


Jay Cooper

**the SPY
NEXT DOOR**

Mutant Rat Attack!



**SCHOLASTIC PRESS
NEW YORK**



For Mom, who was never too busy on
a Saturday to laugh along with me at
The Giant Claw, or cry with me over
Mighty Joe Young.

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Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data available

ISBN 978-0-545-93297-4

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1 17 18 19 20 21

Printed in the U.S.A. 23
First edition, March 2017

Book design by Nina Goffi



CHAPTER 1

Daring Dreams and Mad Dashes!

It looked like the end of the road for Dexter Drabner,
Secret Spy.

Here he was, trapped in the lair of the massively evil Commandant Cranium, facing certain doom. Tied tightly to his own skateboard with metal coils, he rolled slowly down a conveyor belt toward the Death Dicer, a swinging globe covered in blades that would chop him up into bite-size Dexter Drabner bits. To make matters worse, the top secret information on the flash drive that Dexter had been assigned to retrieve was now in the hands of the mad scientist with the glass-encased brain.

“So the world-famous Secret Spy is finally in my clutches!” Commandant Cranium cackled. “Ogor, turn the conveyor-belt speed from **SLOW** to **MEDIUM**, and then turn the spikes on the Death Dicer from **SHARP** to **REALLY, REALLY SHARP!** Mwah-ha-ha-ha!”





KWAH-HA-HA-HA!

hee hee!

PUSH!

-Slow
-Medium
-Fast
-OMG!



The drive!

Mein brain!

“Not so fast, Commandant Cranium!” cried Dexter. He suddenly threw the metal coils over the side of the conveyor belt and leapt up onto his skateboard. He triumphantly held up a bent paper clip.

Cranium’s glass-encased brain pulsed with anger. “The swine has freed himself from my coils with only a paper clip!”

Dexter shot down the conveyor belt atop the skateboard toward the Death Dicer, ollied over the railing, and in one swift motion, snatched the flash drive out of Cranium’s hands and gave him a good-bye kick.

Commandant Cranium shrieked in pain. His cry sounded a lot like an alarm clock going off.

All at once, the laboratory scene dissolved. The lair’s giant electrodes transformed into Dexter’s bedposts, and the dangerous Death Dicer turned into Dexter’s ceiling fan. Dexter Drabner blinked. He slowly realized that he had been dreaming.

