

THE
PATRIOT
COMPLEX

Michael J. Williams

The Patriot Complex

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“It seemed inconceivable. That a Republican-dominated Congress would ever allow the Patriot Act to expire. We are still at war.” -President William Stafford

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CHAPTER ONE
Mysterious Caller

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The room to Nick Frost's apartment is pitch black as the distinguished FBI Agent tosses and turns in his sleep. He is restless as his cell phone buzzes. It's three in the morning as the moonlight barely breaks through the half-closed blinds in Nick Frost's apartment. His cell phone continues to buzz as Frost finally turns over on his side and towards his nightstand.

Nick rubs his eyes as he tries to shake the cobwebs. He has been in and out all night. Not really sleeping but not really awake for most of the night. His mind has been wandering and reflecting on his last case that he and his newly assigned partner Agent Rita Johnson just closed.

Nick is half asleep and half awake. He slowly looks at then stares at his cell phone as it continues to buzz and vibrate. The phone near the edge of the nightstand buzzes and falls off of the nightstand falling towards the bedroom floor. Nick even half awake reflexes are so fast that he catches his phone before it hits the bedroom floor. He looks at his cell phone's screen.

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The screen on Nick's cell phone reads "BLOCKED".

Nick is confused as most cell phones read either "UNKNOWN CALLER" or "NO CALLER ID".

Nick's phone continues to ring as the mysterious caller on the other end is somehow able to bypass Nick's answering service which should have picked up after the fifth ring. Nick scratches his forehead then answers the phone. The voice on the other end is deep and dark. It is obvious to Nick that the mysterious caller on the other end is disguising their voice so that their voice cannot be recognized.

Caught off guard but intrigued by the late-night call and the mysterious voice on the other end. Nick listens intently to what the caller has to say. Nick sits up in his bed as the mysterious caller explains to Frost that a series of horrific events are about to occur.

Nick turns on the light that is sitting on his nightstand. The light from the lamp

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shines brightly off of his charcoal skin as he rubs his neatly groomed beard as he continues to listen to the mysterious caller. The mysterious caller goes on to tell Nick that once these events that will change not only the nation but the world occurs. He, Nick Frost will be designated the lead investigator to lead the investigation into these terrorist acts along with his still green partner, Agent Rita Johnson.

Nick ask the mysterious caller “Why? What events are you talking about?”

There is silence for a brief second. To Nick, it feels like an eternity as his heart starts pumping and his adrenaline spikes. He does not know if this is a prank call or somebody with mental issues or this could be just some jerk on the phone looking for attention. The feeling in his gut warns him that the mysterious caller should be taken seriously and that he, FBI Agent Nick Frost should heed what the mysterious caller has to say.

The mysterious caller states that “There are a lot of powerful people in this world

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and they are trying to do what most powerful people do.”

“What is that?” Frost asks the mysterious caller.

“Gain more power.” The mysterious caller hangs up the phone.

Frost hears the phone hang up on the other end. He removes the phone from his ear and looks at his cell phone. His mind is racing because his gut is telling him to take the caller, whoever they are, seriously. Nick’s gut has never let him down before and he does not believe that his instincts are somehow failing him now.

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CHAPTER TWO

Nick Frost

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Nick Frost at a very young age was disciplined and detailed oriented in almost every aspect of his young life. He was self-motivated even at a very young age and he was very mature for his age. He always knew that he wanted to work in law enforcement ever since he was five-years-old. He was determined to make a difference. He was determined to change the world.

Growing up in a middle class but very modest home. Nick strive to be the very best as he worked hard in school to earn good grades so that he could achieve his goal and become a law enforcement officer when he grew up. Although science, politics, and mathematics were intriguing to Nick and he very much enjoyed those subjects in school. His heart and his love were in law and in law enforcement. He considered it to be his patriotic duty and that this was how he was going to serve his country and his community.

Nick's parents instilled in him the need to be the best and that hard work and determination was the key to his success.

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They also educated him on the need to treat everyone as individuals, to judge people by the content of their character. They also explained to him that in this world, that life was not always fair and many times it was an unjust world and that racism and discrimination did exist. They instilled in him the need to outwork everyone and that, unfortunately, in the country that they loved, cherished and honorably served. That his skin color had been criminalized by the very government that claimed to be a democracy and value freedom, that his race and skin color could be and would be used against him as an excuse to impede his hopes and his dreams.

That did not deter Nick from his passion for law enforcement and his dream of becoming not only an FBI Agent. That drove him to decide that he would become the best FBI Agent the bureau had ever recruited. Nick grew up in a family that served their country as both his mother and his father each served in different branches of the military. His father spent four years active duty in the Army and four years immediate ready reserve while his mother

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spent all eight years in the Air Force. They were high school sweethearts who married just before they both joined the military.

Nick learned all about discipline, hard work, and being detail-oriented and organized through the hard work and strategic and meticulous planning by his parents. Nick's drive and determination were insatiable and he was very competitive when it came to school, sports, and later in his life his work performance and work ethics. Nick excelled in not only school but in sports as well, but not because he was faster, stronger, or more athletic than the other students. His leadership qualities elevated him well beyond his years. His intelligence also made him one of the top students in his school, in his county, in his state, and in the nation.

Nick was very diligent and meticulous when it came to his work and his paperwork as his drive to be the best agent in the FBI continued to be one of his goals growing up. First, Nick after graduation, like his father, joined the United States Army in an effort to fight for his country as Desert Storm was on

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the horizon. War was brewing but that was just a coincidence that happened a few years later as Nick had already decided to join the military after high school, the army, in particular, emulating his father's decision several decades earlier.

Even in the military, Nick excelled. His natural instincts and gifts made for the perfect soldier, at least that is what he told many of his colleagues in the FBI years later. He even excelled in the ranks as his rise as an officer in the Army was fast compared to many of those who had served. Frost made sure that even though he had bars on his collar he was still one of the guys and that he worked for a living. He heard plenty of stories from his father, an enlisted man, that many of the commissioned officers were not well-respected by the soldiers because of their elitist mentality believing that their rank made them intellectually superior to their subordinates.

Frost has a way of making people feel not only equal but completely comfortable with him. He tries his humanly best to respect

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others as he also goes out of his way to gain the respect of his peers. He is not enthralled with the fascination of rank or title but he is completely focused on the truth and the American way. His time in the military was a stepping stone in his path towards becoming an FBI Agent but it was not a cakewalk nor was it just a career choice just to advance his career. He volunteered for the Army because he believed that it was part of his destiny to become the man that he was destined to become. He also believed that every able body born in America should willingly volunteer their services to the government in some form or fashion.

Nick Frost valiantly, bravely, and honorably lead his unit into war even though Desert Storm ended well before it really began thanks to the onslaught of air supremacy America and her allies had over her enemy. There were still covert and clandestine missions that needed to be accomplished. Even after Desert Storm, when the war was declared over. America had its foothold in the Middle East and refused to peacefully leave now that she once again flexed the mighty muscle of her

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military for all the world to see.

Nick Frost and his unit of Special Forces Operators spent many years in the Middle East, unbeknown to the America public. Performing covert missions after covert missions for his country and his military. No questions asked and no answers needed as far as Nick Frost was concerned. Hand him the mission and he and his men executed their mission to the fullest of their capabilities. He loved his men. They were his brothers in arms and he would scorch the earth if and when any one of his men asked or needed him to. He was dedicated to his men as they were to him.

Nick Frost considered himself a patriot and a patriot he was through and through.

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CHAPTER THREE

Agent Rita Johnson

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Highly recruited by every government agency that exists in the American government on and off the books. FBI Agent Rita Johnson had no dreams nor aspirations to be an FBI agent when she was growing up. Her dream job was to be a prosecutor, the prosecutor, the District Attorney for her proud state of Texas. Coming from a long line of police officers and military veterans. Rita Johnson had big dreams and aspirations of carrying on the family legacy in law enforcement and service to the nation.

Her parents, after moving from Puerto Rico, moved to Texas before Rita was born, in the hopes of a better life for their family. Her older brother born in Puerto Rico and seven years her senior witnessed the hardship and poverty on the island. He also saw, even at such a young age how poverty and crime went hand in hand as far too many Puerto Ricans, American citizens, starved to death due to poverty and lack of resources. He also witnessed the horrific murders on the island as heartless criminals and criminal organizations preyed on the weak and the poor. He vowed to do his part,

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like his father, by joining the police force when he grew up to combat crime and put an end to the predatory victimization of those struggling to live their lives.

Rita was indoctrinated at an early age on the importance of family and community. Growing up in such a small town in Texas. The sense of community, the bond and love of the community and its residence was everything to Rita and her family. The community stuck together through good times and bad times. The small town mostly made up of Spanish, Latino, or Hispanic descent, thrive on the knowledge that they always had each other's back. This upbringing helped to mold Rita into the person she would soon become.

Like her father who would become sheriff of this small town after serving as a police officer in Puerto Rico for many years helped to inspire Rita's career choice. Rita's mother, an immigration attorney was the deciding factor that helped solidify Rita's choice to become a lawyer when she was only ten years old. She believed that being an attorney gave her the opportunity and the

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ability to protect the innocent and the public she served while also prosecuting and putting away career criminals for good.

Make no mistake about her families' influence on her and her career choice. Rita was her own person. Tough-minded and strong in her convictions. She was honest to a fault as she did not hesitate to tell people the truth and she did not sugar coat it because she believed that glossing over the facts and the truth was disrespectful to the person she was telling it to.

Rita did not grow up rich even though her mother was an immigration attorney, the majority of her work was pro bono as she worked for a charitable organization that seeks to help those who were what they would call the forgotten, the disenfranchised, the undocumented. Her father working for such a small town barely made a livable wage as sheriff but he took pride in the fact that he was the protector, the backbone of this small community of people looking for a better life. Their work ethics and determination helped to instill in Rita not only the passion but the drive to

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always try to do the right thing and put humanity first above all else.

Rita graduated high school at the top of her class and was awarded several scholarships at several highly prestigious colleges. She was well prepared for the difficulties of life and the hardship and struggle that leaving home and leaving such a small but tight-knit community would bring. Rita did not back away or shy away from the challenges. She dove straight in by studying hard and outworking everyone else not only in her class but outworking everyone on the college campus. Nothing was ever handed to her. She had to scratch and fight to achieve everything that she earned and she was proud of the fact that she had to work hard for it.

Her life changed, the decision to become a lawyer changed when she was interning at the District Attorney's office during her last year of law school. Her opinion of not only people but the justice system changed when she saw with her own eyes and realized that justice was not colorblind and that many of the people who prosecute and investigate

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crimes cared more about career advancement than they did about the truth. Far too many innocent people were being incarcerated for long prison terms because of them being poor and the color of their skin. Which meant that far too many actually criminals and the guilty were not being investigated or brought to justice because for far too many of those in the justice system, like the police officers, detectives, and prosecutors. It was more convenient to lock up a poor innocent person of color on a injustice or technicality and receive the praises of their superiors than it was to have far too many high profile cases go unsolved until the actual culprit is found.

Rita began to sour on her opinion of the justice system and the law. It did not deter her but embolden her to try to change the way the poor and innocent were handled during the investigation process. Rita decided that the best way for her to do that was to become an investigator herself. To uphold the law and to make sure that criminals that committed crimes were held responsible regardless of their

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socioeconomic status. She witnessed far too many wealthy scumbags walk away free because of their family and political ties. She witnessed far too many rich dirtbags not serve a day in prison because they were rich and not because they were innocent. She also witnessed far too many poor people of color get railroaded by the system because of shoddy police work many of it was just outright incompetence and the rest of it was due to racism and prejudices many of the police officers had ingrained into their very being.

She realized that after law school and deciding to become a police officer that things would not change so she decided to accept an offer to become an FBI Agent. Her hope and intention were to work her way up so that she could get an assignment in investigating white-collar crimes because she so despised watching rich criminals game the system time and time again. The powers that be decided that they would fast-track her and assigned her to the counterterrorism division and put her with their top cop.

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FBI Agent Nick Frost. This will allow the powers that be the ability to keep an ever watchful eye on their most coveted top recruit. The powers that be have plans for special agent Rita Johnson.