**Humanity has won.**

Humanity has triumphed over the “Fumigator Values Above Nominal” zombie apocalypse incident with a shockingly low level of death (drilling into Europa with a probe was always a bad idea, but Congress needed a morale boost…) – a mere 176 million humans died or were zombified and had to be exterminated. However, after the final victory (declared on January 27, 2040 after the siege, bombing, and obliteration by United Nations forces of the zombie fortress in Ogre, Latvia (they had chosen to build it there on the suggestion of their allies, the Ogres, because it had the same name as them and “sounded cool”), humanity had a problem – while organised zombie resistance was broken, there were still millions of zombies (some of which did not even know the reasons for them being on Earth, or were unaware of the defeat of the zombie invasion of Earth) running around. Deporting them to space was considered, but it was judged to be too costly and risky, requiring many attempts to succeed (as the only cheap enough launch vehicle was a SpaceX Starship).

They did not pose a threat to humanity anymore, thanks to the efforts of Dr. Jennifer Coleman Hacks-Smith-Karp-Wladomnosoczócy VI and her team of researchers, who developed the ZomboNO vaccine in order to cure zombie infections, with a 99.9999% efficacy and 99.9998% survival rate (except for the young people who mysteriously disappeared from Chinese political re-education camps, who consensually suffered “partial zombie mutation”, where the body but not the head is zombified, and shortly joined the 176 million filthy zombie traitors. The public don’t know that yet). She was celebrated as a world hero for this incredible accomplishment and received two Nobel Prizes in one year; at the award ceremony she suggested that the zombies be forced to battle against players in a game in order to get rid of the remaining zombie population in a way that humans would find enjoyable and fun; plus, her team had invented the new *Zombie Bamfuslicator 8000X*, a new type of firearm that had the power to spawn zombies and obstacles for the player at will, via all new *Zombo-U*™ technology, that satisfies all known safety regulations and will in no event cause any unfortunate events to happen.

As she was an internationally renowned celebrity (except in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region, but who cared about their opinion anyway?) her suggestion was seriously taken up by the World Zombie Sports League Association (WZSL), which started the *World Zombie Zombie League* in 2041, which is now in its fourth iteration; it has become one of the world’s most popular sports with over fifty million people watching the latest, 2044 iteration. The 2045 Zombie League is about to begin, and it is sure to absolutely smash all previous records with over 2,000 entrants successfully qualifying for the tournament! What could go wrong?

I wonder what happened to the anti-Zombie League protestors to make them shoot themselves in the back of the head?