

# ELITE: MOSTLY HARMLESS

by  
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FIRST EDITION

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I dedicate this story to 811 strangers from the internet.  
I wrote it with the sole purpose of entertaining you.  
I hope it does.

## Credits

These credits are broken down into various levels of support, for each of which I am truly grateful.

### **Revenge killing:**

These charming souls pledged the most out of all my backers, for the pleasure of naming a character whose fate was to die a grisly death.

Dave Vint

Glen

Sullivan

The myTalky team Neil, Woz, Tor and Dan

### **Nosy Parkers:**

This wonderful crew have been by my side every step of the way with advice and support in my Google Plus 'Nosy Parkers' forum. As well as offering support and encouragement they have helped me massively with certain creative points too. Thank you, all of you.

Marc Goldman

Matthew

Benson Paul

Lewis Anthony

M. Olver

André Michael

Czausov Stewart

Forgie

Phil

Clarke

Simon

Maher

Stephen

Usher

Robin "SubWolf"

Beckett Kevin  
Gilmartin  
John Urquhart  
Ferguson Simon  
McBride Commander  
Sharky

**Creatively challenged super fan:**

This group completely blew me away with their generosity in pledging to Elite: Mostly Harmless for no other input than just a mention in the credits... so here it is – and by the way you rock!

Mika Peltola  
Darren Bowles  
Barry Wright  
Steve “Konimai” Morgan  
Programify Ltd  
Richard Allen  
Nick ‘Cyber Pig’ Roberts  
Marcel Schön  
Gareth Lewis

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These backers named a character and gave me some personality traits to include. It was a lot of fun developing these characters and weaving them in to the plot.

Alex Guha  
Andrew  
Wright  
Richard Ansell  
Julian Crisp  
Commander Kevin Jameson

**Random input backers:**

Bill Irving wanted me to include a ‘special electric guitar’

Roland J. Veen suggested a venue: ‘Anna & Roland’s Zen Garden’ Terry Walton asked for a mention for his ‘Wayout Walton Westies’

Commander Hieronymus Drake threw me a massive curve ball with a request for ‘a stuffed meerkat’

Andrew Sayers wanted nothing more than to see Angel spend time in a bar in Slough – and who am I to argue with that?

**Creatively challenged enthusiasts:**

With no more spots for random input these brilliant people still decided to pledge at the level for just a thank you in the credits. So, THANK YOU!

Stefan  
(NightFlyerMD) M  
Michael Segal  
Lee Jordan  
Graham  
Jones

**All my generous backers:**

The great unwashed readership of Elite: Mostly Harmless. I thank you all for your support and hope you enjoy this book that you helped create.

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Ned Ludd, Jimbo Jones, Justin Bowdidge, Anthony Scicluna Valentino, Knight Drei, Robert Pearce, Mark Harper, Kenric Hamerstein, Deusx\_ophc, Chand Svare Ghei, Simpsoid, Adam J Purcell, JPS IT Ltd, Mike Clarke, Get Running, Martin Theiß, Andrew Jay Nicholls, Lars Nørregaard, Joel Edvardsson, Michael Warsop, StarkMischief, Damien Letham, Arve Haugland, Frank Tifino, Brian Logsdon, Kaji, Kenneth Johansson, SCL411, Michael Rozdoba, Robin Barnard, Michael Gresswell, Juan Rial, James Clark, Marianne Bormann, Andreas Meyer, Tal, Martin Gear, Mr Bryan Mark, Wilde, Kimberly Seo McAfee, Kash Farooq, Charlie Michael Jonsson, Giles, Peter Augustin, Matthew Abel, Jack Anderson, Royston Craig, Derrick, Jelle Veraa, McVillan, Alec Stevens, Majogu, Gordon Macleod, Eamonn Coffey, Bifford the Youngest, Detective William Hilditch, Gromit, Tycho, Jedra, Darren Lloyd Webber, Louis Michael Digby, Russ Brack, Andy Piper, SocialSafe, Alexander Tutass, Gareth Knipe, Andy Long, Peter Young, Rasmus Sindberg, londondesigner, Marcus James Adams, Joanna Sefton, Gavin Smith, Allen Bell, Waffoo, Stud Hillshire, Becky Scott, Iain Davidson, Staffan "Mad Swede" Tj, Iain C Docherty, Richard Morris, Steven Lockett, StuDo, Mick Freed, Matthew Ash, Colin Andrew Dunwoody, Duncan Irvine, Brother Dave (Keeper of the Holy Data Book), Tim Hawkins, David Berquist, Gavin Udall, Lee Andrew Hardy, Philip Harris, Brent 'bos' Sinclair, Zar Peter, Bruno, Hammer, Devil "Rienkar" Moscatelli, Luc Bernardin, Richard Hicks, Paul Murphy, Mark Cowan, Paul Collins, Stoker, Andrew J Clark, Guy Adams, Anthony Stiller, Michelle Zimmerman, Toby Bates, Stephen Varey, Sloma, Ian Collings, JabbleWok, Beth Rushton-Woods, Colin Barker, Shao, Zoe Peters, Jix, Dalkev, FlapperGirl, SchlapStar, Commander Rowan Wagstaff-Weston, Steve McGarrity, Kram-Tomat, Jeremy Cerda, Spooksta, David W. Weaver, Frank Haussmann, Lucas Crocombe, Barnaby Madgett, Robin Wemmenlöv, Basnom, Guy Thomas, Daniéll, Gareth Kennerley, Dan Keating, Exobyte, Dr Phillipe Roden, redhotrobbo, Kimondo, Klaas van Gend, Patrick Breen, Laura Shearing, Flat Rabbit, Becci Rainbird, Amxitsa, Laura Kaye Tomlinson, asteroid Ogier, Christopher Mueller, Richard Parkes, Andrew Carter, David Aldridge, Joel Francois, Nick Homes, Hadley Robert Denton, Mark Wilkes, Harry Hausenogger, Swinders, Jon Lean, Perriard, Jay Watson, Peter Gerrard, Pete Bramley, Drew Wagar, Jurriaan "Voyager\_NL"

Wittenberg, Craig Gormley, Simon Green, Simon McLucas, Cloudwork, Sean Houlihane, John Lambert, John Whitehouse, Michael Lefevre, Darren Rees, Tim Palmer, Jon Baker, Luke Parsons, John Osmond, Shadow Stalker, Hugh Cowhead, Gregg Chamberlain, Richard Deniz, Joerg Ritter, Jakob Aabel Østergaard, Nick The Geek, Rupert Wood, Matthew (Mad Dog) Barker, Hans Christoffer Sandnes, Stefan Plagemann, Robin Layfield, Lieutenant Commander Rouse, Gunnar Högberg, Drew Griffiths, Tom Meades, Morten Nyrup, Abey Campbell, Michael Bree, MogMartin, Simon White, Cmdr Jynx, Jim Kirk, AnthonyV, Jan Gehrler, Kaynary and Zannalov, Karl Goodloe, Andreas Gustafsson, Stygggron, Stephan Ditz, Jeff Petre, Phil Taprogge, Aiden Montgomery, Peter Barrett, Andy "Codfish" Harker, Anthony De Souza, Kam Ho, Simon Foley, Karim Kronfli, Sten Lindgren, Nevikson, Will Lowe, Jonathan S. Chance, John "polymorp" Spence, NumptyDo, Kaserei, Thomas Kolbe, Tim Elwell, Holger Peters, Accalia de Elementia, Jürgen Schmidt, Fusion, Tom Ryder, Sonya Fireclaw, Dave Castle, Kevin Reilly, Rob (Wrongway) Lister, Leif B. Nielsen, Don "Rico" Purdy, Andrew Clucas, Jeff Moore, John Morgan, Andrew Holmes and Duncan Gray.

## Author's Note:

I was once cornered by a disciple of the Church of Scientology in a shopping centre in Slough. It was a rainy, Tuesday afternoon and his strategy to tempt me into the fold of the religion was to make me realise how rubbish and unfulfilled my life was. The short interview with the weasel-faced man, conducted under the shelter of a Greggs Bakery doorway with the smell of fresh sausage rolls wafting around my face made me realise two things: I have a pretty awesome life, and I never want to go back to Slough.

## The Slough of Despond in John Bunyan's allegory *The Pilgrim's Progress* (1678):

*'This miry slough is such a place as cannot be mended; it is the descent whither the scum and filth that attends conviction for sin doth continually run, and therefore is it called "the slough of despond": for still as the sinner is awakened about his lost condition, there ariseth in his soul many fears, and doubts, and discouraging apprehensions, which all of them get together, and settle in this place; and this is the reason of the badness of this ground.'*





## About the Author:

Kate Russell has been writing about technology, gaming and the Internet since 1995 and now appears weekly on BBC2 and BBC World News, reporting for technology programme Click. A regular expert on the sofa at ITV's Daybreak and various other TV and radio stations, she writes columns for National Geographic Traveller magazine and Web User magazine.

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Kate has also written 'Working the Cloud', an indispensable guide to getting the most out of the internet for you and your business. Here's the website;  
[workingthecloud.biz/](http://workingthecloud.biz/)

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