

# The Power of the X

by Jack H

It was a stormy night as I sat on the damp, cold sidewalk thinking "What is this Greek looking scar on the back of my hand?" It looked like a small x and soon it glowed blue and I looked up as I saw a man with a black hood and black gloves. I saw him get closer and closer as my scar stopped glowing. I got up and walked slowly away and I got faster and faster while at the same time, the man behind me ran too. When I thought I couldn't run any faster, my scar glowed again and a faint blue streak was behind me as I ran like I have never done before in my life. Soon, I outran him and my scar stopped glowing and I stopped running. I thought that I could do more and more things and that I should use them to good use. When I thought of a costume, a blue alien costume started forming. It looked like Green Lantern's costume, but blue and had a blue x in the center. I snapped my fingers, and it dissolved. And I snapped again, and it re-formed.

Then a voice spoke. "Welcome. Would you like your scar to be something else?" I waited for a moment and said yes. The voice spoke again. "What would you like it to be?" Okay, I never thought this through, so I said, "A ring." Soon, the x disappeared and a ring with an x on it was now on my middle finger. Then the voice said, "Would you like a different costume?" I said yes, and I felt a tingle in my head, and an assassin/ninja costume was formed. I was thinking that the ring could read my mind. I asked "Who are you?" The voice replied, "I am one of the five X-Moduluses". "No. Like, what's your name?" I said. "My name is Jason, but people call me Jay," the voice said. I snapped my fingers and my costume dissolved back to my normal clothes and I realized that it was still raining. So, I said, "Jay, can you teleport me back to my house?" And I heard a "yes" as I was in my yard, walking inside.

I saw my roommate cooking dinner as he said, "Hey, Landon, you okay? 'Cause it took you awhile to get back. What happened?" he asked. "This happened, John," I said, as I showed him the ring. I walked over to a wooden chair, sat down grinning, looking down at my ring, picturing John's shocked reaction. "What does it do?" John asked. "Honestly, I don't know," I said. "Maybe we should go outside and find out," John said. "Maybe you should make sure our food doesn't burn," I said. John turned around to check on the food and took it off the stove. I ran upstairs and looked out the window, wondering what I could do with the ring as I slipped it back on. "Welcome back, Landon. What can I do for you?" said Jay. "What can I do with the ring, Jay?" I asked. "Anything you can imagine," he said. I slipped off the ring as I heard Jay faintly say, "Good-bye, Landon." And I said, "Good night" to the sizzle downstairs, "I'm not hungry." I walked to my room, slumped in my bed, and closed my eyes. I put the ring on my dresser and fell asleep.

## End of Chapter 1.