

**We interrupt our storyline to bring you some important facts on our villain, the DJ Radio Muffinman...**

## **Chapter Four**

### **Do You Know the Muffinman?**

Most creatures employed by the Primogul, the eminent king DJ Radio Muffinman know very little about him, except these fundamentals:

1. He produced hit songs on a weekly basis. These songs delighted the entire world. Due to this, he was the richest being in all of Ultra.
2. His music was a *narcotic*, and desired by almost all planetary inhabitants.
3. He possessed more power, be it physical or political, than any known creature on the Ultra-earth.

**The fourth thing was merely a suspicion, and that one had something to do with the crux of the Muffinman not really being that of a human being.**

Nonetheless, those of the *Info Komica* have pieced together much of the Primogul's origins. This fragmented storyline, has been compiled through rumor, legend, dissected chunks of Uhd-music, and the pulp of old comic book stories.

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**Most Elders believe** that the physical body of The Radio Muffinman once belonged to a rather *unincredible* man, an ordinary human being of the Ultra-earth, a sad and mentally ineffecient criminal.

Born *Simon Rothgar Quirticus*: he grew into a tall, slender suburbanite of Great Germsey origin. He was a talented enough design student to gain permanent transfer as an MYC resident when he turned 18. Come graduation, he was able to eek out a paltry living as a low budget advertising designer, working on shanty technonix-band flyers, drawing juice bar pricelists, and programming digital streams for storefronts.

As the fame that he desperately sought did not come easily to him, he turned to the outlet of graffiti. Often, he was seen wearing a ski-mask and respirator, perusing the streets of the entire Mod York network, hopping from borough to borough, trying to spread his name by spraypainting eerie looking letters and strange characters on the grandiose architecture over which he had no control. He was as much a *virtual* tagger, a sort of cut-rate computer hacker that fished through international computer banks trying to leave his mark, whether it be through running animated clips he'd made, ripping off logo information, or

destroying mad bits of big business data. In these attempts, he was prolific, and it is of utter truth that he was a digital Godzilla.

In addition, and probably most importantly, it happened that along his lonely travels, Simon became a great record collector in the final age of Mod York. He had gathered them all, actual old record wax, pre-form magnetic tape cassettes, Compact Discs, Porto Dots, and more Cubes than any collector in the city had amassed. Though his mix skills were often mocked, his vast collection assured his popularity and he held a mild fame amongst those that lived in the lower parts of the city, both as a rudimentary Disc Jockey and as the unknown tagger SHMAN. He was often teased, and called the Human Jukebox, as musclebound dummies demanded that he play their girlfriend's favorite songs at the dive locations that allowed him to DJ in the downtown modpiece.

Komicons together, have surmised that this collection of records was the first step towards becoming the Muffinman. It is said that the puzzle was set forth in several key discs of wax, alerting the ear-hungry Simon to the existence of something extra-versal. As his collection built, he grew more powerful, more nefarious, with every bit of music he sucked in. That the records overtook him before the Program, is probable. He was already the amalgam of so many sounds, that the creation of Uhd was only a natural progression.

It was as a tagger, however, that Simon was first able to let loose with criminal ferocity. At the height of *Shman's* fame, he was captured and imprisoned for what were considered vandalous acts against the Modness. He was quoted in the paper, as saying, "I was trying to make the city look nicer..." when he was sentenced to 5 years on Fraider's Island, the location of Mod York's newest prison facilities. The unprecedented sentence for such a crime as Graffiti left Simon bitter. When he again emerged from stir 3 years later on good behavior, he had only one comment to the press.

He said, "I shall have my revenge. This city is far from having heard the last of me."

His rights as an MYC citizen revoked, Simon became an illegal alien within the metropolis, living far downtown in an abandoned tenement with other such ambiguous losers and semi-political outcasts. Not to mention drug users, kooks, and dangerously hyperactive retarded people. The tagger SHMAN was never heard from again. However, as the months pushed on after Simon's release from prison, it is noted that computer vandalism was definitely on the rise.

That Simon discovered a computer system in the abandoned confines of his dilapidated apartment complex is very doubtful. He may have found the mainframe anywhere. Some claim he found it somewhere around the forsaken land that had once been Nokey Island (one of his favorite haunts, an abandoned amusement park out in Brooklonia) and toted it back to his cruddy Apartment in a baby carriage. It is probable that he found the many different components to the system all around the city and brought them together, one by one, slowly putting together the parts of an ancient electronic jigsaw puzzle, that had started, probably when he wa a boy, listening to children's seven inches.

It is probably true that each component gave him a clue as to where the next one was, and he accomplished each scavenge by any means necessary. In some cases, these components may have actually been in use by schools or businesses. Some say he comitted violent acts of murder to obtain the final few hard drives. Regardless, the *system*, the computer mainframe that would come

to be known as the *Stereo System*, became Simon's first sip of a popularity far greater than any being of the Ultra-earth had ever tasted. And it was a power most delicious.

A *hyper mentality* was established in Simon's new computer network, an artificial intelligence that went far beyond the means of mere mortal Ultrakin. When the mentality was ripe enough, it simply *downloaded* itself into the mind and body of Simon, and, with a few minor adjustments, took over. How this took place is pure conjecture, but many say that this was the first appearance of the Uhd-mist called Far-purple... they say the mist seeped out of the vents of the computer matrix and entered in right through Simon's nostrils. And with a breath, he was Muffinman, forever augmented.

Thus, this new creature that used to be Simon Quirticus suddenly had the supernatural details on how to wring a ubiquitous new energy (Milk) out of the very air, this being one of the greatest discoveries of the age.

And Uhd was exhaled from then on, from Simon's lungs, as the purple mists as well pumped from innards of the vast computer ring of Stereo.

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Furthermore, and this was a complete hypothesis, it was legend that, early in his teenage years the human being that would allegedly be known as Kid America *knew* Simon, when the designer was already in his late twenties, garnering credentials as a graffiti artist. Kid America was supposed to have worked in a local record/video/comic book shop which contained vast resources of mythic materials that some now considered ancient. This Shop would later become the underground center of all knowledge for the underground School and all other movements that were related to the idea of Siphon rebellion. It would become the base of the Komicons, and in all likelihood, if there were a real Kid America, it would make sense that he was one of them.

The Shop was supposed to be the closest thing to a library that existed in Electro City next to the Muffinman's private record and video collections.

The Komicons had gotten to know Simon to some extent. Even after he was released from prison, Simon would frequent the shop, demanding perks and attention. The Komicons knew of Simon's basic likes and dislikes, his taste in music, his political sentiments. It was the Kid America who pieced together the mystery of the Muffinman and alleged it was the old tagger Simon Quirticus. For it was the Comic shop's main computer terminal which Simon once stole, holding several Komicons at a crude and rather old fashioned, bullet-full gunpoint.

Simon, on the other hand, never seemed to really care about the Komicons, but some figure that was probably just the way that it *seemed*. Simon, from every encounter, proved to be a greedy, seedy, and very cunning individual.

Within 5 years everything changed. With the Stereo System in operation, Quirticus constructed an offshoot device he called the *Ape Deck*, a large room-sized sampling machine which encapsulated the DJ and fed him information while pumping his body full of Milk, all the while, helping him create songs that were destined to become international hit singles.

They were songs that began to touch a chord in the public consciousness. The stuff of phenomenon. Suddenly, Simon had real and actual *fans*. Fans that would one day become *followers*. He developed what some decided was the new answer to Heavy Metal, and it was true that his first fanatics were Metalheads of the ancient sort, now turned Uhd-throbbers, named for the fact that their temples

pumped like blowing balloons.

And if you were ever unlucky enough to see the Ape Deck speed through your neighborhood your street would be stricken with a thick purple streak of Uhd would left in it's path.

That was the last that anyone actually heard of the man called *Simon*. Not too soon later, these same style songs started to come out by a new sort of deejay, "A Supercomputer Disc Jockey" named the Muffinman.

Full artist title: The Master King Radio Muffinman.

Songs appeared by the Muffinman, or by the more mysterious moniker: DJ and the Sounds. Occasionally there were guest artists on his tracks. He produced a lot of girl singers who disappeared after their songs topped the charts. Some say he forced them to be his pets, tucked away deep in his lairs. Others suggest they were the basis of more *experiments*.

His first album *Make 'Em Def!* went platinum 50 times over. This album worked with rather ancient concepts in hiphop production fused with heavy metal, to form what the DJ called Alloy. His second major release, an EP called *Mad Popcorns and the Fuzzy Warbles* did even better. This EP was released on the popular EARWAVE format, where audio was injected direct into the mind. On this record, the Muffinman started to really stretch his imagination and develop what was to be considered new musical formats.

If these Cubes were played out on aural speakers, they would barely be able to be conceived. He called the form that emphasized distortion, Dephikuzz and the one that worked with heavy brain vibration the more obvious Kablammics. His third record, a full length, titled *Your Head Destruction*, did still better on the charts, introducing to the public the aberrant and unspecific abstract form called Knoizak (this is when the Uhd became instrumental in gaining control over the city). His fourth album, a triple Cube called, *Magic Music and my Robot Helpers* was a phenomenon, wherein forty-three of the fifty songs on it's tracklist went to number one over the course of three years, ushering in the form of Ape, an atomic music of cell destructive proportions. It was these new *forms* of music that really began to change the shape of things to come, especially outside the city, where people were not so much enslaved, as they were brainwashed.

To most kids, his songs seemed brilliant. This was the start of the Electric Company, the Plug record label, and the Muffinman's meteoric rise to becoming the greatest recording mogul the world had ever seen. His label became *the* label. Within another five years, the Plug produced 85 percent of the world's music. He had vast control over the airwaves. He alone put out three albums a year, with dozens of other acts going mad platinum on his label.

In the early days, the Muffinman could be seen in concert. And what a creature he was. Tall, pencil slender, with a long drooping back. He wore a long snoutlike gas-looking mask which connected to the intricate hard disk that was strapped to the back of his head, which gave his entity a far superior intelligence than that of ordinary ultrakin. He dressed in many shades of purples and reds. His fingers were two times longer than the longest finger of any other. His eyes were magnified in two huge bubble lenses that covered the better part of his forehead. He was for all appearances, a superhuman being in a time when no such thing existed.

Most of the public thought it was all make-up and special effects. But children

knew better. The fans believed in him. It was this that fueled his success. His fans made it easy for him to gain power.

All this, while 'Simon the downloaded', was working diligently through extreme difficulties in expanding the Stereo System to it's full potential. He no longer slept, rarely ate, and grew cybernetic strength enhancements where his natural endurance went kaput. Often, he'd mutate at a mere thought he'd have, or wake from a micro-nap, with a new physical oddity. His skin had turned the 3 shades of Uhd, his fingers grew to accommodate his work, his brain had expanded, his ears were enormous...

He began purchasing much of Mod York's properties and buildings. Before the Blanket came, he owned most of the MYC skyscrapers and better location apartment buildings. It was unknown that he bought off the Kong Edisung Corp., and became the actual controller of the real electric company. He was the richest man in the world and all within a decade of being released from prison for a silly graffiti charge.

With the power of Kong Edisung behind him he implemented his first assault on the city. For the few years before his takeover he'd been building computer "house" set-ups all along the borders of Mod York, including the three boroughs Queeds, Old Brooklonian, and The Brobinx. He had no use for Kracken Island. Then, with the power that was only his to command, he opened the grand computer file known as the Stereo System.

The Stereo's first work unleashed a Static Force Shield, known as the Electric Blanket. The Blanket enveloped the aforementioned 4 boroughs of Mod York and made it the Muffinman's domain. His dominion: Electro City.

**-Bodey Protonicus Fluger  
with  
Doy Flabberghast, Superhumanoid Floyd  
and the Komicons  
Encyclopedia Komica**