

## THE ASSASSIN

*"We are all assassins" (Nous sommes tous des assassins) is the title of a French Movie, circa 1952, directed by Andre Cayotte.*

*The difference between an assassin and a terrorist is in the details. Jack Basuk*

Timothy Meek's name belied what he became, although as a youth he gave the impression that he was shy, retiring and timid. This perception was enhanced by his relative short height, slight physique and low weight. As a result he was often the subject of taunting and in some instances of downright cruel treatment by his schoolmates. Little did they realize the nature of the dangerous anger that was consuming him. It did not take too long before they did.

He came from an ordinary middle class background. His father made a comfortable living as a Certified Public Accountant who always did as his clients demanded, never rocking any boats even when he was in a position to cause them grief because of their felonious practices. His mother was a quiet unassuming woman who joined all the right women's social clubs but never raised her voice in any of them. Life in the Meek home was totally non-eventful. Perhaps this was a prime cause in Timothy's radical and startling transformation.

Unbeknownst to anyone, Timothy had been going to a secluded gymnasium for well over two years. He exercised to increase his strength, reflexes and speed. It turned out that he was a far better athlete than most of his contemporaries. However, the icing on the cake was his acquisition of a Karate Black Belt. In this he even surpassed his Karate teacher who was a Master Karate expert. Despite his awesome ability to defend himself, Timothy refrained from turning on those who tormented him. He had been taught never to use his newly acquired skills except in very special circumstances.

Another unknown ability was his scholastic acumen. He excelled in physics, chemistry, biology, mathematics and technology. He deliberately made average grades to ensure that he would receive no special attention. Actually, he far excelled his teachers and later his professors in all of these subjects. Biology was of special interest, particularly the mapping of DNA and the uniqueness of each person's genetic makeup. As it will soon become apparent this played an important part in his future activities.

It is quite possible if not probable that if a certain incident had not occurred he would have become an outstanding scientist and technologist winning all sorts of awards and praise by his fellow scientists and citizens. Alas, such was not to be the case. One day while walking home after school he was waylaid by two of the worst school bullies intent on having some fun at his expense. They meant to scare him silly by threatening him with knives. Proverbially, that was the straw that broke the camel's back. In a fit of uncontrollable rage and with blinding speed Timothy unarmed and killed them. The two bullies lay there with their throats slit and blood gushing out. He noticed that no one had been witness to what had just transpired. He calmly picked up the knives and dumped them in a nearby fast flowing stream and continued on his way home. By the time he arrived there, and much to his surprise, he realized that this incident had provided him with a feeling of exhilaration that he had never before experienced. As a result, this was the first of many more homicides to follow.

The investigation into the apparent homicides of the bullies dismissed him immediately as a suspect because of his demeanor and size. Yet, his schoolmates instinctively felt that he had changed to such an extent that he was never bothered again. There was something new and perilous about him that his contemporaries sensed but could not put a finger on.

Subsequently, he felt that he could use his appearance, his skill and his love of the thrill of the hunter stalking and killing a prey to his advantage. He became a professional 'hit man'. This he did during his University years with outstanding success. He was amply financially rewarded. He was very careful to ensure that none of his clients knew who he was; he always varied his method of killing, making his *modus operandi* impossible to determine; he chose different times and geographic locations far enough, apart making it very difficult to pinpoint one person as the perpetrator of the homicides; he became expert with disguises; he became adept at assuming different identities using fake credit cards, Social Security Numbers, drivers' licenses; and he became a very astute investor making huge financial gains.

He also managed to receive doctorates in the academic areas he enjoyed and where his scholastic ability had been outstanding. Upon leaving the world of academe, he received many lucrative job offers, rejecting all of them. Killing was too much to his liking. While he enjoyed the challenge, he was too smart to take any chances or in any manner challenge the authorities to find him. He had read Dostoevsky's, "Crime and Punishment" and resolved not to make the same mistakes as its protagonist. He was able to command a very high fee because his victims were nearly all high profile and his patrons very wealthy. He limited the number of assignments for any given year yet the time periods between them also always varied. Most importantly, none of those who hired him ever met him. They did not have an inkling who he was, although many tried to identify him. They were discouraged from pursuing this goal when they learned that those who had made a concerted effort quickly disappeared.

Due to his fees and financial acumen, he accumulated a large fortune, which he was wise enough to distribute into a variety of financial institutions all over the world. Despite this, no one ever knew the extent of his personal fortune or again, who he was. He resided in a small community where he was considered a moderately successful businessman who was shy, retiring and generous with the local charities.

Things were going along swimmingly. His vocation was starting to become boring although with each piece of work he realized that the associated risk was increasing. This led him to start conjuring up a foolproof method of assassination. He decided that a missile that could travel indefinitely and find the intended victim anywhere in the world would be a device that could achieve this end.

He set up a series of laboratories in which each was given certain areas of mission-oriented research. Again, no one there knew who their employer was, nor did they know of the existence of the other labs. Also they were all sworn to absolute secrecy. Unknown to them they were constantly being monitored so that if any transgressed they would be dealt with in Timothy's usual efficient manner. There were very few transgressors probably because of the high incomes they received. When a lab finished its tasks it was disbanded, usually with an apparent accidental explosion that killed all its employees and researchers. To offset any further investigations their families received very generous amounts of financial assistance from the insurance companies,

contingent upon them signing a declaration asserting that what happened was no one's fault but simply an unfortunate accident.

When all the laboratories had finished their work, Timothy was able to construct his device, again using personnel in a fragmented way. In short order he had what he had been seeking, the perfect apparatus for carrying out assassinations anywhere in the world without him having to leave the confines of his basement. Basically the device was a small missile that was powered by a combination of nuclear, solar and cosmic energy. Because of its size and attainable speed there was no way the missile could be tracked by radar. It contained means of identifying the intended victims by scanning their body to obtain an accurate picture of their DNA, their fingerprints, their body odor and their physical appearance. Using a network of Internet agents Timothy was, at all times, able to pinpoint the intended victims' locations within a given radius. A number of missiles were always sent to seek the target. Once found, a killer missile dispatched the victim and the others returned to home base where they were quickly retrieved and restored.

His investment in this diabolical means of assassination had been quite high. Since success was guaranteed he was able to command huge fees. Unbeknownst to anyone he quickly became one of the world's richest persons. After a few years of this, once again, he became bored.

However his ennui did not last long because, out of the blue, he discovered 'politics.' This occurred when members of his community asked him to run for Mayor. Although it piqued his interest, he politely refused. However it inspired him to examine both national and international affairs of state. What he discovered was that what he had been doing to individuals, nations had been doing to each other since time immemorial. He became a fan of Machiavelli and quickly realized that by using his means of assassination he could control much of the world. He was sure that he could surpass all of history's famous and infamous conquerors. He immediately abandoned his old profession and took on the task of altering the world's geo/economic/political makeup. The leaders of nations that did not obey his dicta were quickly eliminated. In a relative short time he had power over of the world's leading economic and military elites. Despite, concerted efforts by the world's powerful nations to identify and eliminate him, he successfully retained his supremacy and anonymity.

He established a world that was serene. Wars were not tolerated. Extreme inequities between nations and among various social groups were eliminated. He eradicated racial, religious and ethnic strife. In other words he created a Utopian world that had been the dream of many great thinkers and philosophers. It is quite ironic that someone who had relished and savored murder and who had killed countless persons had become humanity's savior. This was a most astounding and unexpected development. Actually, when one carefully examines human history, perhaps having someone like Timothy as an absolute despot is the only way to realize the goal of perfect harmony.

### **Postscript:**

**Timothy had now accomplished more than any other individual in history. Once again, he found what he was doing somewhat tedious and boring. Then he discovered the opposite sex. He had always been too busy with his enterprises to entertain such thoughts. It did not take long. She was beautiful and voluptuous. He did not have a chance. They were married and he settled down into the routine**

of married life. Years later, when asked by an acquaintance whether he had ever considered 'divorce,' he replied, quoting a well known American comedian,\* "Divorce, never! Murder, every day!"

*\*Buddy Hackett's response to the same question while celebrating his 25<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on the Johnny Carson show.*

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October 13, 2003

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