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I woke up on the cold, gray cement. I tried to get up but that's when I felt the sharp pain shoot through my body. My whole body ached and my head felt as if it would explode. Where was I? Then it hit me; the warehouse. I looked around and saw I was in a room that was mostly empty except for a few crates. There was black goop all over the walls and on the floor. Finally I got the strength and got up. I opened the door and stepped into the hallway. My body still ached but I ignored the pain. Where was everybody? Where's Jake? As I was walking I heard voices coming from a door. As I approached the voices got clearer and louder. "Stop crying!", "Don't you dare yell at her!", "Well, she's getting irritating!", "Everyone's scared, so don't you go off and make it worse!", "Me! It's your fault were here in the first place!", "Don't blame me!" The voices sounded familiar but my head hurt so much I couldn't think clearly.

I mustered up the courage and opened the door. Standing there were Jake and Scott arguing while Valerie held a crying Danielle in her arms.

"Charlie!" yelled Danielle as she got up and hugged me tightly. I winced as more pain shot through my body but I was so glad to see her I didn't really care.

"We were so worried. We thought maybe you had gotten caught!" explained Danielle, "Are you all right?"

As she let go of me I saw how badly her skin was burned. I looked at everyone speechless, realizing everyone's skin was burned. I looked at my own body and for the first time I realized that the pain was coming from my burns.

"Wh-, what happened?" I stammered out, "We have to go the hospit-"

"And say what? Huh? Do we say that we snuck into some warehouse? That we all lied to our parents? That we were out in the middle of the night by ourselves? I don't know about you but I'd be in a ton of trouble. My dad might even send me away to live with Gram. And what would your mom say? She has enough to deal with." Interrupted Scott.

I stared at him, speechless. How dare he?

"Look, Charlie calm down, and, Scott, shut up!" yelled Jake, "We don't need this right now. We're in trouble and we have to go to the hospital, we have no idea what chemicals we got burned with and for all we know it can be killing us as we speak!"

I saw Jake look at Danielle. Of course he would do whatever it took to make sure Danielle was OK; it was his job as her big brother.

I was aching and my legs gave way after standing so long. Danielle sat next to me.

Jake sighed, "There's no way around it; we have to go to the hospital. We'll make up a story on the way." He grabbed Danielle by the arms, "I don't know who wants to go but we're going, anyone else?"

I stood up, "Yeah, let's go."

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Everything that happened after that is a blur. We got to the hospital and they took a lot of blood, and because of my fear of needles it took them twice as long with me. After they did the tests they finally let me see my mom.

She was crying so hard, I felt like the worst son in the world for making her suffer like that.

As I was hugging my mom in my room, a police officer walked in. "Charlie? I'm Officer Baines we were just wondering if you could answer a couple questions," he said.

"Um, sure," I answered.

"Can you tell me exactly what happened tonight?"

"I'm sorry sir, but I can barely remember myself," I explained.

He looked irritated, I guess he didn't like being on duty at this late of hour.

"I believe that you and your friends reported to your parents that you were having a sleep over."

"O-oh yeah," I stuttered. I knew I had to at least try to remember what had happened or else I was in big trouble. As I tried more and more to remember what had happened it slowly came back to me.

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That Morning:

"Hey, Charlie, did you do the Bio homework?" asked Jake as he reached the lunch table.

"Yeah, if you want I'll help you, later," I offered.

"No it's cool, I can always get Danielle to help me," he answered.

"What's up?" asked Scott as he took a seat next to me.

"Nothing but the sky," giggled Valerie, taking a seat next to Jake.

"Hey where's Danielle?" asked Jake.

"Oh, like always, in the library catching up on homework," explained Valerie.

Jake gave me the look so I got up. "Don't worry I've got it taken care of." I assured Jake.

He smiled. I threw out my lunch and went to check on Danielle. Of course being Danielle's older twin brother, Jake was completely overprotective of her. And when he couldn't take care of her I took his place.

I opened the door of the library and found her reading a book. "You know if you keep skipping lunch to read in here, you're going to starve." I told her.

She smiled at me, "Hi, Charlie. I take it Jake told you to come and check on me."

"Are you implying that I can't just come and visit you when I want," I laughed.

She got up and gave me a peck on the cheek. "Well, thank you for coming." She laughed.

I could feel my face growing red, "Uh, you really should eat lunch."

She giggled and grabbed her bag, "Ok let's go." When we got to the cafeteria Jake and Scott were arguing.

"Ok what happened," I asked.

"This wimp is all talk," Scott yelled. I could see Jake getting angrier.

"Look, Scott, cool it!" I yelled.

"We'll see who's really a wimp!" yelled Jake.

"Tonight I'll prove who's the real wimp." "Scott yelled.

"You're on!"

That's how it started; Jake and Scott made a deal that they would go to a rival school and steal their mascot without being caught by one of the many security guards. I,

being Jake's best friend, got to go and Danielle went to support her brother, while Valerie went to hang out with Danielle. Scott decided to bring his dog, to take him for a walk.

"I can't believe you brought your dog." Jake said shaking his head.

"Well, I had to take him for a walk and I didn't feel like doing it tomorrow." Scott responded. Just then Scott's dog, Rover got off his leash and ran off. We ran after him, and then he went through the gate of a warehouse.

"What do we do now?" I asked.

"Well duh! We go after him." Scott ordered. So one by one we went through the hole that Rover had gone through. The hole wasn't huge but it was big enough for all of us to squeeze into the fence.

When we got into the warehouse, Scott said, "I think we should split up and look for him." Everyone agreed. So Scott went off by himself and Jake went with Valerie, while I got to be with Danielle.

"So where to now?" she asked.

"I have no idea what so ever." I admitted.

"Well let's just look around," she laughed. As we started walking an alarm started ringing. Then there was an announcement: "Attention all officers there are intruders in sectors 1, 3, 7. Mr. Sloan wants them captured and brought to him. Thank you."

I looked at the wall; we were in sector seven. I grabbed Danielle's hand and we started run. As we were running we could hear the security coming our way, so I opened a door and brought her inside with me. Inside this room were crates full of blue goop.

"Charlie what do we do?" Danielle whispered.

"We have to get out of here." I said.

"But what about Jake?" she asked.

"Jake's strong and he would want you to get out before he did." I explained, "OK the coast is clear, I'm going to go check on things. Lock this door when I leave and don't open it until I tell you to." I ordered. She only nodded, scared of what would happen. As soon as I walked out I could feel that I wasn't alone. So it was a trick to get me out. I ran into a different room not wanting to drag Danielle down with me. The security started to shoot at me. They shot some of the crates in the room but then they suddenly stopped and went out of the room and locked the door. I realized the goop was spilling all over the floor and as it reached my feet I felt the heat of it. It was becoming harder to breath and I started to knock on the door.

"Someone help me!" I started yelling. From the room next door I could hear Danielle's screams, guessing that she was in the same situation. I could feel myself falling into unconsciousness, and then everything went black.

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"Charlie!" Officer Baines yelled. I snapped out of my trance.

"Sweetheart are you ok?" Mom asked in a worried voice. Oh no, I had frightened her. "Mom I'm fine, I'm just tired," I assured her.

"Officer, please let my son rest for awhile," Mom said as she pulled the sheets over me, "He's tired and can't think clearly, maybe tomorrow."

"Alright, I'll see you tomorrow Charlie," he said. I could tell he was suspicious but all I cared was that my head wouldn't stop spinning.

"Goodnight baby, I love you," she said as she kissed my head.

"I love you too mom," I said and then I drifted off to sleep.

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In a Factory Downtown

"Mr. Sloan, the children are gone," stuttered Carl.

"I believe I told you that they were not allowed to leave." Mr. Sloan yelled.

"I know but you also told me to get everyone else out of the building, and while I was doing that the children escaped." Carl explained.

"Find them and once you do bring them back here." Mr. Sloan ordered. As Carl started to walk away, Mr. Sloan said, "Oh, while you're at it, please prepare the rainbow formula."

"The rainbow formula? But that hasn't been tested!" exclaimed Carl.

Mr. Sloan gave him a piercing look, and sent Carl on his way. "Soon they will see, they will all see." He laughed.

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I was released the next day, so I didn't have to see Officer Baines. Our skin healed miraculously, and the

doctors discovered that the chemicals weren't harmful because we were all actually healthier. Although the doctors wanted to do more research, they didn't have a reason to keep us there. When I got home my mom had to go to work and Jason had daycare so I was home alone. I decided to go to the park and clear my head. As I was walking down the street, I heard a car screech but I thought nothing of it. When I heard it was very close I realized it was heading towards me and that I had no time to move. I braced myself but when the impact came I felt nothing. I opened my eyes and saw that I had been hit and where I had been hit was where there was a huge dent in the car. I ran home, and I picked up my new aluminum bat. I tried to bend it and it was so easy, it ripped like paper.

"Charlie, is that you?" asked Danielle.

I threw the bat down, "Um, it's not what you think."

"I guess I see what your power is?" she laughed.

"My power?" I asked.

"Yeah everyone has powers and they're at my house trying to figure out what happened." she explained, "They're waiting for you."

I grabbed my bag, "Let's go."

At Jake and Danielle's house everyone was freaking out. "Ok everyone calm down. Why don't we say what happened to each of us. Valerie?" Jake suggested.

"Well I was having an argument with my sister when she called me snobby. I was really getting mad and was ready to resort to violence when she started screaming and running away. I ran to the bathroom and looked in the mirror and my hair was on fire! That is so not cool and I guess can make fire anytime I want." She said and snapped her fingers as

if lighting a match because that's how the fire looked from the tip of her fingers.

"Well at least you can do something cool! All I can do is this," Scott stood up and started to reach his hand out but it kept going and going through the kitchen until he reached the door and opened it.

"That's kind of cool. It's like you're Mr. Fantastic." Jake laughed.

"This is so not funny, and what's your power hot shot?" Scott asked.

"Well I was at football practice when one of the guys told me to go long. When I caught the ball I kept running and when I stopped I ended up in China." Jake laughed.

"Well I can do this." Danielle laughed as she disappeared in mid-air. When she appeared again she said, "And I can do this." Suddenly I went up in the air.

"Telekinesis," I realized.

"That's so cool!" shouted Valerie.

Everyone looked at me expecting me to say my power.

"What happened, did you get a stupid power?" pleaded Scott.

"Um, well, I got hit by a car and I didn't feel anything." I said.

"So what is it?" asked Valerie.

"It might be more fun if I showed you." I said grabbing Jake's bat, "Um, Jake, do you like this bat a lot?"

"No, I'm trying to get a new one, so you can have it if you want it." Jake offered.

"Ok thanks." I said as I broke the bat with my hands.

"Wow, that's amazing," shouted Valerie.

"Wow, you win," laughed Jake.

"Ok so what do we do now?" asked Scott.

"Well, I'm guessing that from what you guys told me about your incidents with the goop, and the way our skin was burned and healed really fast, that the goop must have done this." Jake offered, "I think we should hide it."

"I agree. I think this is too unreal for the doctors and scientist not to want to test us." Danielle agreed.

"So it's agreed we hide our powers?" Valerie asked.

"Agreed." everyone said.

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Back in the Factory Downtown

"Uh, Mr. Sloan, we have a problem." Carl said his legs knocking together.

"What problem, Carl," Mr. Sloan hissed.

"Well the rainbow formula is going well but when I went to capture one of the children, they broke a metal bat before my very eyes. They survived the chemicals and now they have the powers." Carl explained.

"This is not good Carl, not good at all." Mr. Sloan said harshly, "Prepare the antidotes, and go capture those children!"

"Y-yes Mr. Sloan," Carl said as he ran to complete his orders.

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As I was walking home, Danielle ran towards me, "Charlie, help, Charlie!" I finally stopped walking, "What happened?"

"They took Jake and Valerie and I think they took Scott too," she explained.

"Where are they?" I asked.

"I read his mind, he's taking them to the warehouse. We have to go now," she told me.

We ran and took a cab to the warehouse. I just stared at the building, wondering what we were going to do. After all we were just kids.

"Charlie are you ok?" Danielle asked.

"Sure let's go save your brother." I said. The door was open and all the rooms were empty even the security lounge.

"He's been expecting us." Danielle pointed out. I took a deep breath and opened the only door that was closed. In the room was Jake, his legs trapped in a block of metal, Valerie was surrounded by fire extinguishers that would go off every time she would start her fire, and Scott was trapped in a plastic box so no matter how much he stretched he couldn't get out. And in the middle of the room was a man with a nametag saying, Mr. Sloan.

"I see you were brave enough to come alone." Mr. Sloan laughed.

"Huh?" I asked as I looked around. Danielle had gone invisible and I could see the fire extinguishers around Valerie being unplugged. I had to keep this guy distracted.

"What do you want with us?" I asked.

"Oh dear boy, I never meant to infect all of you with my formulas but somehow all of you were. But it was the best thing that could have happened because now I know how well the formulas work on humans." he explained.

"Why would you want to make such formulas?" I asked.

"I was once one of the greatest scientists that lived but after I proposed that we use a formula to make our soldiers super human I was banned from the science community and had my license revoked. It broke my heart, so of course I found a way to make the formula anyway and I will soon use it to get revenge on those who ruined my life." He sighed, "And I can't let you children ruin my plans." I looked over and saw that Danielle had gotten Valerie and Scott out and Valerie had just about finished melting the metal around Jake's feet.

"Don't worry; I won't hurt any of you. I only want to get revenge on those who helped ruin my plans." He laughed, "I'm just going to give you all an antidote, and I'll be on my way."

"You're not going anywhere." yelled Jake. I saw that Danielle had released everyone and we were all surrounding Mr. Sloan.

Mr. Sloan started to laugh, "Sorry but, I don't have time for this. Carl, release the antidote." Suddenly the air was filled with red gas. I started coughing and I felt my strength leave me. I fell to the floor and everything went black. As the gas cleared, Mr. Sloan looked at the children on the floor.

"What do you want me to do with them?" asked Carl.

"Just leave them there, and is the rainbow formula ready?" asked Mr. Sloan.

"Yes, you can take it whenever you'd like, sir." Carl explained.

"Perfect," Mr. Sloan laughed.

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When I woke up the room was empty except for us kids.
"He got away," Jake sighed.

"More like walked away." Scott said as he stood up.

"Well, our powers are gone." Danielle sighed, "Just when I was getting to like them too."

"Let's go home, it's getting late." I sighed.

"Yeah, there's no reason to stay here." Valerie agreed.

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One Week Later

Danielle and I were on my swing drinking lemonade.

"You know I was thinking about joining the soccer team," she admitted.

"Really? Well, do you want me to help you practice?" I offered.

She smiled, "Yeah let's start now."

I grabbed my soccer ball and bounced it with my head.
"Ready?" I asked.

She stood in a ready position and I kicked the ball as hard as I could. The ball went flying through the fence and then after a few seconds hit me on the back of my head. I saw the holes through all the fences on the block.

"Did it just go around the world or something?" I asked Danielle. I looked in her direction but she was no longer there.

"Um, Charlie, I think our powers are back." she exclaimed.

"Yeah, they are," I smiled, "I think maybe we should start training."

"Training for what?" Danielle asked.

"To stop Mr. Sloan when he goes for revenge." I explained.

"I guess that makes us super heroes." She smiled.

"I guess it does." I laughed.