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# The SSP



A STORYBIRD BOOK

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Published on February 3, 2019

# Chapter 1

My name is Chase. Chase Charleson. I was always a normal kid growing up. I went to a normal school, had plenty of friends, and got good grades. I was always a very athletic kid growing up. I was never really interested in video games or stuff like that. I was more focused on school and my future life. But that all changed when... IT happened.

I'll never forget that day, the day my life changed forever. I was talking with my friend in my car, driving home from another stressful day at school. I was going pretty fast. After I dropped my friend off at his house, I decided to take a shortcut near the woods, where the newly built nuclear plant was, desperately and I was going pretty fast. I decided to take a shortcut near the woods, where the newly built nuclear plant was, desperately trying to get home and relax, when I didn't see it coming. I was speeding down the road, not bothering to wait my turn at the four-way intersection, when the truck collided with my car. The impact was dreadful. I could feel myself losing my grip on life. The pain and the hurt, my skin tearing off of me... it was horrible, all I could remember after that moment was the sound of sirens blaring, people screaming, the smell of chemicals, and some green goo inside my car. Then the world started to fade, and there was nothing but darkness.

## *Chapter 2*

When I woke up, I found myself in what looked like a lab. I had a cast around my right leg and on my left arm. I was lying down on a steel bed. When I glanced to my right arm, I could see cuts and bruises, little pieces of metal piercing my flesh. It was a horrible sight to see. After scanning my body for any more injuries, I looked around the room. I saw lots of bottles with fluids in them, some chemicals, and one giant experiment that was going on right beside me. I could see wires running down from the machine and I followed them to see where they would lead to. I kept following the wires until it stopped right beside my arm. I moved my arm to the back side of it, wincing at the pain, and realized that the wire was in my arm. I checked my right arm to and noticed there was one there too. I looked down at my right leg and there were also some there as well. That's when I started to panic. What are they doing to me? I thought. Where am I? I kept looking around the room to see if there was anything to tip off my location but I couldn't see anything. Then, I noticed a faint light, coming from directly in front of me. Is that the way out? I thought. As I put my focus on that light, I could start to hear sounds. They sounded like... cars. Yes cars! That was the way out! I needed to get there. And fast. If these people - whoever they are - are doing something to me, I wasn't about to stick around to find out. I tried to move my body, desperately trying to get out of this place, but every muscle in my body hurt. I kept trying, fighting the pain, trying to get to safety, but the straps holding me down were too strong. I eventually stopped and lied down on the metal bed, knowing that there was no

escape. After a few minutes of lying on that cold metal bed, I tried calling for help. “Hello?” I said. “Anyone there?”

“Hello there, Chase,” a strange voice said. I looked around the room, searching, trying to locate where the voice was coming from.

“Who are you?” I asked.

“That’s not important right now,” the voice said. “But what I am about to tell you is.” I was confused now.

“What is it? Where am I? What are you doing to me?” The voice didn’t respond. After a moment, the voice said...

“My friend, before I tell you this news, let’s refresh your memory a little bit and give a rundown of what has been going on for the past 24 hours.”

“What? This is ridiculous. I don’t have time for this. Let me go.”

“I’m afraid I can’t do that sir. I am under strict rules to keep you here until our transportation squadron comes to pick you up.”

“What squadron? I’m not some kind of toy that you’re gonna play with okay? I have a life too you know.”

“Oh, yes Chase I know. But you are our property now. Remember the car crash you were in? You collided with one of the nuclear power plant trucks that was transporting very important chemicals for a very important project. When you collided with it, some of those chemicals ended up in your car. Luckily, one of the plant workers saw the collision happen and went to help out. He rescued you from your car and if it weren’t

for him, you would be dead right now. Right before he rescued you, he noticed something about you.”

Oh! I remember now! How could I forget? I thought. The green goo, the smell of chemicals, the sirens, the collision. It’s all coming back to me.

“Wow. That’s a lot to take in. But what was the thing the worker noticed about me?” I asked.

“Chase, this is going to sound crazy, but you... you were glowing. And not just like a faint glow or anything, but you were crackling, almost like, hmmm, electricity.”

“Wait... WHAT?!?!? Did I hear that right? Did you just say that I was glowing? That’s impossible!”

“I’m afraid it is possible, Chase. After the worker rescued you, he brought you here, to the chemistry lab in the nuclear plant. We ran some tests on you while you were unconscious, but we didn’t come up with anything. The squadron that is coming to pick you up will take you to our main headquarters.”

At that moment, I felt a sharp pain in my neck. At first, I thought it was just the aftershock of pain from the collision, but when I reached up to touch it, there was a dart. I started to get drowsy, and then nausea started to creep over me. The pain, drowsiness, and nausea took over my body. Then, I fell into a deep sleep.

When I woke up, I found myself lying in a comfy bed, with a cup of water on a desk to my left and a small lamp to my right. Where am I? I thought and looked around to see what else there was in the room but that was it, other than the small washroom door in the right corner of the room. I noticed that I didn't have any cast on any part of my body anymore. There was no way I would've healed that fast, unless I was out for a LONG time. I got out of bed, and headed to the bathroom to wash up. After washing up and changing into fresh new clothes, I went outside of the room to explore the area. I walked down a long hallway and turned the corner to find myself in a gigantic fitness room. There was everything here to get you fit. I looked around the room to find a man, who looked like he was in his early forties. He had grey hair, a mustache leading into a beard, he was tall, buff, and had a firm face that, when you saw him, you know he meant business. He was looking out the windows of the room, gazing at the city lights of Downtown New York. I walked over to him to ask him where I was and what this place was, but before I got the chance, he said, "Hello Chase."

I recognized that voice from the moment he said hello. It was the creepy voice from the nuclear power plant! "Who are you and what is this place?"

"Let me properly introduce myself," the man said. "My name is Henry Davids, but you will refer to me as Chief Davids. I am the head of the SSP (Secret Superhuman Project), and you are currently at our main headquarters."

“Ok, so what am I doing here and what is this room?” I asked.

“Chase, you are here because, based on our test results, you are the world’s first... Superhuman.”

I gaped at him, my eyes wide, jaw dropped. “Did you say that I’m a... superhuman?”

“Yes, I did. And this room is the training center for superhumans.”

I couldn’t believe what he was saying. “Wait, so does that mean that I have superpowers?” I asked.

“I believe so.” He replied. “Now if you don’t mind, I suggest we get to training right away. You will start your training exercises tomorrow. Go get some rest for now.”

“You better believe I will,” I said. “But before I go, what powers do I have? What are my abilities?” I asked, anxious for the answer to come.

Chief Davids smiled. “You’ll just have to wait and find out.”

I grinned. Wow, I thought. Maybe this won’t be so bad after all. I headed back to my room to rest. The next day I started my training. I found out that I had electric powers, and that I could shoot lightning bolts from my hands, and shock people with blasts of electricity! I trained every day, working to harness my powers, practicing different moves, learning different abilities. A few weeks later, a new person arrived on the scene, a girl. “Hi. I’m Mikayla. Mikayla Smith.” she said. “I am also a superhuman.”

### Chapter 3

“Hey.” I said, blushing. “I’m Chase Charleson. Nice to meet you.”

“Nice to meet you too.” she replied. I sat down and took a break for a bit. I took a good look at her. She was tall, had golden brown hair, a soft delicate face, and was the most beautiful girl I have ever seen.

“So, how did you get your powers?” I asked.

“To be honest, I’m not really sure. The last thing I remember is that I was at my house, when I felt a sharp pain in my neck and then everything went dark. Then, when I woke up, I found myself inside of this room, and when I walked out to see where I was, I saw you.”

“Oh.” I said. “Well that’s a bit odd. I got my powers by colliding with a nuclear power plant truck.” I said.

She snickered. “That sounds like it came out of a comic book.”

I laughed. “Well, sometimes you can’t control the outcome of a situation.”

She smiled. “You got that right. Sorry if I interrupted you, by the way.”

“No don’t worry about it,” I replied. “I needed someone to talk to for a bit.”

She smiled again. “Well I better let you continue with your training. I’ll see you around, Chase.

I smiled. “You too, Mikayla.”

## Chapter 4

I continued with my training, and kept practicing my skills. Soon, she started training with me too. She had telekinetic powers and could move stuff with her mind, (which, if you ask me, is WAAAAY cooler than my powers). During the weeks I had been here, I noticed a lot more people were coming in, also announcing that they were superhumans as well. After a few more weeks, it was almost a daily routine that new recruits were coming in. Then, one day, we were all training when Chief Davids called me and Mikayla over. “Chase, Mikayla, we have some bad news. We just got some enemy intel of a man that goes by the name of Captain Ossas that is plotting to take over America. I know that you both haven’t fully harnessed your powers yet. But I believe that you are both ready. We have sent you the coordinates on your phones to the exact location he will be attacking first. Gather your fellow comrades and tell them to suit up, we have a country to save. Now go out there and show him what you superhumans are made of.”

“Yes sir,” we said in unison. Before we left, I felt my stomach knotting up, and I realized that I was scared. Going on this mission and all, knowing that I had the fate of America in my hands, it was scary. But I knew that I had to be strong, and that I wouldn’t let up no matter what. On the way to the battleground, I stole glances at Mikayla now and then, and then I noticed that I had actually started to fall for Mikayla. In fact, I think I was in love with her from the moment I laid eyes on her. I guess all the time we spent together hanging out and training, I got to know her a lot better and I felt that we had some sort of connection.

Once we got there, I quickly got out of the car and scouted out the surroundings of the place. At first, I couldn't see anything, but then I noticed something faint in the distance. It looked like, an army! Yes, it was! There was an army of terrorist looking people with guns, swords, and all kinds of lethal weapons charging straight at us. Once everyone was out of the vehicles. We all got ready for the oncoming fleet of physco's. The air rushed all around us, and the faint whistle of the wind gave me chills. I glanced at Mikayla and our eyes locked, and I could see the fear flowing through her. Despite her emotions, she gave me a slight nod, and I nodded back, and right then, a rush of adrenaline and determination surged through me, and I yelled, "superhumans, CHARGE!!!!" There was a huge roar of fury and excitement as we all dashed toward the army ahead of us. That's when the fight began, bodies were going everywhere, shots were being fired and blasts of energy were all over the place. The fight seemed like it was never going to end. Everyone kept fighting, each side determined to do whatever it took to claim victory. Then it all came down to 3 people. Me, Mikayla, and Captain Ossas. Everyone else was either dead or unconscious. "So here we are," Captain Ossas said. "It's two vs one. Now that doesn't seem very fair."

I was angry now. "You have no right to say that!" I yelled. All these people have fought with all their strength, even sacrificed themselves to bring us to this moment! I won't let all their hard work go to waste!"

"Chase calm down," Mikayla said. "Now let's finish this."

I looked at her and said, “No Mikayla, you stay out of this. I can’t lose you too.”

Captain Ossas frowned. “You don’t think I lost loved ones too?” he said. “You want to know why I am trying to take over America? My son was killed by the military. He was shot in the heart, mistaken for a terrorist. Now I am here to get my revenge. And nothing will stop me until I get it.”

Chase licked his lips. “And I won’t stop until you’re dead.”

I shot a lightning bolt at Captain Ossas, but he spun and dodged right and the attack missed. Then he shot 3 bullets at me and one hit me square in the shoulder. I cried out in agony as the pain flowed through my body. Then, just as Captain Ossas was about to finish this once and for all... Mikayla hit him straight in the forehead with a rock using her telekinesis, making him stagger back. I quickly got up, ignoring the wound in my shoulder that was burning with pain, and shot a lightning bolt to make him fall to the ground. Mikayla pinned Captain Ossas to the ground using her telekinesis. I was just about to deliver the final blow when I looked into his eyes, and saw the pain, the suffering, the loneliness. I knew I should end this once and for all, but I just couldn’t, not while knowing that this man had gone through so much through his life. Instead, I reached for my phone and called Chief Davids, saying that we had won the fight, and that we were ready to go back home. Once the transportation squadron came, they handcuffed Captain Ossas and put him in the back of a truck. I looked around the battle zone, thinking about what had just happened.

*Chapter 4*

Mikayla glanced towards me and smiled. “You did the right thing Chase.”

I looked back at her. “Did I Mikayla? Did I really?”

She took my hand in hers, and I could feel my cheeks getting hot. “I know you did.”

I smiled. “Thanks for, you know, kind of saving my life back there.” I said

She smiled back. “Anytime.”

After we got back, I decided I would tell Mikayla how I felt about her. Turns out, she felt the same way. I leaned in, and then she did too, but she only leaned over to tie her shoe. “Oh,” I said. She laughed.

“Relax, pea brain.” she said. She leaned and kissed me, and it was a moment that I wouldn’t forget for as long as I lived.



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