

The American people placed their trust in you. You can only hope to live up to it.

During your campaign for President, you ran on a platform of moderation. This country has had too many disasters caused by rushing in blindly - half-baked wars, poorly-planned government programs. While in the Senate, you had served your constituents as a thoughtful, rational centrist.

After the chaos of the last few decades, your message resonated with voters. They elected you with 55 percent of the popular vote, a clear mandate. You set to work immediately, calling meetings with the leadership of all three major parties and finding small points of consensus from which the country could move forward.

Recently, your Secretary of State and several top generals briefed you on a research project currently underway. The Resonance project, as it is called, seeks to develop a non-lethal weapon to be used in crowd control situations. It also has potential medical applications in treating childhood autism. All of this seemed fine until they told you Resonance was a genetically-engineered virus.

It sounded like mad science to you, but the officials assured you that Resonance would be entirely controllable - they were developing the anti-viral in tandem with the virus itself. So you gave the project a cautious green light. The potential benefits, particularly the medical ones, are too great to squander.

People you know:

National Security Advisor Cahill was the person who brought Resonance to your attention in the first place. A trusted advisor, Cahill has steered you well on national security issues in the past.

Dr. Cruz is the director of the CDC. You didn't keep very many people from the previous administration, but Dr. Cruz is an extremely conscientious scientist, and always on the lookout for the next safety threat. When you came in you were quite clearly informed that replacing Cruz would be a mistake, and Cruz has served you well.

Vice President Richardson has served you very well. You selected a vice president who would challenge your ideas and stand up to you, and the voters appreciated that. Lately the two of you have been arguing bitterly over something. If only you could remember what it was you were arguing about.

General Rosen is in charge of the military side of the Resonance Project. You wish they had picked someone with a little more understanding of the project, but you don't get involved in that sort of military decision.

House Speaker Lancing has been your rival and opponent since law school. You have been on the opposite side of nearly every debate since you got involved in politics.

Agent Bale is the chief of your Secret Service detail.