

# ***Gage Elbert 1 The Newcomer***



***By Ruven and Kymil***

# Prologue

One morning, a flustered old man was sitting in his office, on his sprawling estate. You got some perks being the President of the most powerful city in the world. Even more so when you run a city with super-powered people. This man was named Tom Buttlewood, and he was waiting for a call. A vicious grin spread across his face. He was about to become the most powerful, supreme ruler of the universe, all thanks to SuperEvil inc! All he had to do was wait for the call. No one would dare stop him! No one in the world!

He got a call not from SuperEvil inc, which he was expecting, but SuperPower inc. "Hello?" he asked, his face falling. "Anyone there?" "Hello...okay...oh no. Wait. There is someone who *can* stop me?" Tom Buttlewood waited for the one word answer that would change the world as we know it.

"Yes," came the reply.

# Chapter 1

## The Spells

Water slice... super cut.

"Ha ha ha! You'll never win against me."

Mist shield... Ice crystal flick.

"Ha ha ha! Prepare to die!"

"Gage, can you shut your door? I'm trying to do my report on annoying brothers!" yelled his older sister Miranda.

"Sorry, Mira, I'm busy on my report about loud sisters," said Gage Elbert.

He looked at his watch. 9:00pm. It had been bedtime without him even realizing. He closed his door and continued his version of practicing; shooting jets of water at his wall.

"Gage! Lights off!" his dad said again.

Gage couldn't bear to think about tomorrow. Tomorrow was going to be even worse than today. ZAP! The lights turned off. Gage forgot his dad's power was electricity, so he could do things like this.

*The next day*

“Gage, wake up!” said his dad, tapping Gage’s head.

“Okay, Mira” mumbled Gage; he was still half asleep.

Gage wished he could skip the first day of his new school, EagleFlap academy. Well, not really, because then the second day of school would technically be the first day of school. The point was he didn’t want to be new to the academy. But he just switched schools, and he had to be new. Unless he could do something about it. Gage's power was water. He thought maybe he could go to school and hide himself in a waterfall. He liked doing that. Sometimes, Gage wondered whether his power was invisibility, instead of water.

He poured Fruit Loops for breakfast and practically inhaled the sugary cereal.

“Bye, Mira. Bye, Mom.” said Gage, hugging them, and then trotted off to the car. Gage’s dad came with him.

“Got your bag?” his dad asked, as he started the engine. Gage nodded, his stomach full of butterflies. He was going to a new school, in a new place, where people might make fun of him. You never knew.

It felt like a second passed when their car turned off the M87 freeway. Next stop: Metro City Airport. Gage was going on a plane. He was awed by the technology he saw at the airport, the people and the vastness of MCA airport. He saw lots of luggage-bots, little robots that carried your luggage

for you. Gage and his dad checked in, and went through security. Then it was time to board the plane.

“Bye, Dad! I’ll miss you!” Gage said, close to tears.

“Bye, Gage. Have an awesome school year!” His dad pulled him in for one quick hug, then he was off.

He saw tons of people on the plane, some who looked like they were in their first year like him. A purple haired boy caught his eye for a moment, and the boy’s red-haired brother waved at him. Gage felt the plane lift off, as he watched his dad waving at him from the airport window, getting smaller by the second.

# Chapter 2

## The Flap of the Eagle

As EagleFlap academy soared into view Gage's stomach flipped. It was flying! But this wasn't EagleFlap, it was another airport with a sign saying Eagle airport. The airplane landed *on the clouds!* How was this possible? Gage's mind was hungry for knowledge. Where was EagleFlap academy? What would they learn? Gage had never known who founded Metro City, but then he remembered something from his old history class. It was two great people by the name of Thomas and Mateo. Gage never realized how great these people were until now. If it weren't for Thomas and Mateo, Gage wouldn't be there thinking about it. Gage departed the plane with his trunk *and the cloud was solid!* Gage thought his eyes were playing a trick on him and he was falling to the ground almost about to die. But he wasn't. Almost immediately his eyes fell on the two brothers with weird hair colors. The red-haired boy strolled up to them and Gage noticed he was slightly shorter than them. Gage took the chance to get a friend.

He asked "Hi, my name is Gage. What's yours?"

"Our names are Roy and Kai," the red haired boy said. "Roy for red, Kai for something else!"

Gage nodded, like he was interested. He said "My name's Gage. What's your power?"

“Oh! My power is art! I can paint, draw, or sculpt something and it becomes real!” Roy exclaimed delightedly.

“My power is music.” Kai mumbled shyly. “How does that work?” asked Gage. Roy explained to Kai. “He can play music perfectly, and he can bewitch people or objects. Think of it like magic, but instead of a spell, it’s a piece of music! He’s a one man band! Show him Kai!” Kai took a deep breath and a flute appeared in his hands. He played a melody that made Gage feel happy, sad and content at the same time. Then he noticed that Kai was flying. Kai noticed that too. With a yelp, he stopped playing, and Roy quickly sketched out a trampoline, just in time for Kai to land and bounce. Kai got to his feet.

The bell for the start of the school feast began ringing, and everyone started shuffling to the entrance of EagleFlap academy. Yet Gage stood still Roy beckoned for Gage to follow and Gage did so. He looked around the school, and what he saw made Gage jump. There was magic and tech. Lots of it. The room was abuzz with laughter and whispers.

Then a voice came out of nowhere. “Welcome to EagleFlap academy! We are pleased to have you here and alive.” said the voice. “I am Principal Smoot, and behind me is our wonderful staff.”

Gage finally realized where the sound was coming from. In the front of the room, there was a floating platform, and on that platform was... What was his name? Smoot, and the staff. “This year will be a year of wonder, magic,

and most importantly, learning! He sounded so eager that Gage had no doubt that he enjoyed his job as principal.

The voice continued. "We will teach you how to hone and perfect your one power, and enable you to do amazing things!"

There it was. The moment Gage had been dreading since he switched schools. One power. Only one. In Metro City you were born with one power. One. But Gage did not have one.

He had two.

# Chapter 3

## The Plan

Tom Buttlewood was getting old. He was also famous. He was named one of the most influential presidents in Metro City history, and his name was in newspapers everywhere. But his 4-step mission was yet to be complete.

1. Find the person.
2. Find the person.
3. Find the person.
4. Find the person.

Those words were cycling through the president's mind as he made himself breakfast. The first day of EagleFlap academy started yesterday, and all he had to do was go through everyone's attendance, and cross check their power. If it said unidentified maximum power, he would know this was the person he was seeking.

Tom Buttlewood went to his office, logged on to his secure page, and he began checking people.

Sara Newbury. Power: Mechanics

Kalan Asing. Power: Fire

Lojen Ha'ran. Power: Plant magic

Roy Jaal. Power: Art animation

He was nowhere close to finding the mystery person who could defeat him, when a name caught his eye. He looked, and his eyes widened with excitement.

Gage Elbert. Power: Unidentified\_max\_power

# Chapter 4

## Hard Labor

Gage, Roy, and Kai were assigned to the same dormitory. They woke up ready for their first day at EagleFlap academy. As time passed, Gage liked the academy more and more. It was freer than other schools, allowing you to choose your schedule, instead of it being assigned. The content being taught was also more advanced. In history class, they were learning about the history of Metro City. In science, they were creating molecular links, which was a fancy way of saying that they observed liquids. In math, they were learning the pythagorean theorem. Gage was liking the academy a lot.

Roy, Gage and Kai quickly became best friends. They had the same classes, and they ate together. They also had a common enemy. A kid called Al. He would poke them, tease them and take Kai's instruments, and Roy's art supplies. Gage would blast him with water every time he did this, and in return, Al stormed off, dripping wet. Gage also noticed that Kai was more open to him. He was talking to Gage a lot more.

"Did you know that the piano is a percussion instrument, not a string instrument?" Kai said to Gage and Roy as they walked along the west hallway. It was still hard to navigate the academy; it was such a huge place. "What's up? You seem glum." Kai asked Gage.

Roy said "We can h-" and then suddenly Roy was pushed back against the wall, and Al was pinning him down. Al then stretched, which was his power, and took hold of Gage.

"Ulp- help!" said Gage in a choked voice as Al pinned down his arms.

"Not so powerful now, if you can't move your arms. Right punk?"

He gave Gage a hard shake. That was true. You needed your arms to create and manipulate water. Then Gage noticed that Kai was pulling out his violin. Kai's look said: Distract him. And Gage did exactly that. He kicked, punched, shoved, and more. But just as Al was pinning Gage back, the sound of violin music filled the air. Al, Gage and Roy, who for the first time, were silent, stopped and listened.

Gage recognized the song. It was a slow but melodic piece. All of a sudden Gage felt unbearably sad. So sad, he wanted to curl up in a ball and cry. Apparently, Al felt the same way, because he took off, leaving Gage and Roy behind as he ran, screaming "Mommy!" and crying as he ran. Gage sat up. He was still feeling sad, but not as much as before.

"Sorry," said Kai. I had to make him sad, so he would release you, but I had to make you sad too. Then he played a jaunty tune that cheered up Gage a lot. He said, "Feel better?" to Gage and Roy, and they both nodded.

As Gage drifted off to sleep he thought of why Al had it out for them, and how he could stop him. He was safe. Safe in his bed. But little did he know

that over 200 miles away, the president was arranging for a special visit with him. Very special indeed.

# Chapter 5

## The Answers

Gage had bad dreams on the day before Christmas Eve. His dreams were fuzzy and unfocused, but he distinctly remembered a man sitting in a chair saying "Kill him." Gage woke up with a start and after realizing he was supposed to be eating, he changed and raced to the food court which would now be in breakfast mode, which had everything you would and could possibly want. Roy and Kai were at a table by themselves waiting for Gage. Half of the term had already ended. Tomorrow was the start of Christmas vacation. Gage went to the table and said good morning to Roy and Kai.

"Good morning!" Roy replied, with his usual excitement.

"What's wrong?" he added, sensing Gage's mood. Gage didn't know, but he was frowning. Gage looked gravely at Kai and Roy.

"In my dreams a man said Kill them." he told them.

Kai asked "But who are they trying to kill?"

That was interesting. Who was he trying to kill? His thoughts were greeted by Al who immediately poked him in the stomach.

"Little poopsie needs to waddle to the bathroom!" said Al in a sing-song tone.

“That will do” said Principal Smoot, who had been watching the whole thing. “Al, I’m disappointed in you. You’ve lost a strike and the next thing you know you’re being expelled from the school. You’ve only got 2 strikes and you can go to detention after school.”

“Young men,” he addressed Roy, Kai, and Gage. “You be careful because I’m not going to be there every time to save you. But if there’s trouble, please report to a teacher and he’ll get detention, but I can’t guarantee that he will lose a strike.”

After a long history class in which they learned about the first people to colonize Metro City, Gage felt like he would explode from waiting for Christmas break. But finally it was the next day. They went to Eagle Airport and boarded the plane. The plane took off, and a robotic voice announced, “Next stop is MCA International airport.” Gage felt the excitement built up in his body. He was going to see Rick, his baby brother, Miranda, and his parents!

He said goodbye to Roy and Kai. “I’ll message you with your T-Mail”

Tech-Mail, or T-mail, were the Eagleflap emails, and Gage, Kai, and Roy had exchanged theirs. As the city rose into view Gage got out his bag from the compartment above him. And he could make out his dad waving at him with an expression of true happiness from the airport window. He saw him pump his fists in the air.

“Attention. We are landing at the MCA International airport,” the automated voice said. Gage took his bag as the compartment opened.

His dad hugged him and asked "Hi Gage! How was your first semester?"

"Good!" Gage answered.

They got in the car, and drove home. Gage and his dad talked about schools, and by the time they got home, the conversation had morphed into a conversation about different kinds of sharks and what powers they would have, if sharks could have powers.

They pulled up in the driveway, and Miranda and their mom came running out to say hi. It started to rain, so their mom made what she called a "sun bubble." Her power was weather, or a small version of it. She could create sun bubbles, which guaranteed them sunny weather inside their small bubble. She could also make rain spheres, little balls of wet dripping cloudy weather. She could toss one on the floor of their kitchen and a mini thunderstorm would pop up, soaking all their furniture.

After a ton of greetings, and conversations, and a big dinner, which involved a broken table and lots of static electricity, Gage went to bed. He thought about what had happened during his 6 months at school, and thought about how much he had enjoyed it.

# Chapter 6

## The Warning

Gage did not remember his dreams. The only thing he remembered was a very bad feeling in his stomach, and a cruel laugh, which sounded very familiar. He woke up with a start, and heard his mom and dad calling him frantically. He raced down the stairs and saw them sitting on the living room couch. Miranda was looking scared and holding Rick, their baby brother.

“Gage,” We just got a call about you.” That didn’t sound so bad, Gage thought as he sat down on the couch.

“From the president of Metro city.” his parents continued. That was bad. Or was it good? Maybe he would be getting a medal for.. What? Then he thought about something that might be it.

“Is it about my double powers?” he asked.

“We don't know Gage.” his parents said.

“All he told us is that you need to meet him at his estate at precisely 12:00 pm. Today. You have to go to the highest floor, and none of us are allowed to be there with you. He said only you alone should step foot in his estate.” they continued.

A shocking feeling slowly spread through Gage's body. He was going to meet the president of metro city. The most powerful person in their city.

And then he remembered that bad feeling in his dreams, the kind that won't go away.

# Chapter 7

## Waiting

Tom Buttlewood couldn't help but laugh at the fact that he was going to murder the one person who could stop him.

"Gage Elbert" he kept whispering to himself. That was the only way he could keep himself calm. Half the time he wanted to just be over with it, but a supervillain has to be slick. He can't go and waltz right into the police station. But at last, it was today. Today it would all be over. He made the call to Mr and Mrs Elbert. He knew they wouldn't decline. Now he just had to wait. Tom would rule the world and everyone would be under his command. Ah, his life. Something could go wrong. Nah said a voice in his head. He would have to wait for 12:00, but for right now, he could only hope.

# Chapter 8

## The Meeting

Gage knew that today was the day. The day to meet Tom Buttlewood. Gage was half-nervous and half-excited. He didn't know what would happen. He didn't think of Tom as a rosy little man who gave ice-cream to everyone he met, though Gage would like that. Gage didn't know whether he was in trouble or getting awarded. But he knew that parents weren't allowed and Gage didn't like that. Gage went in their red hover car and his parents drove. And drove. And drove. Finally they were there.

His place was huge. Gage saw pictures of the white house, in Washington DC on earth, but this was much better. It had 7 floors! Seven! And it occupied the whole block. Tom Buttlewood stood on the front of his house, waiting for them. He greeted them and told his Dad not to worry, and that he could go outside. He must have done a good job because Gage's dad actually went for a stroll around the block. Meanwhile Gage was ushered into the building and his temperature was being checked by a grubby man in a large coat. His badge clearly stated the name HEAD CLEANER. No wonder he had a mop right next to him.

Gage followed after the President. To a room much like a jail cell. But they walked right past it, and Gage knew that they weren't going there. Then he

realized maybe it was just a place for really bad prisoners who had to go to the President themselves. As they were going through many majestic corridors and rooms, Gage's sense of awe grew and grew. Finally they were there. Gage didn't know what they were there for, because, were they supposed to be in a room that resembled a court so much? Tom asked him to sit in the chair with chains while he sat himself on his golden throne.

"Gage Elbert " he whispered "The years I have waited to find you! Waited to meet you since the day you were born. Yet you do not learn. You may think I am evil, but there is no good and evil. There is only power and those too weak and scared to try and gain it. Yet you will never learn this, and I will make sure of it." He stood up violently.

"I WILL MURDER! YOU WILL NOT, MUST NOT SURVIVE. YOU WILL NOT RUIN THE ONE CHANCE I HAD TEN YEARS AGO TO ROB THE CITY OF POWER AND GIVE IT TO ME! I WILL KILL YOU, RULE THE WORLD, AND MURDER ANYONE WHO DOES NOT BOW DOWN TO ME!"

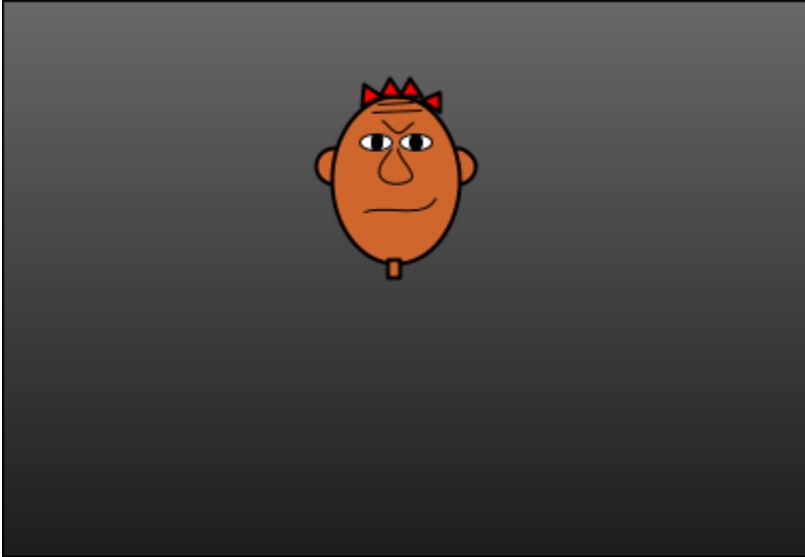
Gage merely looked startled. The ropes tightened around his body. Tom held up his hand and gave a shriek of rage, and Gage crumpled to the ground. Tom summoned all his power currently, and felt the new power being absorbed into himself. He had used his energy, but more power flowed into him. And then, he felt it. A sharp tug, and a little flick in his bones. And he knew that life was pulled out of his victim.

Gage Elbert was dead..... Or was he?

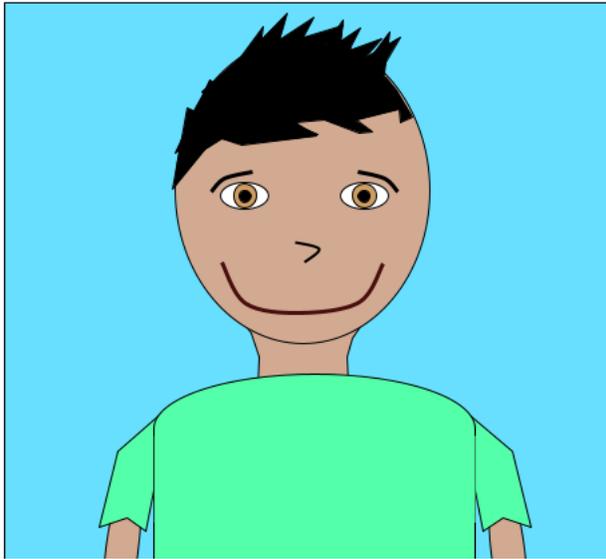
***TO BE CONTINUED... BE ON THE  
LOOKOUT FOR***

*Gage Elbert 2  
The Confusing Quest*

## ***About the authors***



Ruven is 8 years old. He lives with his brother and parents in Michigan. He likes to read, bicycle, draw, and make music. He prefers to keep his head floating in midair (as you can see in the picture.) And has four Red spikes on the top of his head (Don't judge!) and likes Red (can you tell?) He sings and is learning guitar for his band Turbo Bandits.



Kymil is 12 years old. He lives with his brother and parents in Michigan. He likes to read, bicycle, draw, and make music. He has a spiky black bed-head and likes green. A lot. He plays a number of musical instruments including drums, piano, violin, ukulele and the recorder for his band Turbo Bandits

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Thank you!