With a start, he jerked his head and a loud bang followed.

“Shit!” he yelled out as reached toward forehead, stinging with pain. At first he was confused, but as he started to wake up a bit more, he realized where he was. It was the middle of the night and his roommates lay motionless in the beds above him, fast asleep. As he started to come to, he still had an eery feeling that something was still off.

As he peered around the room, he began to notice a slight shimmer on the edges of his vision and around the objects in his room. He reached out towards his blanket and it felt normal, but something in his head told him that it wasn’t real. Neurons in his brain were firing, signaling that he was touching something, but he couldn’t believe that this was happening. He sat motionless for a moment, and concentrated. He tried to remember the night before, or how he got to where he was, but he couldn’t. Then he remembered.

“I’m still dreaming!”

Before falling asleep last night, he had plugged himself into his most recent invention, a device he hoped would lead to effortless and on demand lucid dreaming.

“It must have worked!” he thought to himself with glee. When he stood up, he felt a huge amount of power surge through him, and with almost no effort he leaped up, crashing through both stories of the dorm building and into the night sky. As he rose he admired the thousands of stars twinkling above him and the beautiful campus laid out before him. He reached the peak of his jump and his stomach dropped for a moment as he began to descend, fearing the inevitable smashing of his body against the ground below him. But he never made it to the ground. As he was falling he thought hard knowing he had to act quickly before he hit the ground and woke up. Suddenly wings sprouted from each side of his back, spanning over 15 feet on each side. Slowly he tried to get used to the new muscles he developed to flap his wings, and he was soon gliding through the air, several hundreds of feet above UC Santa Barbara. The wind overwhelmed his ears and an aura of complete relaxation and content came over him.

As he soared above he contemplated his invention. The applications were practically endless and he was filled with joy over his success.