





The Tales of Archibald Rubenstein

by Jaydean Botha

Once upon a time, in a galaxy far, far away called Forcastanation, there lived a young man called Archibald Rubenstein. To his family and friends, he was known as AR. During the day, AR was a normal schoolboy who did his homework and played outside with his friends in the backyard. One could say he was a busybody, or one could even say he was non-stationary. But during the night, AR was anything but ordinary.

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AR transformed into a crime-fighting vigilante at night, saving lives wherever he went. He had intuition that would alert him when someone was in danger - a kind of superpower. Thus, he was always on the lookout, awake, and alert. His alertness would slightly diminish during the night when tiredness kicked in.

On one specific night, he was signalled through his internal superpowers that someone was in danger. He quickly rushed to the scene and saw a random man walking towards an innocent girl who was probably walking home from work. Let's refer to this man as the Random-Walk guy. As usual, when AR arrived on the scene,

he analysed the danger and the severity of the situation. Upon doing this, he noticed that the man was walking as if his next step could not be predicted. He took one step to the left, then one back, then two forward, and so on - walking like he was drunk.

The next moment a taxi pulled up next to the innocent girl. The Random-Walk man ran towards her and threw her inside the taxi. She kicked and screamed, trying to fight him, but she was not strong enough and eventually she had to give in. The Random-Walk guy shut the door, and as the taxi was about to speed away, AR jumped on top of it and gripped onto the roof rack.

AR realised that this was not a fight he would win alone. He needed backup. Who better to call for backup than AR's best friend Martin Arlington, better known as MA. Together MA and AR were unstoppable. They were known as Forecastanation's top superheroes. Some newspapers started referring to them as the ARMA vigilantes.

12 When MA received AR's call, he dropped everything he was busy with and rushed to the innocent girl's rescue. Luckily, MA was still awake because his alertness and ability to stay up at night was not as good as AR's. MA could stay alert for a few hours during the night, but then he would fall asleep and not wake up until morning.

When MA arrived at AR's location, he also jumped on top of the car. They worked out a plan of action and decided to enter the taxi through the passenger window. They both jumped in, MA wrestled with the driver while AR rushed to the back of the van where the Random-Walk man was waiting. The car swerved across the road as MA tried to gain control of the vehicle. Finally, his strength kicked in, and he pushed the driver off the seat and out the door. He did it! He was able to stabilise the taxi.

Meanwhile, AR was still fighting the Random-Walk man at the back of the taxi. The back doors of the taxi flung open, and AR was about to fall out when the girl grabbed his arm and pulled him back into the taxi. After regaining his balance, AR knew what he needed to do. He kicked the Random-Walk man in the back, forcing him towards the doors at the back of the taxi. The Random-Walk man took four



steps forward, one to the left, two to the right and finally, the last step forward and fell out of the taxi onto the tarmac.

The innocent girl looked at AR with big round eyes full of shock. She only managed to utter: “Thank you, ARMA vigilantes”.

AR and MA returned the girl to her parent’s house. Before leaving her parent’s house, AR asked the girl her name, and she told him it was White Noise, a perfect name for an innocent girl.

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A few days later, AR saw on the news that the Random-Walk man and his associate had been arrested.

AR and MA continue to fight crime to this day. They are known as the ARMA vigilantes, and they save innocent people’s lives and put the bad guys behind bars.