Chapter 10

Celeste and Olivia had trouble getting up the following day for school. At breakfast, they asked if they could get me to donate money to the cross-country team so they could get new uniforms. There were seven women and three guys on the Cascade high school club team. I sent a text to my lawyer to send $20k to a NIKE rep to visit the high school and outfit the team with sneakers, uniforms, and warm-ups.

I toured the property during the day. The trees were growing quickly, but the soil was very rocky from erosion. The new paved road was really well done with the puffcrete. I took mental notes on where I wanted to put the next load of Aether fertilizer. There were two rough horse trail loops, one was a 4.8-mile loop circled to the top of the mountain and the other was a 2.2-mile loop that circled through level terrain. Both trails needed runoffs, switchbacks and breakers to prevent erosion. A little payment to the system for a program and my two labor bots had the knowledge to get the trails completed and how to maintain them. Both trails needed large trees along them to feel more woods-like and help with erosion. I had Flux order more varieties, all two years old, of various trees including four types of apple, three types of cherry, and eighteen other flowering varieties. I had two dozen of each ordered, the girls could plant them all along the trails as I indicated with a bucket of aether soil. When all the trees bloomed it should add a lot of color to the landscape.

When the girls got back from school I did stat upgrades on them in the terminal after knocking them out. Knocking them out was partially a security issue but also they couldn’t tell people what they never actually saw with their own eyes.

Looking at their stats the twins had made some gains with their own training so I spread around the 10-point limit so as to not draw attention. They were now looking pretty good, stat-wise for teenagers.

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|  | **Olivia** | **Celeste** |
| **Strength** | **39** | **39** |
| **Constitution** | **52** | **53** |
| **Stamina** | **64** | **65** |
| **Agility** | **51** | **52** |
| **Speed** | **54** | **55** |
| **Intellect** | **54** | **54** |
| **Aether** | **2** | **2** |
| **Channeling** | **2** | **2** |
| **Charisma** | **58** | **57** |

Violet wanted all 10 of her stat points going to Aether so I did. 27 Aether for a mage was decent, and for an adapt it was huge. She could sustain combat enhancements for much longer now. I learned her primary sustainable adept abilities were a 5.2% boost for all physical stats and an 11.9% increase in her speed stat. She also had two short burst adept abilities, one that added +15 to strength and the other was +16 to agility. Both lasted a few seconds. She also had a danger sense and Aether sense ability as well.

I had some time to myself as Violet was training and I took a ride. As I rode, I dropped piles of aether fertilized earth and had a labor bot spread it. I did a search and bought a simple mix of grasses and wildflowers that would not be invasive. I had a bot spread the seeds. I needed 3 feet deep of fertile earth to increase the viability for plants in some sandy and rocky areas. I spent the next few hours doing something crazy. I stole earth from my original forest portal, sterilized it, and dumped it on my property. Buying that much aether soil was too expensive. I added four more labor bots to the assembly line through my portal and the six were able to bring 60 cubic yards of the sterilized earth every hour through my terminal room.

I mixed in some local earth using a dozer bot…hoping to get the local microbes going. This was my preoccupation for two days. It gave me a chance to go to the girl’s first cross-country meet. They finished 17th and 19th in a field of 59 runners from 4 teams. Amelia finished 7th, the best finish on our team. They looked good running in the new NIKE gear. After the race, I fed the girls and boys with a massive food order from Panera. On the drive home, Violet said she would alter the girl’s weapons and conditioning training to help with their running.

We stopped in the city on the way home. Violet said the girls needed new clothes. I gave them $5k and went to get some food. I went to Red Robin for a burger. While I was eating, I used my new holo phone to get some work done. I was trying to figure what to do with the cash I had on hand. I needed a truck for Amelia, who was taking care of the horses. Flux found a nice 3500 HD dullie for $26k. It was six years old, but the terminal could make repairs if needed. Flux started the purchasing process. Rather than order a truck directly from the terminal it would be smarter to have a paper trail when I registered the vehicle.

Flux had some other info as well. Two more serial killers were identified, three pedophiles, and there were four coordinates found on the computer from the drug compound we had raided. He surmised the coordinates were either drug manufacturing or stashes of cash.

I thought it would be good to get FBI involved so I called my chosen agent, Lydia Powell. FLUX put me through when she didn’t answer. She was skeptical I was the one who had dumped the information to her. FLUX said she was trying to trace the call but I didn’t need to worry so I let her talk and draw out the conversation. When she finally asked if I really calling from the Kremlin I laughed. FLUX had a sense of humor.

So then asked to meet me in person. I said no and she could take credit for all the arrests and rescues. I was getting bored so I asked if she wanted any new information. She jumped on it and the research FLUX had for the two seriel killers and three pedofiles was sent to her inbox. Lydia tried to thank me but I hung up. I told FLUX to expand his search radius. It appeared we were taking out the trash locally, time to go nationally.

I had a lot of cash on hand that I needed to be laundered. I decided to bring 30 million cash overseas to establish an account in Switzerland. Flux set up the drop to a lawyer. I had to meet him in a small town. I could fit the 500 lbs of bills in my hover bike’s storage. Revealing the hoverbike in Switzerland was a strategic move on my part. I wanted to showcase the advanced tech and work to be able to operate more freely.

The girl’s were coming back with loads of shopping bags. They burned through $5k in less than two hours. We stopped at the dealership, and I dropped off the $26k and signed the paperwork for the truck. I drove everyone home and went to the terminal.

I loaded the cash into the hove bike. I planned to fly over the pedophile’s houses and do scans of the house and property for Lydia. Then I would travel to Switzerland. I told Violet I was heading out. She wasn’t happy, so I got her a basic hoverbike to practice while I was gone. The flight and scans in South Dakota and Kentucky found children buried on the property at one site and the other site was a farm with just animal bones. I left one drone to spy on the two farmers. I sent the scan evidence to my FBI agent.

My next stop was a New York City children’s hospital. I parked on the roof. I took the fire escape into the hospital and emptied my aether pool to heal 16 badly injured and sick kids. I didn’t watch the news anymore so I wouldn’t be guilted into stopping at so many hospitals to heal children. Celeste almost mentioned something she heard on the news but her sister cut her off. There was a rule in the house to not talk about my extracurricular activities and the resulting stories.

I then flew to Switzerland. The exchange was in an abandoned gas station in the mountains. I decided to pull $200 million in cash out instead of the original $30 million. The guy finally arrived in a SUV. The pallet of cash was moved to the SUV…it didn’t all fit, just $120 million. The pricessing fee would be $1.2 million. I was happy when he drove away. I opened the portal and tossed the remaining $80 million in.

My next stop was a children’s hospital in Madrid. It was time to go international angel of mercy. My disguise was Robin Williams. Some people pointed at me since the actor/comedian had passed. I just went about my business in the night. I used an aether restoration potion from the store so I could heal more kids. In the end I healed 34 kids.

I was then flying across the ocean to Mexico and got a warning flag from Flux. His scan with the bike’s sensors found debris and life signs in the water. I swung around and as I moved in Flux said one adult female and two teenage boys in a life raft. Flux detected no electronic devices, so no emergency beacon. I flew closer and got scans of the raft and people. Flux estimated they were in the raft 70 to 90 hours and were suffering from dehydration, they had some food but not much. I thought for a bit then hovered the bike a few yards away and went into the terminal.

I bought a micro dart stun pistol. I returned and stunned the three, then put them into the terminal. We scanned the one mile around the life raft and found the dead body of an adult male and a female teen that was barely alive. I retrieved both bodies and healed the female. She came too and before she could focus on me I stunned her. I dropped them all off on a beach in Florida and covered the adult male with a blanket.

I proceeded to the jungle coordinates, prepared to wipe out some drug labs. Instead I found three large yellow pelican cases wrapped in plastic buried three feet deep. Each case had a poker chip case with 360 1 ounce gold coins, 1 million in American cash in 100 dollar bills, a bunch of large denominations of Mexican currency, two gallons of water, 1 liter of tequila, 1 med kit, 6 freeze dried meals, two .45 pistols and 200 rounds of ammo. The other 3 sites had the exact same 3 yellow cases. The 270 lbs of gold were welcome. Another 24 million in cash…not important, but at least I took it out of the hands of the drug lords. I guessed these were all emergency getaway boxes for the drug lord. I had all the cases in the terminal and returned home but stopped at a Houston children’s hospital to heal 24 kids.

I was exhausted when I got home. My trip had taken 37 hours. I ate, slept and then watched the news. Yeah, sometimes I just needed validation for my efforts. Flux filtered the interesting parts. The “Stealth Angel Healer” was now seen in Europe…my stop in Madrid apparently was good publicity. The FBI had arrested a number of individuals based on anonymous tips. A family sailing around the world washed up on a beach in Florida, 1,500 miles from where they capsized in a storm. The father was unfortunately dead…the daughter had a rough stetch of the rescuer. It did look like me but didn’t have much detail. Misstepped there. A drug war had broken out as one of the kingpins was assassinated.

As I was starting to get up Flux gave me two more updates, a grizzly bear had been scared off by the raccoon bots. Flux suggested bringing the number up to 48 to cover the entirety of my property. I agreed and took care of it immediately…forget terminators, it would be the killer robot raccoons that ended humanity.

I was making pancakes for dinner when Violet came back from a horse ride. She met our neighbors, the ones 5 miles away. They were a nice couple with a 3 year old son. The twins came in shortly after and started telling me about school and running. Soon I was making pancakes for everyone.

The girls asked if the terminal could make physical improvements. After talking with them for a bit I learned they wanted to be taller and have ‘slightly’ larger breasts. I said when they turn 18 they could ask again. They asked about bringing in Amelia. She was doing a great job with the horses and was very nice. The girls also wanted to have the a pool party with the entire cross-country team. I was giving a hard no, but with it being 3 to 1 I was soon ‘convinced’. It would be after the next home race in less than two weeks. It took them two more hours to convince me to talk to Amelia. The talk would be tomorrow. The twins went to bed and I got some exercise with Violet.