Chapter 19

Jeanau Empire

"Is that you Qaunnaaluk my man?!"



"Yeah, it's me boss", said Qaunnaaluk. Taking off his coat, and settling in his desk, at the paper's reporter's room.

"Well hallelujah! Where have you been and what have you been working on?

"I've been driving the cab for the last few days, but I'm here now boss," said Qaunnaaluk.

"I'm a proofreader not your boss, just call me Jeff for the hundred time my man. We're best buds," said Jeff.

"Here's your coffee..."

"What did I miss these last few days, boss?"

"Man,I give up. Go ahead call me boss," said Jeff. "The editor's been saying we've been struggling with circulation. But lo and behold, your stories on HAARP have been super popular. He's happy we made it a regular feature, but now Ben says he needs more election stories too."

"Qaunnaaluk!" beamed the editor Ben running over. "We have a presidential election in a few weeks. I need a lot more stories about this crowd. I'm assigning every reporter to pick a candidate and do a story. It's a new millennium soon and there are seven parties running candidates for president. This is unprecedented boys and girls, and we may end the quarter with higher circulation numbers," said Ben. "I need your unique spin on

this Qaunnaaluk, actually all of you," said Ben to a crowd forming around him.

"Ben, I did my share of politics," said Qaunnaaluk. I got bored with it. We've had the same Governor for three terms, and he is getting more milk toast every year. Last election we had the slogan 'Where's Tony' because he had no position on any of the issues."

"But reporting on these HAARP stories is the complete opposite; they are getting more and more interesting, out there too," said Qaunnaaluk.

"I really like your reporting on them and I'm not the only one either. Military, science, weather and folklore, they run the whole gamut of the paper's sections," said Ben.

"And your name is certainly getting out there. That's not bad for the paper. They certainly fit in with our Alaska folklore. Although some feedback I'm getting? It's pushing the limits of believability for a newspaper. We aren't the National Enquirer," said Ben.

"What are you getting into now Qaunnaaluk?" asked Jeff.

"At U-Park, I was tipped to a story involving the military and a lead scientist at HAARP, named Dr. Layest. I'm getting more and more anecdotes from Nanasim, college professors and the University saying this is far more sinister that what the government is telling us boss," said Oaunnaaluk.

"What for example, Qaunnaaluk?"

"DARPA is saying this is just ionospheric research, but my locals are saying it's experimentation on us and our environment at a whole 'nother level."

"In fact, the sourdoughs I talked to were telling me about, abnormal ice circles, animal migrations, sailing stones, moon illusions, earthquake lights. Let me check my notes... Yeah, I got anecdotes of tornadoes, Alaskan version of Taos hum, Sun's corona, and spots all from HAARP's frequency

transmissions," said Qaunnaaluk. "You know, it's all the stories I've been writing."

"My wife and I read all those stories. Just this year alone the number of yoga studios and psychic shops has exploded. Even my wife is suggesting we go to one," joked Jeff. "Your cab gig really pays off, you get to investigate as you drive," said the editor.

"That's why I'm still driving the cab, but get this, now they are telling me there is a crossover between HAARP and the upcoming presidential election too. The latest Cheechako I just picked up and drove to the base may bear that out," said Qaunnaaluk. "I popped our 'Friends of JE kit' with the photo bracelet in her travel bags, and she's already run with it. The ftp site is loaded with JPEG and audio files."

"Interesting, can't wait to see those photos and listen to the audio. But all this HAARP and Y2K stuff... It's bonkers. Who's the fresh meat you picked up?" asked Ben. "A Pentagon employee named Dr. Cynthia Austin," said Qaunnaaluk.

"Where is she from?" said Ben.

"I picked her up at the airport. She flew in from South Korea and I would like to know more about her," said Qaunnaaluk. "I just played her audio file from the base's 'Vending Machines' phenomenon. You have got to play it, it's insane," said Qaunnaaluk.

"We need to get out of the bush here... I'll request a bio about her from the base and get it faxed over. Can I leave it on your desk? I'd like to get more stories about this HAARP election crossover thing too. Can I put you on that Qaunnaaluk?" said Ben. "Sure boss at least that's an interesting angle on the election."

"This HAARP base, is it causing or tangential to all these strange events? I can't count how many weather, lightning, and sound phenomenon keeps getting reported to us," said Ben. "Hit the road Qaunnaaluk, your stories are the only news we're getting on these phenomena.