

## Prologue

On the first anniversary of the seventh pandemic's final vaccination day, the world-renowned historian and curator FA-King is preparing to deliver a lecture based on one of his favorite Leonardo da Vinci paintings, "Lisa del Giocondo." Lisa was the wife of a wealthy Florentine silk merchant, Francesco del Giocondo. The masterpiece is globally known as the "Mona Lisa."

Present and waiting for the lecture to begin in the Louvre's Denon Wing are the renowned and affluent philanthropist Professor Steele, along with 104 museum curators, art critics, historians, and some members of the press.

The Denon Wing is the most popular section of the Louvre. Visitors can admire the Winged Victory, the Venus de Milo, and the Consecration of Emperor Napoleon, along with the large-format 19th-century French paintings on the first level.

In front of the Professor stands FA-King, the world's most renowned art expert. Some people believe the acronym "FA" means "Fine Arts," but his birth certificate suggests otherwise. As a teenager, FA-King could authenticate a piece of artwork just by looking at it. Later, his accuracy would be confirmed using advanced technology and scientific analysis.

FA-King discreetly nods in approval, confident that the Professor is ready for what lies ahead. As the atmosphere in the Louvre's Denon Wing becomes increasingly tense, the stage is set for an unprecedented event on the verge of an extraordinary mind. In response, FA-King discreetly nods in approval, aware he has an eclectic, educated audience.

As the lecture was about to begin, the Professor spent some time reflecting on his childhood, recalling moments when he would eat lunch in his grandmother's kitchen. It was the same place where his great-grandfather proudly displayed a reproduction of da Vinci's most famous masterpiece.

Professor Steele was a child prodigy. He holds numerous international patents, including the world-renowned "Babble Tongue" computer chip. This device has been integrated into every communication gadget worldwide. In real-time, the chipset can translate any language into the listener's primary language.

The Professor, the oldest child in his family, is proud of his academic accomplishments. He has earned several doctorates in engineering, chemistry, computer science, and mathematics.

According to the most recent "Book of World Records," Professor Steele is the world's highest-earning person, with his last three consecutive tax returns indicating an income of over 1.5 trillion dollars a year. However, this information is accompanied by an asterisk stating, "Assuming that he is still alive." Like his favorite writer, Arthur Rimbaud, author of "A Season in Hell," the Professor has seemingly vanished from the face of the Earth. Still, according to his CPA (Certified Public Accountant), "there are many strange and expensive purchases that keep appearing on his balance sheet."

Secretly, FA-King has been teaching the Professor about the most highly valued masterpieces displayed in museums around the globe.

The Professor looks down at his digital communication device, realizing that his plan will finally be executed in just twenty-four hours. The years of research, strategizing, organizing, and negotiating will culminate in a peak. Like a chess grandmaster preparing for the World Chess Championship, the Professor replays all the possible scenarios, moving and countering invisible pieces in his mind.

Extracting himself from the grid after FA-King's demise was a significant endeavor. As FA-King's benefactor, the Professor publicly noted his passing. This occurred after FA-King validated the authenticity of precious art pieces. Later that day, he caused King's limousine to explode, enabling the curator and the Professor to vanish—all part of his master plan.

The Professor refers to his demise with a Mark Twain and Samuel Clemens accent: "The reports of my death have been greatly exaggerated," followed by a sinister laugh.

FA-King began coaching him through video communication. As a result, the Professor received lessons on art history, art styles, famous artists, and art museums. He realized that the world's most valuable items are gold, silver, diamonds, and artworks, not money, as many might believe. FA-King also taught him how to authenticate a masterpiece, which can be done by examining the paint composition, canvas material, underpainting, artist's signature, and frame.

The Professor spent months selling art pieces to disreputable individuals and groups. Simultaneously, he began reviewing the dossiers of his acquisition teams in New York City, London, and Paris—individuals who would soon carry out their plans.

As the Professor looks down at the dossiers of his worldwide acquisition team, he chuckles while reading a reprint of an article that poses the most famous question ever asked: "If you had one SuperPower, would you prefer the ability to fly or to become invisible?"

In his weekly reports, Professor Steele learned that his reprinted article might contain actual, real-life information, thanks to the research conducted by his elite scientists. Recently, rumors have surfaced about individuals who have acquired the SuperPower to become invisible or fly. Several of these claims have already been confirmed worldwide.

Similar to Roald Dahl's children's book, "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory," Professor Steele has enlisted his potential "chocolatiers" through a third party. The Professor offered a significant monetary reward to those who could identify individuals with SuperPower abilities. He intends to acquire the world's most valuable artwork with the assistance of these remarkable individuals. The art pieces had been pre-sold and were yet to be delivered to affluent, unscrupulous businessmen and organizations, including drug cartels, organized crime leaders, and high-stakes gamblers.

The Professor, once again, carefully examines each dossier of his newly formed acquisition teams.

## Chapter 1

### **Dossier on Paul Spence – Invisibility**

Paul Spence earned his MBA from New York University's Stern School of Business, one of the country's top-ranked universities and its most prestigious business school.

In high school and community college, Paul was a conservative teen raised in a religious environment, ranking in the top eighty-five percent of his high school class. After transferring to NYU's Stern Undergraduate Business School, he earned a B.S. in Business with a perfect GPA of 4.0.

Greenwich Village was Paul's home during the twenty-two months he lived in the NYU dormitories, just a few blocks from Wall Street and Silicon Alley. Between classes at NYU Stern, Paul typically enjoyed morning coffee and a flagel- short for a flat bagel- while watching street chess players maneuver their pieces across the squares of the outdoor chess tables in the park's southwest corner.

Paul earned his MBA in Finance from NYU Stern's Department of Banking. He pursued a career in commercial and investment banking, corporate treasury, and financial services that support the banking infrastructure, including capital markets, bankruptcy, and corporate reorganization.

Upon graduating summa cum laude with a 4.0 grade point average, Paul Spence was offered a Vice President position at The City Investment Bank. However, the president of MT Bank wanted Paul to work for him; consequently, he became a senior investment manager at MT Bank in Jersey City, New Jersey. After six successful and profitable months, Paul was promoted to branch manager, reporting directly to the president of the investment bank.

Six months later, the fastest-rising star in the investment banking world was promoted to senior regional manager at MT Bank.

On one occasion, while Paul Spence provided information to influential venture capitalists at the investment bank's regional office, the FBI and IRS stormed into his office and arrested him for bank fraud and embezzlement.

Paul's high school alumnus Marcus, an African American who recently graduated from New Jersey's Seton Hall University School of Law, informed him, "Embezzlement is theft." The

iDictionary defines embezzlement as 'theft or misappropriation of funds that one is trusted with, or that belong to the company or employer.'"

Paul's high school classmate, who is now his attorney, read, "An anonymous caller informed the Federal Reserve that MT Bank's Senior Regional Manager, Paul Spence, recently fled with \$69 billion in U.S. dollars. Additionally, the caller emailed a copy of the transactions, which ultimately ended up in a bank account in the Cayman Islands opened by Paul Spence."

Upon Paul's arrest, his lawyer prepared him for federal court by rehearsing every aspect of his testimony and anticipating challenging cross-examinations. During that time, the U.S. Attorney stated on iBroadcast iNews, "The defendant, Mr. Spence, used his position to prey on people who trusted him. His victims were his company and their vulnerable, unsuspecting bank clients, including both elderly and young investors."

The U.S. Attorney continued, "Mr. Spence's actions have exploited his position and taken advantage of vulnerable individuals. Society will understand that people's conduct is always revealed, and their actions will face serious consequences."

The federal criminal prosecutor stated, "Mr. Paul Spence's sentence will convey a clear message to others who are considering abusing their positions of trust and the power they possess over us."

He continued, "I would like to express my gratitude for the hard work and investigative efforts of the Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigation Unit and the FBI."

The evidence against Paul Spence was massive and overwhelming, to say the least. Documents bearing his signature and emails were sent to his numerous victims. People were scammed out of their life savings, believing that Paul's investment opportunities would help them lead a better, financially secure life.

Someone at MT Bank exploited the institution's reputation for fraudulent endorsements, raking in billions of dollars from unsuspecting clients. The money invested in this scheme increased, prompting an FBI Bank Fraud agent to initiate an investigation. The FBI, which stands for the Federal Bureau of Investigation, referred to this banking activity as "The King of all Ponzi schemes." The MT Bank investment opportunity amassed over four billion dollars more than Bernie Madoff's Ponzi scheme in 2008. All the evidence received anonymously pointed to one individual: Paul Spence, the former Senior Regional Manager of MT Bank.

In collaboration with the FBI, the IRS joined the investigation against Paul Spence through its Criminal Investigation's (CI) Financial Institution Fraud Program, which addresses criminal violations involving fraud against banks, savings and loan associations, credit unions, check cashers, and stockbrokers.

Paul exclaimed, "Someone has stolen my identity. They hacked my email address and forged my signature. I am entirely innocent."

His divorced parents and sister felt embarrassed by the criminal allegations stemming from the federal prosecutions and the civil litigation in New Jersey. Consequently, they refused to recognize Paul as a family member.

The court determined that Paul Spence was not framed and sentenced him to 150 years in federal prison, along with a twenty billion dollar fine, without the possibility of parole.

As a result of this conviction, Paul Spence lost all his possessions. A government warrant compelled them to carry out "asset seizure and forfeiture," which included his money, house, two cars, and boat. Paul's family, friends, and co-workers shunned him and pledged never to speak his name again.

In total disbelief, his mind raced. Paul struggled to understand his predicament and started exploring his legal options to overturn his conviction.

After spending two years in federal prison, Paul was still grasping at straws. He received a visit from a Ph.D. candidate from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). The candidate wrote his Ph.D. thesis on computer forensics and reviewed the "Paul Spence case." He discovered that Alan Turing was the bank employee who alerted the FBI, identifying Paul as the perpetrator of the Ponzi scheme.

The MIT doctoral candidate found it highly suspicious that the computer employee who reported Paul Spence to the authorities shared the same name as the individual who invented the computer.

Paul's trial lawyer, Marcus, attended their second meeting in prison and discovered that Alan Turing had orchestrated forensic cyber tricks using classified government technology. He succeeded in deceiving the FBI Forensics Lab and provided testimony against computer Ph.D.s.

Under technology patent law concerning confidential algorithms, the MIT doctoral student explained to the FBI scientists how Alan Turing orchestrated the fraudulent scheme.

Several Dark Web hackers acknowledged his exceptional hacking skills and later testified against Mr. Turing, offering a basis for reopening Paul's case due to newly discovered evidence.

A few weeks after appearing in closed court, Paul Spence was vindicated in the Federal Court. He was now leaving prison and walking the streets as a free citizen. While he was happy to be free, he felt hopeless, lacking money, family, friends, a job, and a place to live.

Paul emailed the MIT doctoral student, expressing gratitude for his assistance and insights while vaguely promising to repay him someday.

Soon after being released, Paul Spence walked past several correctional officers who were smoking. As the fumes blew into his eyes, he teared up and blinked three times. When Paul gave the guards a well-known gesture called "the bird," he received no reaction, which seemed strange to him. He waved at the Uber driver to stop, but got no response either. After a bird collided with his face, he blinked three times, prompting the Uber driver to stop and unlock the back passenger door. Then, he was driven to a complimentary hotel for a few nights.

At that moment, Paul realized he had obtained a SuperPower ability: he could become invisible or visible by blinking three times quickly.

An armored truck races up the hill as the driver, a security guard, approaches the First National Bank. Two security guards exit the rear of the armored truck, assigned to deliver and retrieve cash from the bank's vault. They grab three empty deposit bags and the transfer documents from the back of the truck. As they enter the bank, they signal to the driver, who is their supervisor.

Paul Spence walks down the street, approaching the armored truck. He blinks rapidly three times and disappears. In this way, he investigates the First National Bank's vault, where he sees the two security guards each filling three bags. A few feet beyond the bank's entrance, an invisible Paul Spence observes the guards placing their cash-filled deposit bags on their backs. The bank branch manager signs the transfer receipt documents, which include details such as the number of items received, the destination, the contents of the packages, and the delivery time.

The security guards carry three heavy bags toward the armored truck, passing Paul, who stands nearby. They place each deposit bag inside the truck's rear compartment, then close and lock the doors. Moving quickly, Paul unlocks the back door of the truck's cargo area. After opening the door, he seizes all six bags filled with cash and exits unnoticed with 120 pounds of money, transporting it down the sidewalk.

He walks down the street, unnoticed and invisible, and spots an abandoned motorcycle. He secures each bag to the motorcycle frame. As he quickly touches the vehicle, the bags and the motorcycle vanish. Meanwhile, the armored truck, accompanied by three guards, exits the bank's parking lot and proceeds down the street toward its next stop.

The two delivery security guards exit at the next bank stop and open the back of the armored truck. Astonished, the men discover that the entire cargo area is empty. All their cash bags have vanished into thin air. As the driver approaches, he notices the emptiness, which churns his stomach, causing him to vomit on the street.

Five miles away, Paul continues down the road, approaching his recently acquired trailer, which is hidden at the far end of Frank Sinatra Park in Hoboken, New Jersey. His trailer serves as a storage space for his personal belongings. Just outside the trailer, in the woods, Paul Spence blinks rapidly three times, causing both himself and the borrowed motorcycle, along with the six full cash bags, to reappear. He places each of the six bags inside his trailer for safekeeping.