**The Outpost**

**Exposition:**

After a plague has wiped out most of humanity, the last known colony of humans lives in a far-off city called The Outpost. Following the plague, the people of The Outpost found “Patient Zero,” the first man to have the infection. Now, they are working to find a cure. Although they are all immune, they never want the infection to strike again.

Marcus is a nomad traveling the outlands. He has been traveling to scavenge for usable materials—machine parts and the like. He was a soldier in the old world and now applies his skills to improve life for the inhabitants of The Outpost.

As he is returning from a scavenging trip, Marcus is approached by Vanity, an emissary of a secret society in The Outpost known as the Dark Order. She leads Marcus to the headquarters of the the Dark Order. There, Marcus meets the Master, the leader of the order.

The Master’s people have found evidence for another colony in materials scavenged to the East of The Outpost. He believes that this other colony may have better technology and facilities to produce the cure to the plague. However, they may be hostile to anything outside of their compound.

Marcus agrees to join a scouting team that will attempt to locate the other colony and get inside to meet their leadership. Marcus and Vanity set out with a team of six other mercenaries in a group named The Eight of the Order.

**Rising Action:**

The Eight set out across the outlands. They encounter scouts of the second colony and must fight and kill them. Following their encounter, they discover that the second colony is actually the stronghold of a superhuman, mechanically enhanced race of aliens attempting to colonize the planet.

The Eight arrive at the second colony and devise a plan to infiltrate the city and find a way to destroy the alien race. Marcus and Vanity split up and go under the city. They are able to find a passage that leads them to the core reactor of the city. On their way they are discovered and must fight their way through, unable to turn back for escape.

The other six members of The Eight are killed in action and Marcus and Vanity are all that are left to destroy the aliens.

**Climax:**

Marcus and Vanity fight their way to the core of the reactor at the center of the city. They are able to plant charges around the core, which will set off a chain reaction that will obliterate the aliens. Vanity is wounded and tells Marcus to leave her while she sets off the explosives. Marcus refuses and sets a timer on the bombs, then begins to fight his way out. As he reaches the edges of the underground passageway that will lead him from the city, the bombs go off, setting off an enormous explosion.

Just when it looks like Marcus and Vanity will be vaporized, Marcus finds tunnels leading to an old world subway. He jumps down inside just as fire and debris wash overhead.

**Falling Action and Conclusion:**

Marcus carries Vanity from the city. He finds an alien troop transport and drives them back to The Outpost. There, the Master discovers the truth about the aliens and sees that this is the beginning of a new war, setting up the story for a sequel.

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