

The Tyrant

BYRNE! Where is that confounded lackey? You need your coffee. How are you supposed to get coffee in this underground bunker, anyhow? Well, that's Attache Byrne's job.

It was Byrne that got you involved in this whole Resonance thing. You never had much of an interest in science, and you didn't understand most of the words those geeks threw around about this project. Genetic... retrovirus... synapse... whatever. You didn't care. Byrne told you this was going to be your ticket to the top, and that was good enough. Byrne hasn't steered you wrong yet.

The beginning of your military career was so promising. You advanced quickly through the ranks during the Iraq war. Under the Bush administration, your decisive nature and your lack of fear was valued. Those were the good old days. After you made Colonel, you suddenly found yourself stuck behind a desk, buried in paperwork, with a revolving door of useless cretins assigned as your assistants.

Then Byrne showed up. Your new assistant could have been you twenty years ago. Ambitious, crafty, and not afraid to make swift decisions. You and Byrne worked tirelessly, often 100 hour weeks, making sure your contributions received the appropriate recognition every step of the way. Soon, you became Brigadier General, and Byrne your attache. Since then, your star has been on the rise at the Pentagon. Sure, you're not popular amongst the lower ranks - but the lazy grunts that complain don't deserve what you've got anyway.

Anyway, so several months ago, Byrne suggested you start involving yourself in Resonance. You'd stayed away from DARPA before - those guys are frankly a little frightening - but you took the plunge. After a few soul-deadening meetings full of angry nerds, you had had enough. Byrne is taking care of it for you now, so your name can still be attached, but you don't have to be there for the sausage-making. It's a win-win situation.

Ambassador Stepman can use more words than you have heard from anyone, but never seems to actually say anything. You've rather unfortunately had to work with this useless nobody on some foreign military situations in the past.

Attache Byrne should really have your coffee by now. Where is that layabout? BYRNE!

Dr. Hefetz is the director of the Wright-Patterson research labs where much of Resonance is being done. You need to get more of Resonance under the army's purview.

General Rosen is the up and comer you assigned to manage all this. Rosen has not done the sort of job you would have done, you think Rosen doesn't understand the importance of this. Maybe it's time to get more involved.

Senator Shields wants to make sure that the United States is well-defended against any and all enemies. That is far more than can be said about some of the spineless politicians in D.C. Since Shields is on the Senate Armed Forces Committee, you had Byrne pass on some information about Project Resonance to Shields.