CNN Briefing

JC: You wanted to see me, boss?

Manderley: At ease, JC. Son, we have a very urgent mission for you.

JC: A field operation? I’m ready for it, Sir, but me and my partner Anna Navarre are still assigned to an investigation of the missing Ambrosia shipment.

Manderley: I was thinking about sending one of our more mature agents like Mr. Gunther or Paul but our investors insisted we give you a chance to lead this operation. However, before I can assign this mission to you we must be absolutely sure you are the right man for the job. That means you have to pass a small test.

Choice 1: JC: Just like back in the academy.

Choice 2: JC: More tests? With all due respect, Mr. Manderley, haven’t I proven myself during the training course? I was UNATCO ‘s best trainee in Switzerland…

Manderley: Like I said, it was the idea of our generous investors. It’s not the same physical drills or psychological evaluation that you’ve been through in UNATCO academy. This one is to make sure we’re on the same page. To see whether we can trust you.

JC: I’m ready.

Manderley: Imagine your next mission has no objective, no known enemy and no location. You are asked to go in an unknown site and bring an unknown item. You are to choose between three tools in order to accomplish such a bizarre objective.

Option number one: infuse maximum number of augmentation supported by your biomod system.

Option number two: go in like the U.S. marshals packing top-secret prototype arsenal and shoot your way through like Rambo.

And the last option is to use computer-aided knowledge to master the skills of everything you know.

Manderley: Which one would you choose and why?

Choice 1: All biomods. I can become a Transhumanist superhero. A dream of civilization. A walking war machine. I can tear my enemy apart with an empty inventory.

Manderley: That’s right, the future is behind the biotech revolution. Get any augs you will find at Jaime Reyes’s office. Tonight we’ll sending an agent that has embraced becoming more than human.

Choice 2: Just give me weapons and spare no ammo. Plasma blasters, energy sabers, the whole nine yards. Nobody messes with UNATCO and lives.

Manderley: I’ve never seen such dedication to the cause of the coalition since Anna Navarre. You will be the person to redeem our Freedom, because Freedom is bought on the battleground by soldiers like you. Get your equipment from Sam Carter, I’ll clear some advanced experimental stuff for you.

Choice 3: Knowledge is power. We live in the age when information is the most valuable resource. Experience is what makes a true agent, not his toys.

Manderley: Don’t expect to become Albert Einstein…you’ll become even smarter. In our time computers have long exceeded capabilities of a human mind. You will be plugged in to Internet 3. Alex Jacobson’s new special algorithm will enhance your mental capacity, instantaneously upgrading all your skills and memory.

Choice 4: Repeat my options.

Manderley: Congratulations, JC, you’ve passed the test. Our investors will be happy to know you’ve lived up to their expectations. As a matter of fact, we’ll be joined by one of our investors at this briefing. He is a well-respected government man. For the sake of his security, I hope you are comfortable with not knowing his identity.

JC: ‘Secrets are lives’ is my life’s motto, boss.

Manderley: Precisely. That’s why you will not tell anyone about this mission – not even your brother.

JC: Just tell me who my next objective is.

Manderley: We are hoping this mission will not turn out to be a bloodbath. In fact we have no clue as to what you are going to face with or whether or not there is a real enemy.

JC: I hope you’re not sending me where you don’t know?

Manderley: Relax, it’s a real physical place, but it doesn’t officially exist. I’ll let our investor speak now.

WS: Agent Denton, we are sending you to a top-secret orbital science platform. A few days ago we’ve lost communications with the space station, we are afraid something went wrong on their end. UNATCO sent a squad of highly-trained troops to investigate what went wrong, but as soon as they’ve docked to the station the signal was lost. The research that was conducted on this station is fundamental to the ideas of Transhumanism, with the station offline, the nanotech revolution is slowing down with every minute. This situation is unacceptable.

Manderley: You are the world’s only hope, JC. Bring the station back online and you’ll put the scientific progress back on track. Your secondary objective is to find out what happened to the rescue squad, but re-establishing communications with the station is your number one priority. Any questions?

JC: Why does so much depends on one space lab?

Manderley: You’ve seen what the society has become – terrorism is on the rise, the plague is killing millions and on top of that the effects of the Global Warming are worse than ever. We are in trouble on all levels of human life, we cannot afford our scientific progress go into a decline as well! Get to the helipad and take the unmanned spacecraft to the orbit. You will hear from Alex once you dock to the station.

JC: Understood, sir.