down at his feet.

Fella\_H was starting to come to, and in a weak voice he mumbled, *"Aim bot for sure!"* The man in the cape turned his attention to the boy who was now slowly getting to his feet.

*"And don't think that you will be playing any rematches today either, boy!"* Fella\_H said nothing, but stared back at the man with an intense fury in his eyes.

He started, slowly over to Vex, *"You alright?"* he asked.

However, before Vex was allowed to reply, the caped man shouted abruptly, *"Work before pleasure, my friends. Now be silent and listen!"* He then moved closer to the two, and turned his head, looking them each in the eyes, and then spoke again, *"You two have caused*

*a lot of problems, especially you Vex, and what we want from you both is some compensation for our, now gross, disadvantage.” He raised a hand, already knowing what Vex’s response would be. “What you are going to tell us is Teh\_Masterer’s plans for the coming months, and might I remind you, before you think of protesting to this idea, of where you actually are!”*

He paused for a moment as if letting them ponder on the idea, but Fella\_H broke the silence, *“You ain’t getting jack, Mac!”* he smiled with a sardonic grin.

In an almost soothing tone the caped figure replied, *“We shall see, but perhaps you would like to get more comfortable first before you feel like talking. I have all night, and oh, so do you it seems.”* The caped man turned on his heel and walked passed the guards who then followed in after him. The giant wheel turned and slammed with the same loud click, and they were once again alone in the silent red room.

They looked at each other blankly for a moment, before Vex finally spoke, *“Well at least it’s cosy.”*

Fella\_H laughed softly, *“And we even get mood lighting, very romantic!”*

Vex sat down on the floor, and crossed his legs. Fella\_H did the same, *“So what’s the plan boss?”*, Fella\_H asked inquisitively.

Vex remained silent for a moment, *“We don’t actually know the things they are asking for. You know as well as I that information is kept on a need to know basis.”*

Fella\_H hung his head, *“True, but couldn’t we bluff them?”*

Dismissively vex replied, *“They would cross check anything and everything we gave them, and even then I still doubt they would let us go. Once they knew we would talk, they would try to get more out of us. The best thing for us to do is stay silent. It’s probably going to hurt, but we can’t compromise anything we know.”*

Fella\_H was facing away from the window, and reached into his pocket and pulled out his DS, making sure to keep it close to his body. Shielding the light down, he quickly loaded up Tetris, which was still in the console.

*“Do you really think this is the time?”* Vex interrupted. He was ignored.

Fella\_H assumed that a place like this must have Wi-Fi, and he was correct. That also meant that they must at least still be somewhere in the city. He connected to the network, and quickly removed all his friends except a girl named Last\_Kiss. She was in the lower ranks of The\_Masterer’s army, but she was the only direct contact with the army he actually had stored. She also gave weekly reports to Noliad for intelligence purposes, and this week it would be tomorrow. He started searching for friends, and then took a piece of gum out of his pocket, unwrapping, chewing it for a moment, then placing it in the DS so that it didn’t turn off when he closed it.

He flicked the lid shut and looked up to Vex with a smile on his face. *“You know Last\_Kiss?”* Vex shook his head confused. *“Well she’s one of us. She reports to Noliad weekly, tomorrow in fact. If she speaks to him after having noticed that I was relentlessly trying to connect to her, surely Noliad would be able to track the Wi-Fi location down with the database computers. I’ve seen him do it before with others. Maybe not in a situation like this, but it might work all the same”*

Vex let a long smile creep across his face, *“Its not much, but its something. We still have to keep quite for a while though, even if it works.”* Fella\_H nodded and made a zipping motion across his lips and then ate the key. Vex laughed.

The two continued to talk about what they would do if anything actually managed to succeed, and they had a chance of getting out of here. Considering they didn’t know the location at all, they both concluded they were going to have to think on there feet. They both remained sitting on the floor, discussing back and forth, until the wheel once again turned on the door and, with a clunk, stopped. They both looked at it, and stood up again side-by-side.

The man in the cape entered again, and this time he was accompanied by Deathstriker. Deathstriker spoke first, *“Well, looks like you’re having fun. Perhaps you two n00bs wanna chat now?”*

The man in the cape stepped forward, *“You could have a good future with us here, if you would only leave The\_Masterer and his foolish ways behind you. Did you ever consider that?”*

Fella\_H said nothing, but Vex responded, *“Oh yeah? Your n00blet with the cap filled me in on this. He even gave me his business card. Sweet of him really, as I remember it was right after I busted up your friend here.”* He motioned to Deathstriker who let out a sneer. The man in the cape once again carried the conversation continuing to attempt to flank the twos minds from different angles.

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Last\_Kiss had finished typing up her weekly report for Noliad, and although there wasn't much in it, mainly because she hadn't seen much activity of Big Bad forces in the area, this week she was satisfied with it, and printed it off. It was getting late and she was planning on getting an early start tomorrow because she wanted to hit up the arcades after she gave the report to Noliad, but she decided she would play a few rounds of Tetris before she went to bed.

She was a slender girl, 18 years old with long red hair and fair skin. She walked over to, and lay down on her bed and switched her DS on. She searched for friends, and connected to Fella\_H. A smile spread across her face; she was hoping for someone easier, but she supposed she didn't mind getting a few spanks before she went to bed. She laughed at the idea of Fella\_H actually spanking her, for a moment, and imagined this tiny boy having no idea what he was doing. When the match finally started, she laid down blocks quickly, and in a matter of moments beat him. She found it strange since she had never beaten him before, but also because he didn't position any blocks at all. She smiled and shrugged to herself as she began searching for friends again and once again connected to Fella\_H. He once again faced the same fate, occurring again in the same manner. She found this particularly odd, and connected again. The same thing happened another four times before she eventually decided he must be having Wi-Fi problems, and turned her DS off. As she didn't have much to report to Noliad the next morning, she figured she would report this to him as well, partially because she was surprised she actually got a victory against him. Even if it was because of some technical error, it would still make a good joke, and when she next saw the little boy she would be sure to rub it in his face. She carefully placed her DS on her bedside table, lay down, under her covers, and went to sleep. Something still seemed strange to her, but she wasn't sure why. It was one of those moments when she was sure she knew something was going on, but she just couldn't put her finger on it. She liked to think of herself as slightly prophetic, but she knew she was kidding herself. After laying in her bed, staring at her roof, pondering on the idea for a good fifteen minutes, she put the thoughts out of her mind, and let her body sleep.

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After a half hour's worth of interrogation, the caped man and Deathstriker were beginning to grow impatient. They had gotten nothing out of the two captives, and had given them multiple chances to join forces, offering different rewards. These bargains seemed to have no effect on the two. It did, in fact, give Vex and Fella\_H more resolve to not give in. It showed they wanted the two on their side, rather than against them, and so it gave the two a slight ego boost, even under the horrible circumstances they were in. Deathstriker stepped

forward once again, and changed to a soothing tone, which was unusual compared to his typical arrogance, *"The\_Masterer's fight against us has always been unjustified. All we do is defend ourselves. Is there anything wrong with that? No, I didn't think so. The information we want from you, will ultimately help bring peace to this endless conflict. Would you try to prevent that, really? If we know where he is planning to attack, we can stop him, and finally prove to the Over Watch that we are the true ones. We have the numbers, but all Teh\_Masterer has done for the past five years is use guerrilla warfare to get at us!"*

Vex let out a long laugh in an imitation of Deathstriker then spoke, *"Me no understand! Me just poor n00b... If you honestly think you can convince me with such a pathetic attempt, your in for a surprise Mr n00bstriker."*

Deathstriker, seeming irritated by this, looked at the caped man with a glare of fury in his eyes. They both nodded at each other, and left the room. In truth, Vex had no idea who the OverWatch was, but he was glad that they had left the room; he was getting sick of the same speech. The way Deathstriker blatantly underestimated him was quite insulting, and infuriated him even more. Never the less, he would have to remain calm and cold blooded until this chapter was over.

Fella\_H looked at Vex as they both moved to the far side of the room and rested against the wall there, *"That didn't go very well did it," he said, smiling.*

Vex looked up at the red light, *"No not at all, but it looks like that opportunity we were looking for hasn't come yet, and honestly, we can sit here all night bitching or we could get some rest. If this girl of yours tells Noliad, we could have a fight on our hands tomorrow."*

Fella\_H didn't complain at the idea, and in truth they were both fatigued from the earlier battle in the LAN bunker, and in pain from the blows to the head after they were caught, not to mention Vex's wound to the hip. Fella\_H propped himself up against the wall, and hung his head and went to sleep without much hesitation. Vex looked at the kid whilst he reached into his jacket, and found they hadn't taken his cigarettes. He thought to himself that this was probably the only good thing that had happened tonight, and he lit one up, the spark of his match temporarily illuminating the entire room. He inhaled deeply, letting the taste hang, and then exhaling through his nose. He wondered what would happen if this girl, Last\_Kiss or whatever her name was, told Noliad. If he would send a few guys, a dozen or maybe more. He himself didn't think they were that important, but he also didn't think Noliad would just leave them here, especially at what appeared to be such a crucial point in time. He finished his cigarette, and stubbed it out. He then took off his jacket and rolled it into a ball, placing it down next to him, to use as a pillow. He didn't get to sleep as easily as he normally would, but after a while, the sheer exhaustion procured by the unfolding events of the day, carried him off. As it turned out, he was still being watched.

As he drifted to sleep, with the days events running through his mind, he heard a voice, a very confident voice that seemed to be speaking from the back of his mind. He couldn't make out the words at first, but then all at once it seemed to fall into place. In his dream, he was in a white space. There was nothing around him, but the voice spoke to him very clearly.

*"So young Vex, been causing some trouble have we? Being a bit stubborn are we? Well I have been more than generous with my offers I think, but seeing as you won't respond to my fine henchmen, perhaps a test of stamina will weaken your mind, and perhaps a marathon that can only end up in your permanent doom will make you think twice before you meddle in my affairs again!"*

The last part of the sentence was pronounced in an echoing booming voice and at its end he was instantly in a new location. He looked over and saw Fella\_H.

*"What?!"* Fella\_H looked back, *"did you just hear a voice?"* he replied extremely confused.

*"Yes but... where are we... how are you... we here?"* Fella\_H was looking around frantically, with a look of disbelief in his eyes, and seeming to ignore Vex's complete confusion.

*"I've only read about this in one instance in the archive!"*

Vex shook his head, *"Read about what?!"*

Fella\_H ran over and picked up a shotgun that appeared just in front of them. *"Look around, its CS\_Cbble Extended!"*

Vex did, and his eyes went white. *"Is this real?"* he exclaimed.

Fella\_H pumped the action on the shotgun, *"Is a 14 year old kid standing in front of you holding a shotgun? Shazbot Vex, read the archives more often! It's an advanced micro ability."*

Before Vex had time to respond, they both heard the same booming voice echoing again, *"Welcome to the game, don't worry, the zombies don't bite, they mainly kill and generally rip there opponents apart. My pets, I do hope you enjoy. Round starts in 5, 4, 3, 2, 1... Oh and lads, I'm afraid respawn has been disabled!"*