

DC

THE WEB

4

FEB '10

ANGELA
ROBINSON
ROGER
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HILARY
BARTA
WALDEN
WONG

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SECOND FEATURE

The Hangman



SPINNING THE FUTURE

PART 4

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JOHN RAYMOND WAS BORN RICH AND SPOILED BUT SPURNED BY HIS FATHER WHO ADMIRER HIS SELFLESS BROTHER INSTEAD. WHEN JOHN'S INACTION LED TO HIS BROTHER'S DEATH, JOHN DETERMINED TO BECOME THE MAN HIS FATHER HAD ALWAYS THOUGHT HIS BROTHER TO BE, SEEKING TO REDEEM HIMSELF AS THE HIGH-TECH HERO KNOWN ONLY AS...

THE WEB

LET ME TELL YOU ABOUT DEUCES WILDE, GAMBLING IMPRESARIO, DRUG KINGPIN, GENERAL ALL-AROUND ASS, AND-- I ALMOST FORGOT--THE MAN WHO ORDERED THE HIT ON MY BROTHER.

I'VE BEEN FOLLOWING HIM FOR NINE DAYS NOW-- WATCHING AND WAITING FOR THE RIGHT MOMENT TO STRIKE, NINE DAYS TO GO OVER WHAT APRIL TOLD ME.

NINE DAYS TO TRY TO MAKE SENSE OF IT ALL.



HE THINKS HE'S IN LOVE WITH ME.

AND WHY IS THAT?

I MET DEUCES WILDE AT A PARTY AT CLUB 956. HE WAS POOR AND HE WAS MEAN AND HE... WASN'T YOU. EVEN THEN HE WAS OPERATING... HE DIDN'T HAVE HIS FUTURE HANDED TO HIM ON A SILVER PLATTER... HE WAS LIKE ME.

HE HAD TO REACH AND CLAW FOR EVERY CRUMB. HE WAS FIGHTING HIS WAY TO THE TOP--AND HE TOLD ME THAT I WAS THE MOST BEAUTIFUL THING HE'D EVER SEEN...



"IT WAS A RELIEF TO BE WITH HIM. I DIDN'T HAVE TO PRETEND TO BE SOMETHING I WASN'T--HIS FRIENDS DIDN'T LOOK DOWN AT ME, HIS MOTHER DIDN'T TURN HER NOSE UP AT ME EVERY TIME I ENTERED A ROOM. I LOST MYSELF IN HIS AMBITION, HIS HUNGER FOR POWER...



"I SPENT SIX MONTHS WITH HIM, HIGH AS A KITE, DOING THINGS I'M NOT PROUD OF.

"THEN ONE NIGHT I RAN INTO DAVID, AND I REMEMBERED WHAT IT WAS LIKE TO BE LOVED INSTEAD OF POSSESSED.

"DAVID HELPED ME FIND MY WAY BACK TO MYSELF AND I LEFT DEUCES WILDE. DAVID AND I WERE HAPPY. FOR A WHILE.



UNTIL FOUR MONTHS AGO.

DEUCES WILDE FOUND OUT I WAS RUNNING SAFE HARBOR HOUSE WITH DAVID. HE CAME TO ME.

"HE WANTED ME BACK AND I SAID NO. THEN HE STRONG-ARMED ME. TOLD ME TO LAUNDER HIS DRUG MONEY FROM VYCE THROUGH SAFE HARBOR HOUSE. WHEN I SAID NO, HE THREATENED DAVID.

"HE SAID ACCIDENTS HAPPEN ALL THE TIME. SAFE HARBOR HOUSE COULD GO UP IN FLAMES, DAVID AND THE KIDS ALONG WITH IT.



"SO I DID IT. I LAUNDERED HIS MONEY."



NINE DAYS' WORTH OF INTEL. THE SOCIAL NETWORKING SITE THAT ORACLE SET UP WAS YIELDING UNEXPECTED DIVIDENDS.

SEE, IT'S NOT JUST FOR THE WEB HOSTS IN SUITS, IT'S A SITE FOR EVERYONE.

SO I PUT QUESTIONS TO THE INTERWEBS COMMUNITY AND NAMELESS, FACELESS CITIZENS OUT THERE WOULD COUGH UP ANSWERS.



BUT IT'S TAKEN ME NINE DAYS TO GET THIS ONE.

THEWEBB4HOLIC432:
SECURITY HACH PASS KEY--
8572654629LHMO. C U ;)

SOMEBODY OUT THERE IN CYBERSPACE SET UP THE SECURITY SYSTEM THAT WAS NOW GUARDING DEUCES WILDE'S COMPOUND.

THANKS.
U ROCK.



I COULDN'T BRING MYSELF TO TYPE A SIDWAYS SMILEY FACE. IT'S JUST NOT MY STYLE.





