





HIGHCOM FACILITY BRAVO-6  
SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA  
JANUARY 2553



LADIES,  
GENTLEMEN.  
THANK YOU FOR  
HAVING ME HERE  
TODAY.

YOU MADE  
IT SOUND LIKE  
WE DIDN'T HAVE  
MUCH CHOICE,  
MUSA.



I  
SUPPOSE I  
DID, DIDN'T  
I?

SO...?

I'VE COME  
TO TALK  
ABOUT THE  
SPARTANS.



I KNEW  
IT. THIS IS A  
WASTE OF  
TIME.


SIT DOWN,  
ADMIRAL.

AND YOU  
WILL LISTEN  
TO WHAT I  
HAVE TO  
SAY.



YOU  
OWE ME  
THAT MUCH,  
AT LEAST.





"THE ORIGINAL SPARTANS,  
LEONIDAS AND HIS BOYS,  
I'M TALKING ABOUT HERE...

"THEY WERE TAKEN  
FROM THEIR FAMILIES  
AS CHILDREN, AND  
TRAINED AS WARRIORS.

"IT'S TWO THOUSAND YEARS SINCE  
THERMOPYLAE, AND WE'RE STILL  
TALKING ABOUT THEM, SO MAYBE THE  
SPARTANS DID SOMETHING RIGHT?

"DOCTOR CATHERINE  
HALSEY THOUGHT SO.

"SHE KIDNAPPED CHILDREN  
FROM THEIR BEDS, STOLE  
THEM FROM THEIR FAMILIES,  
AND ENLISTED THEM IN A LIFE  
OF SERVITUDE TO THE UNSC."



BUT YOU KNOW THAT PART.

HELL, IT WAS PEOPLE LIKE YOU, SITTING IN A ROOM LIKE THIS, THAT GAVE CATHERINE THE POWER TO ASSAULT THE BODIES, GENETICS, AND MINDS OF INNOCENT CHILDREN.

WHO GAVE HER THE PERMISSION SHE NEEDED TO SENTENCE ME TO A LIFE OF PAIN IN THIS CHAIR.

DO YOU KNOW HOW MANY CHILDREN CATHERINE HALSEY KILLED IN HER QUEST?

I DO. I KNOW ALL OF THEIR NAMES.

THEIR FACES HAUNT MY DREAMS IN WAYS I CAN ONLY HOPE THEY STILL HAUNT HERS.

MUCH AS I MAY HATE THAT WOMAN, AND RAIL AGAINST HER CRIMES... IT IS MY BROTHERS AND SISTERS WHO SAVED HUMANITY.

WE WOULD NOT BE HERE WERE IT NOT FOR SPARTANS.


"BUT NOW, WITH THE MASTER CHIEF LOST, AND THE OTHERS ALL MISSING IN ACTION...

ULUNIC  
7553

"OUR GUARDIANS ARE GONE.

117





"THE COVENANT HAVE BEEN KICKED INTO SUBMISSION, BUT ALREADY WE HEAR OF CULTIST LEADERS WHO GATHER FOLLOWERS.

"WHEN THOSE SECTS RISE UP WE MUST BE PREPARED TO FACE THEM.



"AND WE KNOW ALREADY THAT THINGS ARE NOT WELL IN OUR COLONIES.

"IT IS ONLY A MATTER OF TIME UNTIL *INSURRECTION* REARS ITS HEAD ONCE MORE."



MUSA... YOU HAVE MY SYMPATHY --



NO ONE NEEDS YOUR SYMPATHY, ADMIRAL!

THEN WHAT--



WHAT WE NEED ARE SPARTANS.



SO I MADE SOME.



THREE MONTHS EARLIER...

PREPARE TO DROP

HELLJUMPER,  
HELLJUMPER,  
WHERE YOU  
BEEN?

FEET FIRST  
INTO HELL THEN  
BACK AGAIN!

You're at a dinner  
party. Someone  
asks what you do.

You have  
a choice...

L CPL PALMER

...You can say, "Oh,  
I file paperwork  
for a living."

WHEN I DIE  
PLEASE BURY  
ME DEEP!

PLACE  
MY M45  
DOWN BY  
MY FEET!

Or you can reply,  
"I'm an Orbital Drop  
Shock Trooper..."

...I fall out of the sky  
in a ball of fire, then kill  
every sonuvabitch from  
Hell to breakfast."

FVNSCHHHH





I know my answer.







JUST HANG TIGHT, ADMIRAL KOVALIC.

YOUR RIDE'S OFF WORLD'S THREE KLICKS SOUTH OF THE BASE. BE THERE IN NO TIME.

WHAT THE HELL IS THAT IN THE SKY?



SIR...

THAT'S THE CAVALRY.