# A NEO DAWN

In a high-tech dystopian city, a university dropout and his tech savvy childhood friend embark on a mission to retrieve a mysterious package, but their heist spirals into chaos when they attract the attention of corrupt cops and rival gangs.

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Pitch black.

PACKER (0.S.) Open your eyes, what do you see?

A string of letters flashes on the bottom of the screen. "Initializing..."

DANNY (O.S.) Give it a sec.

DANNY (30), a University dropout, blinks as his eyes reactivate. Danny's POV looking at himself in the mirror.

He looks at the new chip installed behind his ear as a silver HUD appears in his vision. A block of code zips by as a logo briefly appears only to glitch with a new logo superimposed on top of a rat wearing a backpack. Underneath it reads "Packer Enterprises."

Danny looks at PACKER (30), a wheelchair bound Signal Surfer, hoarder and Danny's childhood friend as he clacks away at a keyboard. Stacks of monitors cast a digital glow on his face.

> DANNY (CONT'D) "Packer Enterprises"?

> > PACKER

You like?

DANNY This is Sina-Tech, how'd you score--

PACKER Oh, Danny boy. I can get my hands on a lot of things.

Danny looks around the room. A mess of gear, tech, body-mods and weapons piled up to his waist with just enough space to wheel through.

> DANNY I can see that.

Packer chuckles.

DANNY (CONT'D) Whats the catch? I mean, I've used Opti-Mods before back in Med school. PACKER Not like this you haven't. 20 Digi-Zoom, built in SatNav and of course... Date, time and weather.

Danny looks around as he boots up the SatNav app, "Pigeon".

DANNY What's with these names? Pigeon?

PACKER

Cause they're EVERYWHERE! And now you are too! Kinda. Try it out!

Danny starts flipping through the SatNav features while Packer continues to type at his workstation.

PACKER (CONT'D) You get a birds eye view of the city and I'll handle everything else. I bookmarked the route you're going to take for the job.

He opens the route and flips through various levels of data.

DANNY This shit is all the way across town! Why don't you get your...

Packer stops typing, looks at Danny and sits back in his wheelchair.

DANNY (CONT'D) ... One of your other goons to do it?

PACKER

Nice save.

DANNY Sorry, I'm... I'm just nervous.

PACKER

Listen, I know school got expensive, do this one job an you can get back the life you almost had. Easy, clean, just bring me the package and I can fence it. Nothing illegal... technically.

Danny puts on his jacket as he looks back at himself in the mirror. He slowly zooms in on his own desperate face.

MATCH CUT TO:

EXT. NEW PANASDALE CITY - TRANSIT STATION - NIGHT

No longer POV. DANNY steps out of a packed train car.

DANNY Do I want to know what I'm picking up?

PACKER responds via the in-ear comms.

PACKER (O.S.) No, but I'll tell you anyway.

Danny boots up the SatNav and the route then makes his way out of the busy station and to the street.

PACKER (O.S.) (CONT'D) The police were transporting some new lead when a very brave group of Scavs ambushed them and shot down a few of their Airships.

Flashing lights from nearby businesses illuminate the people of the city, some walk by others lay in the gutter.

PACKER (O.S.) (CONT'D) I've been watching as the cops tried to find everything but they were unable to locate one crate.

DANNY What? You got me picking up a weapon?

PACKER No, no, no. Maybe. I assume they gave up since all records of the package are wiped but whatever it is has likely been remotely disabled. But I can fix that.

Danny walks by a couple of scantily clad Femmes, one dressed in a mix of black, yellow and neon pink reflective vinyl with a chrome Limb-Tech arm, makes eye contact with Danny.

> D.I. Hey baby, you lookin' for a D.I. tonight or you wanna buy a Virt?

Danny ignores her as she flips him the finger.

DANNY This crate, how do you know--

## PACKER (0.S.)

Street sweeps and signal scans. I patched into all the cams in the area. Got a link through a guy's phone who went up to the roof for a smoke and there it was. Just sitting there in the trash.

DANNY You scare me sometimes, Packer.

PACKER (0.S.) Don't worry, old friend. I only use my powers for good... And myself.

EXT. NEW PANASDALE CITY - STREETS - NIGHT

DANNY turns a corner and spots a gang of thugs chilling in front of a shop when suddenly a cop car swoops in and blocks the road. An officer steps out and orders them up against the wall.

#### DANNY

Shit, shit--

Danny turns back when suddenly a COP (35), steps around the corner and cuts him off. Danny shuts off the HUD.

PACKER (V.O.)

Shit!

COP Where do you think you're going, Gutter Punk?

PACKER (V.O.) Play it cool, Danny.

DANNY Hey, Badge Man, I'm only here to, uh, to get a soda.

Danny tries to open the shop door beside him, but finds it's held shut by the shopkeeper who locks it. Inside, people take out their phones and start filming.

COP

I bet. Hands up. start walking.

Danny turns around, puts his hands behind his head and walks towards the thugs. The COP at his heels.

## PACKER (0.S.) Please don't lead them back to me.

The COP grabs Danny and pushes him against the wall.

COP Bring up your ID. Slowly.

Danny slowly moves his left hand to the front of his head. The back of his palm lights up with letters.

> COP (CONT'D) Adan Eliseo. You're pretty far from home.

PACKER (O.S.) Careful Danny. The other cop has a lot of deleted assault reports on his profile.

A fight breaks out between the other officer and the thugs. The other officer tackles one into the wall, bursting open a pipe releasing a steady stream of gas into the air.

> COP Damn it.

(To Danny) Don't move.

The COP runs over to the fight.

PACKER (V.O.) Danny, thats a gas line! get the fuck out of there!

Danny takes a few steps back. The other cop pulls out a taser.

PACKER (O.S.) Shit, Danny!!

#### DANNY

WAIT! STOP!

As the other officer activates the taser and strikes the thug, the gas ignites resulting in a massive explosion. The COP is sent flying back. A shower of broken glass, blood and guts as a high pitched tone fills Danny's ears momentarily.

People flee for safety as what thugs remain pickup their injured gang members and carry them away. A few Scavs run out of the shadows and strip the remains of the dead, some thugs fight them off of their fallen gang members. PACKER (O.S.) (static) GET THE F-- ... -ORE ARE COMI-G!

Danny spots the COP bleeding out on the ground. He takes a few steps to flee before shaking his head, grabbing the COP by the vest and dragging him to safety.

PACKER (O.S.) (CONT'D) (Less static) What the fuck are you doing? More are coming! Danny, talk to me!

Danny pulls out a switchblade.

COP Oh fuck, no, please--

He cuts off his shredded vest and shirt, revealing lacerations in the officer's chest.

DANNY You're bleeding out. I can stabilize you until E-Merge gets here.

PACKER (O.S.) They'll be there in seconds, fuck fuck!

COP Oh my god, thats my blood!

Danny holds up his right hand which opens up revealing the mechanical Limb-Tech inside. His fingers becoming various medical tools.

COP (CONT'D) Medi-Mods, are you a doctor?

DANNY

This is going to hurt.

Danny begins to staple and cauterize the wounds closed.

COP

## AAAAHHHH!!

Sirens in the distance. As Danny works, he boots up the HUD and we see cop cars racing by on the nearby street cams.

PACKER (O.S.) DANNY, GET OUT OF THERE! Danny looks up the road and zooms-in to see the oncoming police cruisers before using one of his mechanical fingers to plug into a port behind the COPs ear.

> COP W-wait-- AAAAHHH!

The COPs eyes begin to short circuit. The police and medical team arrive as the COP regains his sight. Danny is long gone.

EXT. APARTMENT BLOCK 42 - ROOF - NIGHT

The roof access door opens, Danny steps out onto the roof. Trash and damaged lawn chairs, and cardboard boxes litter the roof.

> DANNY Ok. Where is it?

PACKER (O.S.) Should be the north east corner.

Danny searches for a few minutes before spotting something under a pile of food wrappers and beer bottles.

PACKER (0.S.) (CONT'D) Thats it! Is it still sealed?

Danny cleans off the crate. Written on the side of the locked keypad is "ArmaFi Technologies".

DANNY

Oh shit.

PACKER (0.S.) Thats right, whatever it is will fetch a high price. You ready to change your life, Danny boy?

Danny sits on the crate and looks out at the city. A forest of lights and skyscrapers as the sun rises over the horizon.

DANNY Yeah. I'm ready.

#### THE END