

From the little man's diary.

"I did not ask for this assignment" as this thought went through my brain for a millionth time as I disembarked on New Saturn 12 supposedly as an immigrant for this was The Man's planet but also where Aelfric was.

I did start with them and work my way back to Slow Horse, one way or the other I wasn't going home without Willmina the hope of the empire. Augustus, pewee, I too had heard suggestions a warrior empress should be put on the imperial throne. Even a chimpanzee in a dress would be a better leader than Augustus.

And here I was at the secret address provided me.

I will never forget the startled look in Posidonius's face; FEAR was all over him as others knew where he lived.

Aelfric wasn't too amused either.

"And what harm can you do me?" The robot aspire asked lounging in his sofa reading a fax print out.

"This," and set fire to the read out with ESP. That made him jump as his fingers were burned.

"How did you do that?" He demanded furious and alarmed.

And I concentrated my thoughts and sent them to him so they hit him in the chest pushing him backwards so he fell heavily over the back of the sofa that toppled onto him.

“You are a demon?” I heard Posidonus squeak behind me and turned and using my mind lifted him and shook him upside down.

“I heard rumours Augustus was developing ESP to use against The Man, it seems he has succeeded, I bow to my emperor,” the robot I knew was taking the baloney out of me.

“E,” he screamed and his right bionic arm stretched towards me like elastic and being small and nibble slid left and crawled between Posidonus’s legs who screamed as the elastic arm after me hit his groin.

I got out into the lobby, I was no match for the robot sat close quarters in there, I had to be quick, I was already open so pushed upwards with, my consciousness and got energy just as the door opened and there was Aelfric about to grab me by the throat; I sent a blast of thought into him, staggering him back into Posidonus who fell onto his face with Aelfric on top.

Still I kept blasting with mind and pushed the robot across the room hard against a shattered proof window.

Posidonus was up, a bloody nose and lips showing and he was going for his laser.

I hit took hold of his laser and made him fire it at Aelfric who was picking up a stainless steel table to throw at me.

The laser went into him several times.

I saw smoke, heard circuits bang.

He gasped.

He shouted “Idiot.”

He managed to throw the table but at the idiot.

The idiot fell backwards and the laser came towards me so I broke my thoughts against the robot.

He was still dangerous but I wasn't leaving until he knew who was boss and Willmina.

He crouched like a rabbit and like a kangaroo jumped at me.

I needed to stand still to get my mind sent at him, so he hit me like a tonne of bricks sending me out into the lobby again where I slid very fast all the way down stairs.

But he was no longer near me.

But I was able to concentrate.

But he appeared at the doorway looking for me.

But Posidonus was behind him almost clambering on him to see where OI was too shot me.

But my mind sent a thought at them.

But Aelfric was bounding down the stairs to squash me flat.

But the thought hit him lifting him high and drove him into Posidonus hard.

I did not stop hitting with this ESP energy.

There could be only one master, me the little man.

I pushed him against the shattered proof window again and again and there was no relief for him. His human tissue was hurting, but it was his robot side that needed winded.

And there was always Posidonus, like a roach he comes from behind and hits me with a vase, it was enough, I went out like a light.

“Well? Work with us or he works on you?” It was Aelfric and he was looking down at me strapped to a table. I was exposed and embarrassed and it was obvious the famous surgeon was about to work on me.

“The emperor wants Willmina back,” I said knowing soon when I had come round fully I did send my thoughts out again.

“He can pay for her like the rest will bid, already someone anonymous has put in a billion dollar imperial dollar bid, and Willmina is worth more than that, what a cut of the action? How much do you want?” The robot asked.

“I never asked for this assignment, times are dangerous, how much?” I heard myself ask.

“You cannot be serious,” it was Posidonus afraid he was too lose a client so soon.

“Yes, the empire is breaking up, The Man will be the new emperor, what will happen to the courtiers of Augustus, what will The Man do to them and Augustus? Remember the supermarket bags? “Send more.”

“I will wait till to see if the emperor bids for Willmina now unstrap me,” I replied thinking it best not to use my mind to break the straps, the final show down between man and robot would be delayed.

And when a doctor finally lost his licence.