

Hive Mind

Part Three



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Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Names: Bradley, Timothy J., author.

Title: Hive mind / by Timothy J Bradley.

Description: Huntington Beach : Teacher Created Materials, [2019] |
Previously released as volumes 1-3 of the series, Sci-Hi. | Audience:
Ages 13 | Audience: Grades 4-6 | Summary: Thirteen-year-old Sidney
Jamison is bored with school and getting in trouble for taking apart
household appliances, but everything changes when he transfers to Sci
Hi, where students play Zero-G dodgeball and work together to solve such
real-world problems as Colony Collapse Disorder.

Identifiers: LCCN 2019026461 (print) | LCCN 2019026462 (ebook) | ISBN
9781644913475 (v. 1 ; paperback) | ISBN 9781644913482 (v. 2 ; paperback)
| ISBN 9781644914397 (v. 1 ; ebook) | ISBN 9781644913499 (v. 3 ;
paperback) | ISBN 9781644914373 (v. 2 ; ebook) | ISBN 9781644914380 (v.
3 ; ebook)

Subjects: CYAC: High schools--Fiction. | Schools--Fiction. | Science
fiction.

Classification: LCC PZ7.B7258 Hiv 2019 (print) | LCC PZ7.B7258 (ebook) |
DDC [Fic]--dc23

LC record available at <https://lcn.loc.gov/2019026461>

LC ebook record available at <https://lcn.loc.gov/2019026462>



5301 Oceanus Drive
Huntington Beach, CA 92649-1030
www.tcmpub.com

ISBN 978-0-7439-6691-7

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CHAPTER ONE



A Big Surprise

Talos, the Artificial Intelligence (AI) who was in charge of keeping track of students' well-being, among other things, was waiting to receive Hari's orientation datacube. Hari noticed his friend Sid had already handed in his, but he wasn't done yet. His friends waited while he raced through the

health questionnaire.

Hari had applied to Sci Hi on his own without telling his parents. When he was accepted, his parents didn't think he would be able to make it at a school like Sci Hi. When he left, they had told him to let them know when he was ready to come home. His older brother, Pradeep, was the one they usually focused their praises on. But now that Hari was a part of Sci Hi, he had no intention of leaving. He needed to push himself to be the best he could be and prove his parents' low expectations wrong.

Once Hari handed in his datacube, Talos led the group to a large room. The sign on the door said *MINIATURIZATION*.

A voice spoke gently from an unseen speaker, "Students, please close your eyes in preparation for Miniaturization."

Miniaturization? Hari thought.

Suddenly, he felt dizzy. His skin broke out in goose bumps, and he

could feel the hairs on the back of his neck standing up. His fingertips felt warm, then cold, then warm again. His stomach rolled queasily, and strange colors and patterns flashed against his closed eyelids.

“All right, students. Miniaturization complete. You can open your eyes,” Talos’s voice boomed.

Whoa! Hari glanced at Sid and their other friend Penny. The classroom ceiling that was normal a minute ago, now looked as though it took up the whole sky. They were all nearly microscopic! A thick layer of mist was evaporating from around their feet.

“Come in, everyone,” a voice called from inside. The teacher, Dr. Sharp, was already miniaturized.

“Welcome to Microbiology,” said the thin, balding man, wearing a white lab coat with the Sci Hi logo embroidered on his pocket.

The students cautiously made their way from the miniaturization platform

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