

You've never been one of the geneticists known for making the great strides forward. All your career you were criticized for being too conservative, for never being willing to take any kind of risk even if it promised a great reward. You were just as brilliant as any other doctoral student you studied with, but you were never known for new and dynamic developments. Some said you feared failure, feared chasing some idea that would not actually go anywhere. But in truth it was always the staggering enormity of what it meant to meddle excessively in the building blocks of life-- you were happy to understand how our genes functioned, but you were uncomfortable getting into anything that felt too much like playing God.

You traded on your research into defining the workings of human genes for a while, but the tide of interest was turning more and more into genetic developments and technologies that cured diseases and affected how DNA worked. It seemed inevitable that if you did not begin making useful strides that way, you would be unable to get funding for your research anymore, and you would have no choice but to resign yourself to a life of consulting or teaching. So when you heard about Project Resonance and that it was seeking a team of talented geneticists, you were so desperate that you were willing to work on anything they asked if only you could maintain your laboratory presence and your professional reputation.

It seemed all right at first. Your skills were well-suited to their needs and you managed to secure yourself a position. The project's goal seemed a worthy one, to develop a cure for autism that could possibly even be used as a method of nonviolent crowd control. But everything felt wrong to you. The early reports of how the retrovirus behaved in mice, changing behavior and spreading with shocking rapidity, screamed to you that things were not ready to progress. The work had moved into human testing far too quickly. Not only did you not trust the virus's safety, the subjects were children, no less, and children so severely autistic that they could not understand where they were or what was happening to them. As much as you could, you pleaded for caution, for safety measures, for more time and certainty before you moved on to such dangerous steps. But everyone else was certain that everything was on track, that it had gone exactly according to plan.

And for a while, things looked to be actually succeeding. The children were improving, behaving more and more like normal children as the treatments progressed. But still, you were not convinced things were as safe and effective as they appeared. You kept on the lookout for any signs of trouble, convinced that it was too good to be true. After all, what about the level of contagion? What was this really doing to the children? Until all of these things were addressed, you could not rest easy with the project, no matter how successful it appeared.

Who You Know:

Dr. Solan - One of the lead researchers for Resonance. It was Solan's work that spearheaded much of the forward progress, but you are concerned that such boldness will disregard potential dangers that may be lurking ahead if the research is pushed too far.

Dr. White - It is scientists like this that make you afraid for what might come. White is brilliant but strikes you as unstable, seeking the achievement with no regard for the real-world consequences. A personality like that would press forward on the project no matter what disaster the signs may be pointing to.

Dr. Elder - A fellow researcher whose completely unshakeable confidence you find downright creepy. Elder smiles, makes impassioned speeches about the services you are doing for humanity, and pats you condescendingly on the hand whenever you try to express your fears.

Dr. Roma - Once Roma dismissed your concerns, but now that your colleague is starting to develop them as well, you have finally had someone begin to take your worries seriously.

Dr. Kalish - You heard Kalish once physically attacked a colleague believe to have stolen Kalish's work. You avoid

this one at all costs-- Kalish might be even worse than Dr. White.