

THE POWER FORCE

The Mascus Colony

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Summary

16: A New Home: Assault on the Colony.

Contents

The heroes have arrived at the sayan colony of Mascus at last. This was the place that Kane had been bragging about ever since he met the gang. Now, they are going to see if it lives up to the hype. But is this colony truly safe from danger?

"Wow, this place is huge!" Lisa shouted in wonder.

Mason: "I haven't seen anything like this."

Zelfire: "I'm speechless."

Piper: "We're going to be staying here for a while."

Jerrell and his top soldiers arrived at the scene to welcome their new friends.

Margarita: "Jerrell! We've brought Kane's friends here safe and sound."

Kyle: "We were attacked by several starfighters, but we managed to get pass them."

Jerrell: "Good job Margrit and Kyle."

Zorton: "So he's the leader..."

Jerrell: "Ahh, my earthling friends welcome to my colony. My name is Jerrell, and I am the commander of this colony. So, what do you think?"

Piper: "It's incredible!"

Jerrell: "Thank you. Many have said the same thing when they look at this colony. I've built it years ago from scratch. It's been prospering since its inception. Any way, I've heard about your heroic stories from Kane."

Kane: "Yep, I told him everything."

Jerrell: "It would be an honor to have you as guests in this colony, especially you, Mason. You have killed several of our most hated enemies. We wanted to get them ourselves for some time now."

Mason: "Well, I was just doing what I feel is right, protecting earth."

"I see. Please, come inside with us." Jerrell took them inside the main entrance and enter the center of the colony.

Lisa: "Wow, it looks even better inside!"

Jerrell: "Ummm, Kane, why don't you show our new guests around, since they'll be living here with us."

Kane: "No prob."

Zorton: "No thanks. I'll check this place out myself."

Jerrell: "And Margrit, why don't you help Mason take a tour of this place?"

Margarita: "Sure, I'll be glad to."

Mason: (I guess I have special status here, just because I'm a powerful fighter. Is that how it is with sayans?)

Piper: "See ya Mason!"

Zelfire: "Have fun!"

Mason: "You too."

Meanwhile, **Kori** made a report to Dark Spectre inside his ship. "Heh heh heh heh! Those fools. I have finally discovered the secret location of the sayan colony!"

"A job well done Kori. But how did you do it?"

Kori: "I owe all my thanks to those fools at the colony. When they went to earth a few days ago, I was able to track them down when they returned to the colony. Now we know where exactly on Mascus they are."

"That colony has been the biggest threat to me ever since it was established; now I can finally get rid of those rebels! Kori, I want you to kill every single person in that colony. Leave no prisoners."

Kori: "Yes, Dark Spectre, as you wish."

Back in the colony, Margarita gave Mason a tour of the magnificent colony. She showed him the dormitory, where all the soldiers rest and sleep after their training.

"And this will be your room." she declared, opening the door to his room.

"Wow, it's bigger than the other rooms."

"Of course, you're our special guest here, Mason. You might not know it, but we consider you as a hero for killing many of our enemies."

"And I can see Jerrell treats you better than the other soldiers." Mason said.

"That's right. The most important thing in this colony is strength and power, and the more you have, the more respect you get."

"So, basically, your fighting abilities determine your rank. And power is more important than anything else."

"Yes, you get the basic idea now. That is what our race is all about. Here, Jerrell is our leader, and I am second in command."

"You are the second in command? I never thought...that's not bad, for a woman." Mason said.

"Yes, many of my opponents underestimate me, and that's why I always win! Alright, now I'll take you to the training center..." she said proudly.

So she took him to the training center. It was the biggest room in the building, and naturally, one of the most important. They saw a bunch of soldiers fighting their

sparring partners, and all of them were sweating, but their expressions on their faces were emotionless.

"So this is where all of the soldiers train."

"Training is probably one of the most fundamental things in being strong. Each person has to train here for a certain amount of time each day, and if they disobey they get punished."

"It must be a tough life..." he sighed.

"I agree, but this is the only way our colony will remain strong, and we can't afford to lose to our enemies."

Then this guy spotted Margarita and the visitor, and headed towards them.

Ken (with an attitude): "Well well well, if it isn't Margarita, and her **special** friend. Did you finally get a boyfriend who can actually stand you?"

"Ken, why aren't you wearing your fighting suit? You're not supposed to take it off at all." Margarita said with authority.

"What? I have to wear that shity suit all day? Gimme a break! That thing is heavy, and it stinks!" he said rudely.

Margarita: "You just never learn, do you?"

"Oh, I've learned alright, that the rules here stink!" he said, pointing his finger at her.

"Who is that guy?" Mason asked.

"Oh, he's just some hot shot who thinks he's so tough. We don't have to worry about him."

"You know what? I'm doing fine not wearing my suit, so I think I'll just keep it this way."

"Ken, what are you doing? You're talking to Margarita here!" one of the soldiers cautioned.

"Hey back off, I don't need your advice. I don't understand how a girl like Margarita became the colony's top official. If anyone should have that place, it should be me!"

"Are you challenging my authority? Why don't we settle this right now. I'll teach you a lesson!" Margarita said angrily.

"Fine by me."

They prepared to fight and everyone in the training room watched them silently. Some of them were shocked that someone who dare do such a thing, but then again, Ken is Ken.

"How did it turn out like this?" Mason said.

"You're an embarrassment to our colony, Ken! We have a special guest here today. It's his first day and he has to see this crap! We wanted him to have a good impression of our colony..."

Mason: "No really, it's okay."

Ken: "Ptooey. All you care about is your damn reputation. Take this."

He prepared a punch but she blocked it with her elbow, and returned a devastating kick in his chest, followed by a jab on his cheek.

Mason watched carefully. (Now I get to see what she can do.)

Ken almost lost his balance, then he tried again, but missed, giving her the chance to punch him so hard he fell on his back.

"She's pretty good. Now I understand why she's one of the best here!" Mason said. But he was disappointed it ended so quick.

Ken left the room humiliated and hurt. "This ain't over yet Margrit! I'll get you for this!" he muttered just before he exited.

"Don't call me Margrit. It's Margarita. And don't you forget that!"

After that incident, they continued exploring the colony. "You sure taught him a lesson." Mason commented.

"He deserves it. We won't accept anyone with that attitude. Now he'll think twice before talking back to a superior."

Margarita showed him the **Garden**, a huge room located in the center of the complex. It resembled a green house, with its variations of flowers and plants, a beautiful fountain with a statue of some legendary warrior, and a large round glass on the ceiling to absorb sunlight.

"This place is beautiful!"

"Yes, it's the most amazing site in this place. Our caretakers take good care of this garden. It's such a wonderful place...only me, Jerrell and our caretakers are allowed to enter this place. Others are forbidden from this place. Since you are our special guest, you can come here anytime you wish."

Margarita took him to a private training room. Mason felt indeed special throughout the day, that is, until she took him to another training room.

"Now where are you taking me?" Mason asked.

"Here we are!"

"Another training room?"

"Mason, nobody's here but us. It is time I test your fighting abilities."

"Say what?"

"Come on! Show me what you've got!"

"You're kidding right?"

Margarita: "I don't usually kid around. I want to see if you really are as strong as Kane says you are."

"I don't usually show off my skills. I really don't think this is a good idea."

"But I think it's a good idea." She got into fighting stance.

"Do you understand? I don't fight my allies."

"Why don't you pretend I'm your enemy?"

"Why do you want me to fight you so badly? You're just like Starburst, you want to show off your strength by challenging those who don't want to."

Margarita: "Hey, now. Don't go on saying things like that. I'm nothing like that piece of shit. He works for Dark Spectre, and I'm fighting for the good of the universe. Fighting stronger opponents is how we get stronger. If you won't fight back, then that's fine with me."

She attacked him, and he tried to be only defensive. With him not fighting back, she punched him many times and kicked him until he fell on his back.

"Ahhh, that hurts." He sprang up. "That's the way you want it? Fine. No more Mr. Nice Guy."

Margarita: "Alright, some real competition!"

"I'm going to pay you back for that handshake!"

They hit each other several times, and then she tossed him against the wall.

"You're not fighting with your full strength, are you? Why are you still holding back?"

"Like I told you-"

Suddenly, an alarm rang throughout the colony. Red lights were flashing everywhere, and the siren stunned everybody.

Mason: "What's happening?"

Margarita: "Oh no! We're under attack!"

Lisa: "What's going on?!"

Kane: "This means the colony is under attack!"

Piper: "Under attack?"

Kane: "I've got to go! Stay here and you'll be safe." He ran across the hallway.

Zelfire: "Piper, we can't just stay here and do nothing. We've got to help them. This is our home now!"

Piper: "I agree."

Now the entire colony was in panic. Soldiers were running in all directions, not knowing what was going on.

Kori fired a big fireball at one of the buildings and blew a hole on it. His two henchmen, **Triclops** and **Dergoneous** were standing behind him and laughing. Around them, lie the bodies of the sayans they beat up.

"Ha ha ha! That should give them a shock!" Dergoneous was a fish-like alien. His skin color was dark blue and he has fins on his neck.

"I bet those sayans are panicking right now as we speak!" Triclops is an alien with a third eye on his forehead. He is the last of his kind. He keeps it closed all the time, but when his third eye does open, there's no telling what will happen.

"Damn." Margarita said. "They discovered our location. I got careless."

Mason got up from the floor. "Hey wait Margarita!" he shouted as she left the training room. Zorton showed up just after she left.

"We're under attack! We have to help them."

Mason: "Right."

Margarita pressed the button on the scouter and found the exact location of the attackers. She confronted Kori and his men.

Margarita: "So, you're the one behind the attacks. Who are you?"

Kori: "Greetings my sayan friend. I am Kori, and I've received orders from Dark Spectre himself to destroy this place!"

Margarita: "Dark Spectre himself?"

Triclops: "So, you are from the colony?"

Kori: "I didn't think there would be women in this place!"

Margarita: "So, just because I'm a woman that makes me weaker than others? Is that what you're saying?"

Kori: "That's a fact! Woman are inferior warriors, but I hope you prove me wrong!"

Margarita: "Don't worry, **I will!**"

Kori: "Get her!"

Dergoneous and Triclops both attacked Margarita, but she was able to handle them.

She jumped up into the air, and they followed her. Kori watched the fight, and checked her fighting level with his scouter. "Her fighting level is incredible! That's not bad...for someone her size. But after all, she is a sayan."

Once they were in the air, she was unstoppable.

Kori: "Hmmm, looks like she had an advantage in air combat. You idiots! You can't even defeat a woman!"

He flew straight at her and attacked. It was three on one, and she was doing her best, but there's no telling how long Margarita could last. Suddenly, Kori's scouter detected other energy levels flying in their direction.

Kori: "Looks like the real battle is about to begin. Dergoneous, Triclops, leave her to me! You go attack the colony!"

They left at once. Now Kori can focus on Margarita alone.

Margarita: "You shouldn't have done that, you know? Those two were your only chance."

"Heh, I don't need to gang up on someone to beat him. I'm confident in my own abilities. Are you?"

Both fighters powered up. Can Margarita save the colony from these goons?

17: The Colony Strikes Back.

Contents

The heroes were taking a tour of colony where they thought they were safe. They were very wrong. Once the colony was attacked, Margarita was one of the first to defend it. She came face to face with the evil Kori, and both were determined to achieve victory. But who will win this fight? And what will be the fate of the colony and those who live in it?

Margarita faced off against Kori and they were evenly matched, for the moment. Kori charged up a energy beam and threw it at her. She tried to block it, but it was too powerful. It hit her and she fell straight onto the ground.

Kori: "Ouch. That must hurt."

Margarita: "Uhhh, my suit! You ruined my suit!"

Kori (sarcastically): "What's the matter? Did I ruin your perfectly good clothes? Oh my, you're getting angry...please don't hurt me! Ha ha ha ha ha!"

Margarita: "Shut up! I'm...not going...to lose...to the likes of you!"

She formed an Energy Bomb and aimed it at Kori and hit him! Kori countered it with a blast of his own.

Kori: "Is that all?"

Margarita: "No, that can't be!!!"

Kori: "You call that an attack? I'll show you how it's done!" He shot a beam and it hit her and knocked her into a house in the village.

Kane, Jerrell, Piper and Zelfire hurried to the field to help Margarita, but they were interfered by Dergoneous and Triclops.

Jerrell: "Where's Margarita?"

Triclops: "She's fighting our boss, and I'm afraid she won't last long!"

Dergoneous: "So these are the colony's strongest? Pathetic!"

Piper: "What did you say?!"

Kane: "They need a lesson real bad!"

Triclops: "Hmm, since when does the colony accept humans?"

Piper: "I'll tell you! Because we are very strong!"

Dergoneous: "Yeah, you are strong. Compared to an ant!"

They started fighting and already the bad guys were winning.

Meanwhile, Mason and Zorton were also rushing to help Margarita.

Zorton: "Mason, I'll go help the others. You help Margarita."

Mason: "Alright."

So they split up and headed in different directions. Mason entered the abandoned village, but there were no signs of Margarita. (Where could she be?)

He tried to sense her, but it didn't work because her power was running low, and he didn't know her that long. The ability to sense some one's life force is probably

the single most useful technique his master had taught him. It is a very rare ability, reserved only for those with the sixth sense.

However, it doesn't work at all times. Mason could have sensed Piper or Zelfire if he concentrated enough. He could because he knew them for so many years, so he recognized their life force.

But wait, something was not right. He could slightly sense her presence in one of the houses even though he knew her for only a few weeks. He didn't know why that happened, and didn't care.

He went inside and saw Margarita laying there under a pile of rocks and wood. She was injured and barely conscious. "Margarita? Are you ok? What happened?"

"Mason?... It's you?" she said in a weak voice.

"Who did this?"

"It was Kori, he's very strong. Get out of here...now..."

"No, I can't do that. He's not gonna get away with it, I promise!" He removed the rocks from her body.

"...You're helping me? You're willing to help me...even after all I've done?"

"Of course! That's what friends are for!" He held her hand. "Everything will be alright. I promise."

Margarita was touched by his courage and sincerity. Tears were rolling down her face. "Thank you...Mason. No one has been this nice to me before." Then she suddenly yelled: "Watch out! Behind you!"

Mason: "Huh?"

He turned around but it was too late to react. A beam hit him and pushed him out of the house.

Margarita: "Nooooooooo!"

Kori walked in. "Ha ha ha ha ha! Idiot. He didn't even know what hit him! Don't tell me he's part of your colony. He should learn to be more alert."

"Kori! No, don't hurt him! Please!" she pleaded as her trembling hands grabbed his foot.

Kori: "Why? Is he that important to you? Who is he? Your boyfriend?! Ha ha ha ha ha!"

"Don't hurt him!"

"Get off of me!" He shook her hands off his foot.

Mason got up painfully. "Owww, what happened?"

Kori: (He's not hurt, after taking a direct hit from me?)

Mason: "You did that! And you're the one who hurt Margarita!"

Kori: "That's right! And what are you gonna do about it?"

"I'll show you what I'm gonna do!" he said, powering up.

They began fighting, but Mason couldn't catch up with his superior speed.

Dergoneous beat up Piper badly. Pow! Whack! Zelfire fell on the ground and couldn't get up.

"Hah hah hah hah! You humans are no match for me, just like I said!"

Piper: "Shut up you overgrown fish face!"

Dergoneous: "What did you say?" He stepped on Piper.

"Ahhhhhhhhh!"

"Weakling! I don't know why I'm wasting my time with you..."

Jerrell and Kane teamed up against Triclops and they were winning. Suddenly, Zorton dropped to help them.

Jerrell: "Zorton? What are you doing here?"

Zorton: "What does it look like? I'm helping you!"

Jerrell: "We're doing just fine here. We appreciate it, but we don't need you now!"

Kane: "Go back and help Mason!"

Zorton: "Fine by me." He flew out of there.

Triclops: "Heh heh heh heh. You fools. You need all the help you can get..."

Jerrell: "What do you mean?"

Triclops: "You think you're winning aren't you? You haven't seen me at full power! When I open my third eye, you're both finished!"

Kane: "What is he talking about?"

Jerrell: "I think he's telling the truth. All this time he kept his third eye closed..."

Kane: "Well, I don't care how many eyes he's got, he's going down."

Jerrell: (What does his third eye do?)

"You don't believe me, do you? You will...soon..." Triclops began to power up...and energy was running through his body..."Hah hah hah hah hah!" His eye opened...and it seemed like the whole sky lighted up. Jerrell and Kane covered their eyes.

Triclop's third eye was now open, and it looked like the heroes will have to fight a tough battle. Triclops moved forward his arm and the wave of energy blew them away.

Jerrell and Kane: "Ahhhhh!"

"What a force!"

Triclops: "Now you die!" Bang! The whole area exploded. Once there were no signs of his enemies, he closed the third eye.

Zorton rushed back to help Mason as fast as he could. When he got to the village, Mason was badly injured and couldn't fight back.

Zorton: "Mason! Oh no!"

Kori: "Another one? It doesn't matter. I'll finish all of you now!"

Zorton: "Take this!" He fired the Energy Bang, a very powerful laser attack, but he missed.

Kori appeared in front of him and kicked him. It was a devastating hit for Zorton. He fell on the ground face flat.

Kori: "One hit K.O.! Hah hah hah hah! C'mon! Don't tell me that's all you've got?!"

Zorton: "Owwww, this can't be!"

Mason: "Zorton..."

Kori: "You guys really bore me. Enough is enough." He contacted the others with his scouter. "Dergoneous, Triclops, what's your status?"

Triclops: "Enemies eliminated."

Dergoneous: "Same here. These weaklings were no match for me!"

Kori: "Good. Now head to the colony and attack!"

"Hey, Kori long time no see." said a familiar voice.

Radus: "What are you doing here?"

"Same as you. You're not the only one who is doing this, ya know! Dark Spectre is giving a reward to those who kill the most sayans."

"What? But I was here first."

Radus: "Yet you're wasting time with these weaklings."

"Do as you wish. Just don't interfere with me." Kori flew towards the colony.

Mason: "Uhhh, I've got to stop him...he's gonna destroy...the colony..."

Margarita walked out of the house to Mason. "Are you alright?"

"I'll be fine. I've got to stop Kori..."
"I'm going too!"
"No, its safer here. You're injured. Leave it to me."
"Mason...but it's my colony too! I must go and kill Kori!"
Zorton: "Stay here Margarita. It's for your own good. I know Mason can stop them alone."
Margarita: "But...I have to save my colony."
Zorton: "But who's going to save you? You're in no shape for anything."
Mason flew after Kori and Margarita whispered: "Good luck."

18: Colony Saved! Mason Saves the Day!

Contents

Kori has already begun his assault on the colony. From the very start the fighting was intense. Does Mason have what it takes to save his new home?

S-Soldier#5: "Oh no! The enemy is here..."
S-Soldier#2: "What do we do now?"
S-Soldier#3: "We have to fight back! This is our colony!"
S-Soldier#1: "But...Jerrell isn't here. If he can't beat them, then there's no hope for us..."

S-Soldier#2: "Fool! Even without our leader we still have to fight...we must defend our home!"

Kori: "Are you done chit chatting? If you don't mind I'd like to start fighting."

Radus: "This is gonna be fun!"

They started beating up the soldiers, while those who didn't help watched in horror. The other soldiers were too scared to do anything, and others ran away...those who were brave enough were beaten up and killed.

S-Soldier#2: "Ahhhh! Why you, you won't get a-away w-w-with this..."

"I already have! Now say goodbye!" Kori blasted him.

S-Soldier#2: "AAAAAAHHHHHH!"

Kori: "Who's next?"

Lisa: "Hey you stop it!"

Triclops: "Who said that?"

Kori: "What did you say?"

Lisa: "You heard me! You can't just come into someone's home and start hurting people!"

S-Soldier#4: "What are you doing? Be quiet!"

Lisa: "What do you mean?! How can you just watch them kill your comrades?! You are sayans, aren't you?"

S-Soldier#4: "But we can't do anything...they're just too strong!"

S-Soldier#5: "What do we do now?!"

Kori: "You're not part of this colony, are you? You're pretty brave for an earthling...why don't you just keep your mouth shut, little girl."

Lisa: "I'm not a little girl!"

Kori was going to hit her, but Ken stopped him.

Kori: "Why you! Get out of my way!"

Ken: "You coward! You're picking on those weaker than you, is that what you call glory? The four of you are nothing but cowards."

Radtiz: "What? No one talks about me that way!"

Kori: "Hmmm, you are the real cowards! Look at your comrades! They're too scared to do anything!"

Ken: "Well, I'm not!" He charged at Kori and made a punch. Kori blocked him and strikes back. Pow! Whack! Wham! Ken was knocked onto the ground. Kori stepped on his chest hard.

Ken: "Ahhhh!"

Kori: "You think you're a hot shot, do you? You're just the same as the others, you talk big, but your ability is small!"

Lisa: "Ken! Stop it! Let him go!"

Suddenly, Zelfire dropped in and helped Ken. He also decided that watching wasn't going to solve anything.

Kori: "Where did he come from?"

Triclops: "Let me take him, boss."

Kori: "Do as you wish..."

Triclops flew up in the air and pushed Zelfire into the ground, making a big hole. They both went under ground into the lower section of the colony. This place was even bigger than the colony! It was filled with columns with strange writings, and it was several stories high, and it seemed to stretch endlessly in all four directions.

Zelfire: "Where am I? This place is under the colony?"

Triclops: "Who cares? It's time for you to die, human!"

They started fighting again. Above them, Kori, Dergoneous and Radus continued to assault the soldiers. It was a one sided fight until Mason showed up. Kaboom! Smoke filled the whole place. The enemies coughed.

Lisa: "Look! It's Terry!"

Kori: "You again? I thought I finished you off!"

Mason: "You won't get rid of me that easily. I have a colony to protect."

Kori: "Have it your way!"

The three of them all attacked Mason together, and it was too much for him. He was out numbered and out powered.

Meanwhile, Margarita and Zorton were still in the abandoned village. "Are you alright?" she asked.

Zorton: "I'm fine. Really."

Margarita: "I've got to save my...colony...but my injuries..."

Zorton: "I can't do anything either...that bastard hit me too hard."

Margarita: "I can't just stay here...I've got to help Mason..."

She tried to get up, but Zorton stopped her.

Zorton: "Are you crazy? You'll get killed."

"But..."

"Alright. I know how much that colony means to you...I'll give you some of my own energy..."

"But what will happen to you?"

Zorton: "I'll be fine...it's only a little bit of energy, it's not like I'm giving my life away..."

He grabbed her shoulder and gave her some of his energy.

"Thank you Zorton...I won't put it to waste..." She flew back into the colony.

The fight between Zelfire and Triclops continued. They shot beams at each other and hit the columns. Zelfire decided to make a run for it and flew as fast as he could. Triclops was right behind him, trying to shoot him down.

Suddenly Triclops came out of the ground while holding Zelfire with one hand. He dropped Zelfire on the floor.

Mason: "Zelfire! Nooooo!"

Triclops: "It was a good fight. But he had no chance from the start."

Zelfire: "I'm s-sorry Mason, I c-can't help you now."

Mason: "It's okay, old pal. You've done your part, now it's my turn."

He first attacked Kori, then Dergoneous and Triclops helped. He was cornered against the wall. They beat him up and hurt him a lot.

Mason fell on his knees and hands.

Kori: "This is what you get for resisting us!" He punched Mason one more time.

Dergoneous: "Lousy rebel!"

Mason: "I...I won't lose. I won't let every body down."

Then an energy beam headed towards Kori. He dodged just in time, and it blew up a wall.

Kori: "Who did that?"

Margarita: "Darn! Almost gotcha. Now why didn't you stay still so I coulda blast you into teeny bits?"

Kori: "You again? Ho can this be? You can't possibly stand up after what I did to you!"

Margarita: "Well, I've got to thank my friend for giving me the energy I need to fight."

Kori: "It doesn't matter. I'll finish all three of you right here!"

Radus: "That's right!"

Mason: "Margarita, you should be resting, you're injured!"

Margarita: "Well, that makes two of us, you're injured too. I have to protect my colony, this is my home!"

"Die!" Kori punched her and knocked her into a wall.

Mason: "Noooo!"

Then he kicked her stomach continuously.

Margarita: "Ahhhh! Ahhhh!"

Mason: "Stop it! Can't you see she can't fight back?!"

Triclops: "Awww, looks like he's getting angry. Are you gonna cry now?"

Triclops flew at him and jabbed him in the guts. They grabbed each other's hands and struggled.

Mason: "You-you've gone too far this time...I won't let you hurt anyone anymore! **I won't!**" He got really angry and started to power up. As he got back on his feet, he almost crushed Triclop's hands.

Triclops: "What?!" Mason pushed him away.

Margarita: "What is that power?"

Kori: "No! Impossible!" His scouter went berserk. "His fighting level is increasing! It's huge!"

Radus and Dergoneous just watched in shock. Triclops backed away, and groaned at the pain of his burning hands. Mason punched him against the wall. Wham.

Kori: "How can someone this strong be in the colony? The data I've collected is wrong?"

Margarita: "Hey, Kori, you should pay attention."

Kapow! She punched him against the wall.

Mason fired the Ultra Blast, and it split into four beams. Kaboom.

Dergoneous: "We can't possibly compete with someone of such caliber."

Kori: (Don't tell me...this sayan...is the one who defeated Starburst?)

Suddenly, Jerrell and Kane showed up. They were injured, but they can still fight.

The bad guys felt they could no longer win, in such an unpredictable situation.

Kori: "Grrrr. All forces retreat."

They flew out of the colony and stopped in mid air.

Dergoneous: "That man, Mason...he made a complete fool of us."

Radus: "Mason, eh?"

Triclops: "Hmmp. I'll get him back for what he did."

Kori: "Mark my words, Mason, this is not over."

They flew away.

Later Mason was declared a hero, and the savior of the sayan colony. Mason was injured again, and it was just as bad as the fight with Starburst. Margarita had a cast on her arm and some bandages on her face. Surprisingly, Jerrell and Kane had only minor injuries. Zelfire only had broken ribs and Piper just some bruises and broken bones.

Jerrell: "...And so, without Mason, our colony would've been history, and the resistance would end. Thanks to him, our colony can continue to strive and fight against the forces of evil in the universe. Mason, your acts of bravery are outstanding. We honor your courage, especially your strength. I present to our **Golden Medal of Honor**." Everyone clapped, except for Margarita, because she couldn't (the broken arm).

Lisa: "Whoo! Way to go Mason!"

Piper: "You did it!"

There was a loud applause.

Mason relaxed near the rows of windows in the hallway. He sure felt good, after getting the award and all the recognition. He's never gotten such an honor for fighting before. Life in this colony isn't so bad. But he still missed his real home.

Margarita joined him and congratulated him. "Well done, Mason."

Mason: "Oh, gee, thanks."

Margarita: "Hmm, you don't seem to be happy..."

"I am. I just have a lot on my mind."

"A lot on your mind?"

"Our enemies now know our location. Surely, they'll come back again. And right now, I can't fight."

"Forget about that. You have just received the highest ranking medal in our colony. It's a great honor. Only three people have ever received it. You, me, and Jerrell."

"Oh, I was just doing what I'm supposed to. Honestly, this reward doesn't mean much to me. What I care about most is our safety."

"Well, you are one of those noble people who would do anything to protect your friends, and I bet they rely on you a lot. It's rare to find people like that nowadays, especially after the Great War started. Now everyone cares about power and prestige and nothing else."

"You could say that."

"Ummm, I want to thank you personally for saving my life..." Margrit looked at the floor. "Under those circumstances..."

"Oh, don't mention it. You would've done the same if I were in your place, right?"

"Ummm...maybe, it depends."

Mason: "You know what? I judged you wrong in the beginning. I thought you were one of those people who cares only about fighting and glory. But now I see that there's a deep side of you that no one has seen yet."

"Really?" Margrit said, blushing.

"I think it's this colony that causes your personality to change. You act tough so you can enforce the rules, right?"

"Umm, oh, by the way, I want to apologize for how I acted in the beginning."

"Hmm?"

"I guess we just started out wrong. Maybe we can start over and become better friends. So what do you say? Friends?" She offered her hand.

"Oh no, I'm not falling for that again! I'm not that stupid. The last time we shook hands you nearly crushed my fingers."

Margrit chuckled. "I'm sorry about that. I get carried away sometimes. This time I won't do it, I promise. C'mon, you can trust me."

"Alright..."

They shook hands. Maybe they **can** become better friends. Who knows what the future has in store for them and the colony?

19: Meet Kano, The Space Pirate.

Contents

Mason had saved the colony this time, but Kori said that the battle is over but the war isn't, and he was right. And so the war continues...

As Dark Spectre appeared on the screen, the Dark Lords Kori and Radus kneeled in respect. They were glad to see him, but Dark wasn't happy at all.

Dark Spectre: "I can't believe you two failed a simple mission like this one! You couldn't destroy the colony, which poses the most threat to me! You were defeated, and-"

Kori: "Let us explain..."

Radus interrupted, "It was beyond our control."

Spectre: "You better have a good excuse."

Kori: "It was Mason! He defeated all four of us! We underestimated him..."

Spectre: "Him again? That sayan is beginning to become an eyesore. But I have prepared for an occasion like this."

The door opened and **Kano**, a space pirate entered. He was dressed only in red and black, with a row of knives and swords on his chest plate. He had only one good eye, the other lost in a fight. He wore black boots and shiny metal knuckles. Kori and Radus looked at him strangely.

Kori: "Who is that?"

Spectre: "This is Kano, your new leader. He will destroy the colony, and you'll support him to the fullest."

Kano: "That means you do everything I say, ya got it, punks?"

Radus: "A space pirate? I have to follow orders from a space pirate?!"

Kori: "Please, give us another chance, I won't fail this time!"

"**Silence!** You have failed, and I'm giving this job to him. So what if he's a space pirate? In this world, power is all that matters. I don't care who it is. He who has power shall have a high position."

Kano: "Yeah, I'm a space pirate. So what? Ya got a problem wiv dat?"

Spectre: "He's the most powerful pirate I can find. Do you have a problem with my orders?"

Radus: "No."

Kori: "No."

Kano: "Great! That's the spirit!"

Spectre: "Good. I hope to hear good news from you, Kano."

Kano: "No prob."

Kori and Radus were really angry that they have to obey a pirate, especially this one. They had served Dark for so many years, and all of a sudden this guy comes in and takes their place. Is this the price for failure?

Back at the colony, the soldiers were repairing the damage from the last attack, while others continued training. Zelfire, Piper, Zorton and Kane also started their training. Jerrell walked around the place, inspecting everything.

Margarita let Mason into Garden again. For the first time, Margarita was not wearing her combat suit. This time she wore a pretty white dress just to impress a certain some one.

"Wow! I can't believe I'm inside the Garden. This place is magnificent." he said, his eyes scanning the place.

"You said that last time."

Mason: "I have one question, why are you letting me in this place? I'm not even part of this colony."

"I have many reasons. Mason, you might not think you're part of our colony, but Jerrell and I have already accepted you. You're not only a sayan, but a strong one, and you have helped us out a great deal."

"I got a feeling that's not the reason you're doing this."

"You're right. I have my personal reasons for doing this. I don't know how to explain it."

"What?"

"Let's just say it's my way of repaying you for saving my life. I owe you one." Margarita said, smiling.

"Oh. I already told you, that was nothing. Anyone would've done the same as me under those circumstances."

"Most people would've ran away. Well, do you notice something different about me today?"

"Ummm, yeah, why are you dressed like that?"

"Don't you like it?"

"No! I mean yes. You look great in it."

"It's the sort of dress women wear on earth, right?"

"I thought your colony had rules. What happened to your combat suit?"

"Rules? I made those rules! I can change them at anytime."

"Really?"

"Oh, and one more thing. From now on, call me Margrit."

"Alright then, Margrit."

She walked towards the field of flowers and bent down to look at them. "Come here. Look."

Mason sat down and examined the plants. She picked up a flower and showed it to him.

"Here. Isn't it beautiful?" Margrit asked.

"Yeah, it is. I've never seen it before."

"That's because this is the rarest flower in this galaxy. It's called a **crystalline** flower. You won't find something like this one earth. This flower is worth a lot of money, but to us, it is priceless."

"Oh I see."

They continued examining the flowers.

Suddenly, the glass on the roof shattered and three figures dropped into the Garden. Their little moment was ruined.

Mason: "Huh?!"

Margarita: "Intruders!"

It was Kano, and his two followers, Kori and Radus. He attacked Margarita and his followers attacked Mason. She hit him, he blocked, and hit her in the stomach, pushing her a few feet back. Margrit charged and kicked, and Kano counter kicked, and hit her leg.

"Ahh, my leg!" She fell on one knee.

Mason was hit bad. Kori and Radus secured his arms and he was helpless.

Mason: "Who are you?"

Kano: "Greetings, colony sayan. My name is Kano, the space pirate."

Margarita: "A space pirate?"

Kano: "That's right. And I've received orders to kill the strongest in this colony."

Mason: "Hey, you can't just come in here like that and..."

Kano: "I can do whatever I wish!"

Margarita: "Son of a ..."

Kano stepped on her injured leg. He kicked her again and again. She screamed from the pain.

Mason: "**No!** Stop this!"

Kano: "What was that?"

"Can't you see she can't fight back?! She's injured!"

Kano: "Shut up!" He punched Mason in the guts.

Mason: "AAAHHH!"

Kano: "How does that feel? That's for opening your big mouth."

Kori and Radus let go of him, and he fell on the dirt face flat.

"Heh heh heh heh heh! Go and tell your leader to send his best fighters to the village to fight me! Or else he can say sayonara to his precious colony! Ha ha ha ha!"

Margarita: "I'll, I'll get you for this! Ughhh!"

Kano: "C'mon. Let's go." They flew out of the broken glass on the roof.

Mason crawled over to Margarita. "Are you ok?"

Margarita: "Ahhh, my leg! It hurts!" He got up and carried her to the medical room.

Margarita: "It still hurts damn it! How is it, doctor?"

Doctor: "Well, your ankle is broken and has a few bruises on it. But the injuries are not that severe."

Jerrell: "What does it mean?"

Doc: "Well, she should rest for a few days. She'll be fine then. But I suggest that she doesn't do any physical activity that might make it worse."

Mason: "So, can she walk now?"

Doc: "Sure, but she should rest."

Margarita: "No! I have to take my revenge. I can't let him get away with this."

Kane: "Don't worry. We'll get him for you."

Jerrell: "Who did this, Mason?"

Mason: "A space pirate named Kano. He wants to fight the leader of the colony. That would be you."

Jerrell: "That scum will regret this."

Mason: "Be careful. He's not that easy."

Margarita: "I'm going too!"

Jerrell: "You just stay put. You're in no condition to do anything."

Mason: "He's right. I promise I'll make him pay for what he did to you."

Margarita: "You're going too?"

Mason: "Of course I have to. I..." She grabbed his shirt.

Margarita: "Don't go. I don't want to be left alone here. Don't go, please?"

Mason: "But Margrit..."

Margrit: "Please. Stay here with me."

"But you want revenge don't you? I've sensed his power. He is very strong, I'm the only one who can stand a chance against him."

Jerrell: "Stay here."

Mason: "W-What? But why?"

Jerrell: "Trust me. I know Margarita.. Telling her to back out from an exciting fight is like telling her to die. You stay here and watch her. Make sure she doesn't try to escape. I trust you to watch her."

Mason: "Oh, alright."

Zelfire: "We'll be fine without you, Mason."

They left the room. Outside, Jerrell told two soldiers to guard the medical room.

Jerrell: "Make sure no one leaves the room, except Mason."

Soldier#10: "But what if she insists?"

Soldier#11: "Jerrell, we know how strong she is! If she wants to leave, we have no way of stopping her!"

Jerrell: "C'mon! Don't tell me you're afraid of her. She wouldn't disobey me. Besides, she has an injured foot. I don't think she can do much." That sounded pretty logical to them.

Mason: "What did you do that for?"

Margrit: "I need your help. I can't escape this room alone."

"You want me to help you escape? No. Uh uh. I don't think so. Not in your condition."

Margarita: "Come on! Do it for me, please?"

"Jerrell was right. You just can't back out from a fight, can you? I don't know. One side of me is saying not to help you, and the other..."

"The other is telling you to help me. I'll never ask you for anything again. I promise."

"If anything happens to you..."

Margrit: "Nothing's gonna happen to me, and even something does, I'll take full responsibility. Jerrell will punish me, not you. Satisfied?"

Mason took a deep breath and decided. "Alright. What's the plan?"

"Thaaank you so much! I'll remember this forever. Ok, I'll get in the garbage cart and you push it out."

"That's it? Just like in a movie."

"Get that cart from the closet. If they ask, you're going to say you're taking out the trash. Our colony has to be clean, you know." She winked.

"Right."

"Do you mind? I have to change my clothes."

"Oh, right." Mason said, hiding his blushing. He turned around as she took off her dress and put on a black sleeveless shirt and then a combat suit.

So, Mason pushed the cart out.

Soldier #10: "What are you doing?"

Mason: "Uhhh, just taking out the trash." He chuckled nervously.

Soldier #10: "Ok. You can go."

Mason pushed the cart down the hall, and made a turn. "Phew. That was a close one."

Margrit got out of the cart and they left the colony.

Soldier #10: "So, do you think Margarita was in the cart?"

Soldier #11: "She's got to be. I know her. She can't refuse a fight."

Soldier #10: "So, we both knew. Why didn't you stop him?"

Soldier #11: "What about you?"

Soldier #10: "She'll be grief stricken if she doesn't get revenge. I'm just helping her."

Soldier #11: "I feel the same way. If Jerrell finds out about this, you think he'll expel us?"

Soldier #10: "I'm more worried about what Margarita is going to do to us if we stop her. She's kind of scary."

Outside, Margrit put on a scouter, and pushed a button on her wrist. Two flying boards traveled and stopped in front of them.

Mason: "What's that?"

Margrit: "It is called a **T-board**. It travels at very high speeds, so we'll get there faster. Flying takes up too much energy, so this is the best way to go."

"B-But I don't...I've never used one of these before."

"Don't worry about. It only took me one minute to learn how to maneuver it."

"But I might take a little longer."

"The average sayan takes about two minutes to learn. You're not average. You'll make it. Hop on."

"Alright."

She got on the T-board and flew parallel to the ground. He got on after her.

"Whoa!" Mason said, as the board swerved left and right.

"Isn't it fun?"

"Yeah, it's easy to control! You're right! But can't it go higher? It's too close to the ground."

"Nope. It was designed this way. Don't tell me you're afraid you'll hit something?"

"What if I do? There's a forest ahead!"

"All you have to do is avoid the trees by turning the board. You'll get used to it." Frooom.

Kano waited patiently in the forest for their arrival.

Kori: "You think they chickened out?"

Radius: "I don't think so. They're not scared of pirates. Besides, they're sayans."

Suddenly, Kano's robotic eye detected something. "So, they have arrived at last. There's five of them. Hmm, this should be interesting." he said with an evil smile.

Five of the colony's best sayans flew out to confront Kano, one of them being Jerrell. Wanting to get him back for breaking into the colony and breaking Margarita's leg, Jerrell has accepted his invitation of death. What powers does the space pirate have up his sleeve?

20: Return Of An Old Enemy.

Contents

Kano the space pirate has thrown a challenge to the colony's leader, and Jerrell has accepted the invitation to a fight to the death. The five warriors were on their way, as Margrit and Mason tried to catch up on their T-boards.

Zelfire: "So those guys just showed up and broke into the Garden? How is it they're able to do it without being detected?"

Jerrell: "Because ever since Kori's attack, our colony's defense system is damaged, and currently being repaired. Plus, those guys are really sneaky."

Piper: "They're able to suppress their energy to the point that we can't sense them. These people are no amateurs."

Kano: "Well, looky here. They've finally arrived. There's five of them. This should be interesting."

The band of heroes, consisting of Kane, Jerrell, Zelfire, Piper, and Zorton, met Kanoe for the first time.

(So, Zorton is here?) Radus thought. (He joined with the Mascus Colony, eh? I bet he did it just so he could fight me. Very well, then. I will send him to his grave.)

"Greetings, people of the colony. I am Kano the space pirate. I've been waiting for you."

Jerrell: "So you're the one who hurt Margrit. I'll make you regret it!"

Kano: "You mean that pretty girl? I hope I didn't hurt her too much."

Jerrell: "Scum bag!"

Kano: "What did you say?!"

"You heard me! You no good scumbag!"

"I suggest that you don't get him angry." said Kori, smiling.

Kano: "You know what I hate the most? A person with a big mouth. You'll be the first to die!"

Piper: "You're not gonna beat us!"

Kane: "That's right."

Radus: "What makes you think that? You have a wild imagination, earthling."

Kori: "We will crush you."

"Enough of this talk. Let the games begin!" yelled the space pirate.

Kano was the first to power up. Everyone followed suit. Then, everyone blurred out of sight. Their movements were so fast they were seen as flashes of shadows jumping about. Doosh doosh doosh.

The fight just started, and it's already intense.

Radus picked his target - Zorton and fired a blast. Kane and Kori ran parallel to each other, then jumped and hit. Kano and Jerrell fought hand to hand. Zelfire was floating, gathering energy to hit Kano. Suddenly, something hit him. Doosh.

Zelfire bounced off a tree and landed on a branch. "You!"

Triclops: "Surprised to see me?"

"I'm glad you came. We still have to settle our score from last time. Hyah!"

In a similar fashion, Dergoneous ambushed Piper.

Meanwhile, Mason and Margrit were rushing to help the others. The T-boards were really fast, but Mason was having a hard time with it.

Mason: "Whoa! I think I'm falling off!"

Margrit: "Be careful!"

Suddenly, Mason's T-board hit a sharp rock and he fell on the ground. The T-board lost all control and hit a tree and blew up.

"Owww! Oops. I guess I broke it."

"Oh great! I guess you need practice. Hurry, get on."

Mason hopped on Margrit's board. "Are you sure this is safe?"

"I don't know. I've never ridden this thing with someone else."

"Can it support this much weight?"

"It doesn't matter now! Time is our priority." The T-board flew at max speed. Vrooom.

Radus: "So, it's been a while, hasn't it?"

Zorton: "Yes, it has been a while.

"You still won't give up, not even after your defeat."

"That was twenty years ago. Things change. This time, things will be different.

"You were lucky you escaped last time, but this time you die."

Zorton: "I doubt it."

They attacked each other angrily, releasing their anger they've kept in for two decades.

Doosh doosh. Kaboom!

Their grudge goes all the way back to two decades ago, when Radus attacked Zorton's home. His house burned up, along with his family. It was from that incident that Zorton received physical scars, and an unrecoverable injury, which requires him to keep his mask on at all times.

Zorton was but one of many of the victims of a massacre. When the Dark Empire spread its influence to Arlia, the home of sayans, they convinced **King Neflite** to join them. Soon enough, the planet was split in two - the **Rebel Faction** and the **Loyalists**. Those who believed in peace and went against the Empire joined the Faction. Those who remained loyal and supported the Empire joined the Loyalists. Since the Faction people were outnumbered, they were slaughtered and tortured by the majority.

Radus: "Heh, I can't believe you joined the Mascus Colony. Are you that desperate?"

"I've had enough of your bigotry. You inflicted these wounds on me twenty years ago. I will never forget that day."

"Heh. Don't blame me for it. Blame your own weakness."

"Weakness? I was outnumbered. When do the Loyalists ever play fair? I never actively helped the Rebel Faction."

"But you did support them secretly. That is all that we needed."

Zorton fired a double beam. Boom. Radus dodged.

Zorton: "Do you still believe in this meaningless war?"

"If you think it's meaningless, then give in! You can't prevent the inevitable." Radus said, firing some balls.

Then both of them relaxed, catching on their breath.

Radus: "This colony is going to die sooner or later. If I were you, I'd run off to another planet and hide under a rock."

"Why...why must the Empire do this? When will they stop? How many more people do they have to kill to be satisfied?"

"We'll never be satisfied. The Empire started with a dream - an ambition destined to be fulfilled. And the man who is going to fulfill that ambition is none other than Lord Dark Spectre himself. He grows stronger every day, and so does his hunger for power grow with it. I've never seen a man so obsessed with gaining power."

"Is that why you follow him? Pathetic."

"What do you know?"

They charged into each other.

Zelfire lost. Piper dodged Dergoneous's beams valiantly. Suddenly, the fish man vanished. Piper was searching for him, and suddenly, he appeared from the above.

"Oh no!"

Dergoneous fired the **Bubble Beam** and it hit him. Wham. Piper lost.

The others were still struggling.

Mason and Margrit finally arrived to the battleground, but they were too late, the fight has already started.

Margrit's scouter beeped. "Let's go get them!"

Mason: "Hold on!"

"What?"

"We can't just attack like that. We have to do it at the right time. We have the element of surprise."

Margrit: "You're right."

They hid behind a bush and waited for Kano to appear. There was no sign of him, or anybody. Margrit's patience was getting thinner and thinner by the second.

"How long do we have to wait? I can't take it anymore!"

"Quiet! They'll hear us."

Suddenly, a creature with a tail appeared behind them. Mason turned around recognized his old enemy, the one and only Starburst.

Margrit: "Who the hell are you?"

Starburst: "Good question. Why don't you tell her, Mason?"

Margrit: "That face...is so familiar. You're...Starburst!"

Mason: "What are you doing here?"

Starburst: "That's right. Looks like I have a fan! Ha ha ha ha ha!"

Margrit: "Yeah, right, you wish. I've heard of you. I know the horrible things you've done to other planets. I wanted to fight you for a long time."

Mason: "What a bad time for this."

Starburst: "I'm here to get my revenge! No one defeats me and gets away with it! No one, my dear friend. Since you're from the colony, I'll kill both of you!"

Margrit: "Let's do it!"

Mason: "No Margrit! He'll clobber you! Get outta here!"

Margrit: "No way I'm running from this guy!"

Starburst shot lasers from his eyes and almost hit them. Mason grabbed Margrit's hand and ran away from him.

Margrit: "He's right behind us!"

Starburst flew after them and continued his assault. Everything behind them blew up into smithereens. Finally, there was no where left to run. Their path was blocked by a steep hill. They had no choice but to fight for their survival. Margrit attacked first. Pow! Kick! Whack! Starburst fought back with full force. Pow! Wham!

Margrit: "Ahh, my leg! Oh no! Not now!" Her bad foot just gave up and she fell on one knee.

Starburst: "Tsk tsk tsk. You know you shouldn't be fighting with an injury like that.

Margrit: "The pain! It hurts!"

Mason: "Let me handle this."

He charged up an energy ball and threw it at him. Starburst blocked, but it was no use. The ball pushed him far away into the sky. He was so far he looked a shining star disappearing in the sky.

Margrit: "That was a close one."

Mason: "That should keep him away for a while. C'mon. The others need us."

Jerrell lay on the ground face flat. He had bruises and blood all over his face. "...It's n-not over why-why-yet...I'm...not f-finished with you..."

Kano: "You just don't know when to quit, do you?"

Jerrell: "Uhhhh..."

Kano kicked his stomach.

Margrit: "Stop!"

Kano: "Who's there?"

Margrit: "What happened to you? Jerrell!"

Mason: "You don't look so good."

Kano: "Well, well, well, looky who's here. It's you two again. I guess you need another lesson?"

Jerrell: "Margrit? What are you doing here? I told you not to come!"

Margrit: "I'll make you pay!"

Kano: "I'm surprised you can still walk after what I did. This time, I'll break your arms, girl!"

Margrit: "I'm not a girl!"

She charged at him angrily, but he kicked her right next to Jerrell.

Jerrell: "Margrit! Are you alright?"

Margrit: "I'm fine, really. Owwww!"

Mason: "That's it! You've hurt her enough, pirate!"

Kano: "So, you want to challenge me? You're a bit off your league, sayan."

"I have a name. It's Mason."

"Names are not important for dead people."

Mason smiled. "Yeah, I agree, pirate."

The air grew tense as the two fighters stared at each other.

21: Mason vs. Kano.

Contents

Mason and Kano were preparing to fight. It was just like a Wild West showdown, only without guns, and they're not cowboys.

Kano laughed.

Mason asked, "What's so funny?"

Kano: "I was just thinking how nice it would be when I beat you up and rip your face apart.

Mason: "Well, dream on, 'cause that's not happening."

Kano: "Hmmp. We'll see."

They waited for the moment to make their move. The wind blew hard on Mason's face. He tried to ignore it, not letting anything distract his concentration. Suddenly, Kano ran forward, and Mason followed. They exchanged punches, elbows, kicks, knees, head butts, and bruises and pain. Mason and Kano formed an energy shield around their bodies. Their ki got bigger and bigger until they hit each other. The collision of the energies was devastating. All the trees around them were fried by the

electricity. No one could've imagined that they can do that kind of damage just by standing there.

Then Kano jumped up in the air. He used his robotic eye to scan Mason's weak points. The eye said that his power level is at around 40,000.

Kano: "How do expect to beat me with such a puny power level?"

Mason: "That device can't tell you anything."

Kano: "You don't get it, do you? You're no match for me. I don't see why Dark Spectre sees you as a threat. I think he made a big mistake."

"Dark Spectre...that name again? I've heard just about enough of this guy. If he wants to kill me, then why did he send a damn space pirate to do it?"

"Shut up, sayan. I'll show you no mercy."

He fired an energy laser, Mason dodged and jumped straight at him. They hit each other in mid-air again and again. Their fight looked like a red and blue ball hitting each other and bouncing in the air. Each time they hit, the ground shuddered violently.

Margrit: "Be careful, Mason."

Jerrell: "Wow...is this what a high-level fight looks like? It's going to be dangerous, we need to get out of here."

Margrit: "But...I have to help Mason."

Jerrell: "You can't help him now! Please, for once, just once think about our safety instead of fighting!"

"I guess you're right." She helped Jerrell to a safer distance where they could still watch. She whispered "I know you can do it. I know you will win, Mason."

Kori: "Looks like the fight has already started. It's too bad, Kano is going to win without a doubt."

Radus: "I wonder who's going to win? Mason might look weak, but when gets angry he goes all out."

Zorton (in a weak voice): "Hey...our f-fight isn't over yet..."

Radus: "I'm not even going to bother wasting my time with you. You haven't improved one bit, or is it because I've gotten stronger than you?"

Zorton got up. "D-Don't get too arrogant!" He charged.

Mason and Kano caught their breath as they're tired from the action. ([This guy Mason is not bad at all. Maybe I underestimated him.](#))

([He's tougher than he looks. I need a strategy.](#)) Mason thought.

They descended on the ground and resumed fighting. Kano threw sharp discs and knives at him, and he barely dodged them. One of the discs cut his face.

"I've got you!"

Mason touched his face and saw blood on his hands. "That hurts."

"If you think that hurt, then you're gonna hate this!"

Pow! Crack. Boom! Pow! Whack! Mason fought back with full force. Pow! Whack! Soon, both were injured and bleeding from the mouth.

Kano: "Ha ha ha ha! Had enough?"

"I'm not finished yet! I still have to take revenge for Margrit."

"Hmm, that girl from the Garden was so helpless against me, she didn't even stand a chance."

"Shut up!"

"And, you know what? It's all your fault! You couldn't even protect her! Ha ha ha ha ha!"

"Shut up!" Mason got really, really angry and powered up.

Kano: "What's the matter? Did I hurt your feelings? Are you gonna cry now? It's okay, big baby!" BOOM! Kano didn't know what hit him. "Ahhhhhhhhhhh! Impossible!"

In an instant, Mason was the victor. Margrit and Jerrell quickly returned to the forest to join the winner. Mason had won. Kano had fallen down and couldn't get up.

Margrit: "Mason, you did it!"

Mason caught his breath and could barely speak.

Kano: "Owww, maybe I shouldn't have made him angry..."

Margrit: "Well, look who's helpless this time. You think it was fun hurting my leg! It's my turn."

Kano: "No, wait! Let's talk about this."

"There's nothing to talk about. I will do much worse than what you did to me!"

She kicked him once, twice, a third time, a fourth time, then she charged up energy to prepare for his doom.

"No, stop!" Mason said, grabbing her hand.

"What's the matter with you?"

"We can't just kill him..."

Margrit: "After all the things he did to us? Of course we should kill him."

Jerrell (confused): "What the heck are they doing?"

Mason: "I know he did some horrible things to you, but we can't solve violence with violence. If you kill him, then you're no better than he is...besides, he's no longer a threat to us, he's defeated."

Margrit: "So what if? If we let him go, he'll come back and strike again! We must eliminate all threats to the colony..."

Suddenly, an energy beam flew at them.

"Watch out!" He pushed her against ground and he ducked for cover. Zoom! It almost hit them. Kano laughed and flew outta there.

Margrit: "Blast it! He got away!"

Mason: "Who did that?" He saw a dark figure standing behind a tree. Then the figure blurred out of sight. "It must've been them..."

Margrit: "He escaped! Thanks to you. I could've killed him, and you stopped me."

"But-"

"Now look at what you've done! You're way too naïve, Mason. We don't need your kind of people in the colony-"

Jerrell: "Now Margrit, don't be rude. After all, it was him who defeated Kano."

The heroes returned to the colony and Zelfire and Piper told their exciting story to Lisa. They told almost every detail, except about the part when they were beaten.

Lisa: "Too bad he got away. Maybe you'll get him next time, if he returns."

Zelfire: "Yeah, it's too bad. I swear, if I ever see that one-eyed punk again, I'm gonna teach him a good lesson!"

Mason was sitting by himself on the fountain with the statue of the Nameless Warrior in the Garden. Margrit greeted him with a friendly pat on the shoulders.

"Hey there."

"Hey."

Margrit: "Listen, I'm sorry about what I said to you earlier. I shouldn't have said it."

"Did you mean it? That I shouldn't be here?"

"No, not at all. I just said something without thinking. But in fact, I'm very grateful for what you did for us. By the way, you fought incredibly today! Are you tired? Let me give you a massage."

"Ummm, sure."

"It's relaxing, so relax." Her fingers rubbed his shoulders in a circular motion and it really felt good. "My, you're so tense. You need this." She continued. "Does it feel good?"

"Uhhhh...yes, I feel much better...I didn't tell you to stop."

"Alright." She continued massaging his shoulders.

It seemed like that everything was going well between them again. Until she brought up the topic that she shouldn't have.

"Mason, why did you do what you did before?"

"You want to know? Because killing in cold blood is wrong."

"He's a space pirate! He's probably killed more people than you can count in a whole day! And you let him go just like that...what kind of justice is that?"

"Margrit, if you killed him then you would have been no different from him."

"Let me tell you something! I could never match up to his level of cruelty. I think you were living on earth way too long, Mason."

"What's that supposed to mean?" He raised his voice higher.

"I'm talking to the wrong person here. You never knew how to be a sayan, only an earthling. You have no idea what war is like."

Mason: "What? You expect me to be like you?"

"Huh?"

"I've seen the way you treat other people, and I don't like it."

"You are such an optimist! You think that by letting Kano go, he'll suddenly change his ways? You think your ideas of peace and forgiveness can end a century of war? A **century** of murder and bloodshed?"

"It's because of people like you that the war continues. People who live just to fight others."

"Because of me?! That is the most absurd thing I ever heard. Do you know why I do what I do? Because my parents were killed when I was just a child."

"I didn't even know my parents. You had it luckier than me."

"Of course you didn't, that's why you don't understand what it's like to be me! Or Jerrell! I don't even know why I bothered coming here!" She left the Garden in a rude manner.

Zorton: "Tsk tsk tsk. That went smooth."

Mason: "How long have you been here? How much did you hear?"

"I heard everything. I didn't mean to spy on you."

"Zorton, since you've heard what we've been talking about, I want to ask you a question."

"Go ahead."

"What exactly did I do wrong?"

"Mason, you and Margarita obviously come from different worlds. And certainly you two have certain views on things. Do you know how hard life is in this part of the galaxy? Each day they train and train and eat, then sleep. Every day might reveal dangers that they have to overcome. Every day is a fight for their lives. You can't blame her for how she feels. It's not her fault. It's the war that made her that way. Can you imagine how hard a life is, to be in one place all day, waiting for your enemies' next attack, all the time fighting and not knowing whether you'll live or not? How can you expect them to feel how you feel?"

"Gosh, well...I didn't think of it like that."

"I know you have your own idea of an honor code. But these Dark Lords don't believe in honorable one on one duels. They play dirty. You can't afford to even trust them for one second, it could be the end of you. Mason, don't forget why you're here. You were forced out of your home by Starburst. You and your friends are in danger now. Only you can help the colony. You have the ability to, yet you refuse to.

"I..."

"Look at it this way. What if some one killed a very close friend of yours? Would you kill him?"

"Gee, that's a bit different. I didn't think about that..." Mason was beginning to get what Zorton was saying. Maybe he was wrong to piss Margarita off. How should he talk to her now?

Kano, Ratus, and Kori returned to headquarters to report the **bad news** to Dark Spectre. "Hmmm, such disappointing news. You have failed me Kano...and I had such high expectations for you."

Kano: "I'm, I'm sorry, I did my best..."

Dark: "Get out of my sight. Now."

Kano left the room. He was really angry and embarrassed. The worse thing that can happen to a pirate is to be defeated. None of the other pirates would respect him anymore, and he'll be the laughing stock everywhere.

Ratus: "This is what happens when you get a pirate to do anything."

Kano: "Shut up." He left.

Ratus: "Now what do we do?"

Kori: "As they say, if you want something done, have some one do the dirty work for you."

22: A Secret Weapon.

Contents

After Kano's defeat, Dark Spectre grew more impatient. At this point he was really pissed, but he decided to give Kori one last chance on this mission.

Kori: "Mason will be gone for sure this time. And then I will collect the reward."

"You will, if you succeed."

"Pardon me for asking, sire. But what is the reward? I heard it's very good."

"Yes. It'll be a surprise. I guarantee you'll like it."

Kori: "Yes, I understand, Lord Dark. I won't fail this time. I have a secret weapon that'll kill Mason for sure."

Dark Spectre: "Good. That's what I wanted to hear. I hope your results are as good as your words, Kori." He pushed a button and disappeared from the screen.

He sent Triclops and Dergoneous to use the secret weapon, which was intended for only one special person, and then they'll kill every one in the colony.

The skies were calm and the lake was at its bluest color this hour. It was the perfect time for training. Margrit focused her hands and released energy into the lake, and SPLASH. The wave was extremely high. She had improved, but that still wasn't enough to her.

"I have to get stronger...or I'll fall behind. I didn't even stand a chance against Kori or Kano. What is wrong with me? I can't have people rescuing me all the time. I

must destroy the Dark Empire!" She blasted the water again, and the splash was even higher.

When the water calmed down, Dergoneous and Triclops appeared from the lake and attacked. She was gotten by surprise.

Triclops: "Ohhh, look at poor little Margarita. All by herself."

Dergoneous: "With no one around to help her."

"It's Kori's henchmen! What are you doing here?"

Dergoneous: "Isn't that obvious? We came for you."

Triclops: "I don't understand why we're wasting time with her. Our target is Mason!"

Dergoneous: "Listen, if we attack her, then Mason is bound to show up! After all, they are on the same side. Of course he'll come."

"You're right!"

Margrit: "I don't need anyone to help me!"

They began attacking her, and she fought back fiercely. Pow! Pow! Whack! They got close enough to her and punched her non-stop. She could only block and didn't and couldn't fight back. They whammed her into a tree and the birds flew away scared. Triclops charged as she jumped and he hit the tree, causing it to fall. Then they both flew and attacked. She was flawless in the air as they couldn't even hit her. After a few attacks, they rested for a second.

Triclops: "We need a strategy."

Dergoneous: "If only we could lure her into the water, then I'll have no problem disposing of her!"

Margrit: "I'll make you regret ever coming here!"

Mason leaned against the window and sighed. The colony was getting boring. He wandered into his thoughts and suddenly Margarita popped up. Speaking of her, she hasn't returned from the lake yet. Could some thing have happened?

(It's that feeling again...Margarita is in danger! There are two other life forces with her. I recognize them. Kori's henchmen. What do they want with her? I must go help her now.) He opened the window and flew out.

Commander A: "That rebel colony is starting to become a nuisance..."

Dark: "Don't worry about it. My men are working on it as we speak."

Commander B: "Lord Dark, I'm not questioning your ability, but how you be sure Kori will succeed? He has failed before. Besides, the colony's defense system is strong!"

Dark: "I've already put a reward on this mission. Even if Kori fails, others will try and I'm sure one of them will succeed."

Commander A: "Lord Dark, if you go there, you can easily destroy the colony, and Mason..."

Dark: "That is right. But I need to save my energy. I've heard rumors that he's still alive..."

Commander C: "You mean him? I thought you killed him?"

Dark: "So did I. He's the only one who could ever match my strength. Just in case those rumors are true, I have to conserve my strength for the fight..."

The person that worried Dark Spectre so much is a mysterious sayan by the name of **Blaze**. The story is that ten years ago this warrior came directly to Murai to challenge Dark. He was unlike most other fighters. He showed incredible strength, and he was the biggest threat to Dark. The battle was a destructive one, but he lost, like all

the others who challenged Dark. Everyone thought he was dead for good, but now, Dark had his doubts.

Dark: "If he is alive, then I know he'll come after me. This time, I'll kill him for sure."

Margrit continued the fight with Kori's henchmen, until Mason showed up. "You two again?"

Dergoneous: "He's here at last!"

Margrit: "What are you doing here? I didn't ask for your help. I'm doing just fine."

Mason: "That's all the thanks I get for coming out here?"

Triclops: "Heh heh heh, your day has come, Mason. We have a secret weapon that'll finish you off!"

Margrit: "Secret weapon?"

Mason: "What is it?"

Triclops: "If we tell you, then it wouldn't be a secret, now would it?"

Mason: "Hmmm, I don't what you've got up your sleeves. You're probably just bluffing."

They start fighting and it seemed like the good guys were winning, until Triclops opened the third eye again.

Triclops: "Now you'll pay!"

Mason: "I don't see how having an extra eye will make you stronger..."

Dergoneous: "Come on Margrit! Show me what you've got!"

Margrit: "My name is Margarita!"

Dergoneous was trying to get her angry. "I can call you whatever I want, Margrit!"

"That's it!" She flew straight at him. The water below her turned into waves as she passed.

Mason: "No! It's a trick!"

She punched, he got above her, and screamed "SUCKER!" WHAM! Margrit fell into the lake.

Mason: "No! Margrit!"

The fish-man dived after her.

He rushed after them, but was stopped by Triclops.

"You're not getting near her!"

Mason: "Get out of my way!"

Pow! Wham! Whack!

Under the water, Margrit tried to get to the surface, but Dergoneous grabbed her foot and pulled her even deeper.

Dergoneous: "Heh heh heh! I'm invincible when fighting in water! You fight best in the air, but in water I'm the king."

Now the fight has turned around. Her moves were slower but the fish-man moved faster. He punched, then she barely dodged, then she punched, he dodged, and kicked her ribs and whacked her face.

"Typhoon!" Dergoneous formed a tidal wave and sent it at her. It hit her and she fell lower and lower down the water.

"He's right! He fights better in the water. I've got to get back up! I'm almost out of air..." Margrit said, and bubbles came from her mouth.

They continued, and Dergoneous was too fast and strong for her.

Dergoneous: "Uh oh, looks like you're almost out of air! I can breath underwater, but you can't!"

It was now a life and death predicament for Margrit. She better think fast, or she'll drown. She swam up, but Dergoneous grabbed her feet and pulled her back down.

"You're not getting away!"

"Stop it!" Wham! "Ahhhhhhh!" She was knocked into a rock. She recovered, but her head felt dizzy. Her vision was blurry. She choked and grasped for air. "No...I can't die like this."

Dergoneous: "Goodbye!" He punched her one last time and swam back to the surface. She was sinking and fell unconscious and continued sinking.

Mason got past Triclops and splashed into the water to save her. He swam deeper and deeper, but there was no sign of her. After about a minute, he saw her body sinking.

He dived closer and closer to her. He held her and brought her to the surface. (Hold on! Just a bit further.)

He put his mouth next to hers and gave her air. Then he continued swimming until he reaches the surface.

Splash. He dragged her body all the way back to land, and hid under a niche. He looked around. There's no sign of the bad guys, so they're safe for now.

"Where'd they go?" Triclops asked.

"They can't be far from here. Look for them." Dergoneous replied.

"Margrit! Can you hear me? Answer me! Come on!" He lightly slapped her face. "C'mon! Wake up!" There was still one thing left to do and it was her last hope. "I have to give her mouth to mouth. I just hope it works."

Mason gave her mouth to mouth then pushed her lungs as he counted, "One...two...three...four...five!" No response. He did it a second time. No response. He did it a third time. She coughed out water from the mouth.

Mason: "Good."

He did it again. Her eyes opened just when he was giving her mouth to mouth and her first instinct was slapping him. SLAP!

"Owww! That hurt!"

"Creep! What do you think you're doing?!"

"Geez! You're welcome for saving your life! I was giving you mouth to mouth! You were dying."

"Ohh, I...I'm sorry. Thank you, you saved me again." Margrit said, blushing.

"Don't mention it."

They lay behind a rock and rested. "I'm really sorry about that. You were so close to me and..."

"And you hit me just like that." His hand was rubbing his face, which was red.

"Does it hurt?"

"Are you kidding? You hit me really hard."

"How would I know?" she hollered, trying to defend her actions. "I just woke up and saw you right in my face...and..."

Mason sighed. "And good deeds aren't appreciated, right?"

"I'll make it up to you."

"How?"

"If you can beat them then I'll give you another massage."

"Alright! I can't wait."

"Mason, I want to ask you something, and I want an honest answer."

"Okay."

"Am I useless?"

"What?"

"I can't even beat them. And I was such an idiot to fall for Dergoneous's tricks and I almost drowned. I went anyway even though you tried to stop me."

"Absolutely not. In fact, I think you can defeat them. With my help." He touched her hand gently. "We can do it, together!" He held her hand firmly and lifted it up. Her face turned red and she was speechless.

Suddenly, Dergoneous appeared above them, standing on the rock. "So I found you at last!"

Mason: "He's here!!!"

He shot at them, but they got away just in time. "Almost got them!"

Triclops: "You're not getting away this time!"

Mason: "We're not planning to!"

Margrit: "You might be tough underwater, but I can beat anywhere else. You're not getting me in the water again."

Dergoneous: "I think its time we use the secret weapon."

Triclops: "Yeah, its time."

What exactly is the secret weapon that Triclops and Dergoneous are referring to? How will this affect Mason's fight?

23: Unable to Fight Back! Who is Blaze?

Contents

The fight continues between Mason and Margarita and Triclops and Dergoneous. Do they have a secret weapon that will ensure their victory, or is it just a bluff?

Mason: "Secret weapon? What secret weapon?"

Margrit: "They're full of crap."

The henchmen laughed.

Mason: "What's so funny?"

The henchmen blurred. Mason and Margrit quickly flew away. Dergoneous hit Mason in the stomach, then Triclops appeared behind him.

Triclops: "Hah hah hah hah ha! You fool!" He took out a string of thick rope-like metal and swung it in circles, then threw it at Mason.

"Ahhhh! What the?!" The thing wrapped around him and tied his arms up. "I can't move! It's stuck to me!"

Triclops: "I've got you!"

Dergoneous: "He's all tied up!"

"That's the secret weapon? You've got to be kidding!" Margrit said overconfidently.

Mason: "These tentacles can't stop me!" He struggled to get free, but it didn't even bulge.

Triclops: "You can't get free, you fool. These tentacles are made from titanium alloy, the strongest metal in the galaxy. This material has the thickest density out of all the metallic elements, so there is no way someone like you can break it. Those people who created this weapon of war are geniuses. This disables your arms, and thus you can't use your ki fully, and you can't fly. It's a perfect weapon for disabling your opponents. He he he."

Margrit: "No way."

Mason: "Noooo!" He struggled again, but it was no use.

Dergoneous: "Poor, poor Mason, now he can't fight back."

Triclops attacked Margrit and Dergoneous attacked the defenseless Mason. Looks like things have changed for the worst for the heroes. Mason, unable to defend himself, could do nothing but try to dodge Dergoneous's quick punches. His movements were limited and entitled him to a major beating.

Mason was now beaten up and bleeding.

"Hah hah hah hah hah! C'mon! I thought you could take much more than that."

Mason: "It's n-not over y-yet..."

He kicked him and punched him. "I can't believe it! The once great Mason is now under my mercy. If only you were more careful." He continued his assault.

Margrit wasn't doing too well either. With Triclops's third eye opened once again, his strength was more than twice the strength he had before.

Margrit: "I can't take this much longer!"

Suddenly, he shot a beam from his third eye. ZAP! It hit her in the chest and the effects spread all over her body in an instant. And she's now paralyzed.

"I c-can't move! What did you do to me?!"

Triclops: "This is the secret technique of my race. Your muscles are now tightened. It's gonna be hard to move around now. It's over."

"It can't be." She tried to move, and her arms felt like they were chained up to some invisible wall, and her legs chained against the ground, her head felt a hundred times heavier than before.

Triclops struck her in the stomach.

"Ugh!!"

Suddenly, for some reason, Jerrell felt a split second of pain in his stomach. (What the hell was that?) he thought to himself. Could something have happened to Margarita? He pushed a button on the control panel, and Kane's face appeared on the screen.

"Yes, sir?"

"I need to speak with Margarita."

"Ummm, she is not in the base, sir."

"Say what? Then where is she?"

"She went outside to train."

"Okay. That's all." Jerrell said. Communication ended. Now, he was starting to worry. Could something have happened while she's training?

When in Rome, do as the Romans do, as they say. So Piper and Zelfire are doing just that. They were sparring diligently, while Lisa watched, eating a cookie.

Zell: "C'mon, we need to keep in shape. Otherwise, we won't catch up to Terry...I mean Mason."

Piper: "I know what you mean. Lately, he's been growing and growing. It's like he's a whole different person."

Zell: "Then we need to train like crazy. Let's go!"

They kicked in the air.

Lisa: "You're doing a good job, guys. Keep up the good work!"

A mysterious being watched the missile base from above on the cliff. He knew this base belonged to Dark Spectre. The way to get the attention of the Empire was to destroy one of their bases, and that's what he'll do it. He aimed his forefinger at the building and energy sparked at its tip. Like a gunshot, he released the energy from his finger and it zoomed into the base and exploded. Soldiers were running out from it.

One of them in particular was a general. "Who did that?!" **Victor** yelled.

D-Soldier A: "Someone must have triggered a bomb!"

Victor: "Well, that someone can't be far away! Look for him!"

D-Soldier B: "Yes sir!"

D-Soldier A: "Yes sir!"

On the mountain, he was watching their movements. "Hmm, they're looking for me. But even if they find me, they can't beat me."

Victor appeared behind him.

He looked back and smiled. "So you found me at last."

Victor: "So you're the one who's responsible for the explosion."

"Guilty as charged."

"Did you realize that base belongs to the almighty Dark Spectre?"

"Of course. That is exactly why I blew it up to pieces."

"You idiot. Then you will suffer the consequences."

"I don't think so."

"Who do you think you are?"

"I am **Blaze**, the **super sayan**."

"Why-you are **the** Blaze?" Victor said in sudden surprise.

"Precisely." Blaze said.

"That's impossible. Lord Dark killed you ten years ago."

"That's what everybody thought. But I'm still alive and better than ever. If you don't believe me, why don't you try me for yourself?"

"I am the general of Lord Dark's army! No one talks to me that way!"

"His army is weak! Especially his military bases. Its defense was so weak; I blew it up with just one finger."

"One finger? You're exaggerating. That's impossible."

"Oh, am I?"

Victor made the first attack, but despite his efforts, it was a short fight. Victor had no idea how powerful Blaze really was. He gave Blaze the elbow, then a jab in the face.

With a fist still touching his cheek, Blaze said: "You call that a punch?" He gave him a real punch in the stomach, one that hurt a lot.

"Why you!"

The general shot a fury of high-energy beams but Blaze dodged them all. His name certainly reflected his speed. He decided it's time to end this meaningless struggle. He blasted the Mega Beam at his opponent, and there was no dodging this one. Victor was surprised at its strength as it went through his body.

"So...the rumors...are true..." were his last words, as his body turned to dust within seconds.

Blaze: "Hahahahaha! You call yourself a general? Rest in pieces."

Two hours later at Dark Spectre's spider ship, they were informed about what happened to the missile base.

Dark: "So, he is still alive. The rumors were true after all."

Commander A: "What do we do now?"

Dark: "We wait for him to find me. Then the ultimate showdown will begin..."

Mason had faced worse enemies in the past. But these henchmen had tricks up their sleeve. Triclops is certainly more than meets the eye, and Dergoneous is slipperier than a wet floor. Now, with the secret weapon disabling Mason to fight, and with Margrit paralyzed, things were grim for the heroes. How will they escape this predicament?

"What's the matter, Mason? Can't fight back? Ohhh, that's too bad, cuz now you will have to die!" Dergoneous said in mockery.

Mason: "You bastards."

The fish man gave him the punch of all punches, knocking him off the ground and into an abandoned house.

Margrit gave Triclops a kick in his chest, then he grabbed her foot and punched her stomach, knocking her on the dirt. He blasted a mighty wave that pushed her back and slammed her into the house.

Mason and Margrit were both trapped. It was a dead end, literally for them.

Mason: "Oh no! We're trapped!"

Margrit: "If only my body wasn't paralyzed..."

The bad guys break down the door and entered the house. "The game ends now!" Triclops said. "It was fun Mason, while it lasted, Mason."

"I've gotta get free!" He struggled again, but still no use.

"Stop!" She ran at them and prepared to take on them both, but was hit by surprise. Triclops kicked her against the wall. Doosh.

Mason charged at them. Triclops powered up and concentrated his energy into his third eye, and fired the Tri-Beam. Bam!

"Aaaah!" Mason screamed, knowing he can't dodge this one. The ray was heading straight for him, but suddenly Margrit got in front of him.

"Huh? What are you doing?!"

She blocked the beam for him and screamed.

[Split screen - 3] - [Mason, Triclops, Dergoneous.]

Mason: "NOOOO!"

Her suit was completely destroyed, revealing some of her burned skin.

Dergoneous: "What the?!"

Triclops: "That fool!"

Mason was in shock. "Margrit! Why did you do that? Why are you so stupid?"

"I d-d-didn't want you to g-get hurt, M-Mason..." she weakly whispered in his ear. Her hands held his back tightly, but they dropped as she fell down on the floor. Thud.

"MAR-MARGARITA! NOOOO!"

At that moment, he was pissed off beyond words. They had crossed the line. He had no control over his emotions, as he wanted them dead so bad. Enormous amounts of energy surrounded his body and at that moment he let go of everything. All he wanted was for them to pay. "You...you've gone too far!"

Dergoneous: "I think you got him angry!"

Triclops: "What's he gonna do?"

Mason struggled valiantly, powering up as he tried to break free from the titanium alloy.

He had enough of this bull crap. Margrit could be dead because of him. Because of his own carelessness. He felt so useless, he can't even do anything as she blocked the beam for him.

The tentacles broke apart like Lego. The henchmen gasped in disbelief.

Triclops: "That's impossible! He broke the tentacles!"

The fish man's scouter went berserk. The numbers flipped crazily as he had never seen so many digits in a power level. Even without the scouter, they could have felt his power. The whole house shuddered and trembled. Now they were scared.

Dergoneous was sweating. "His fighting power...is out of control!"

Mason screamed like a mad man. He fired the Ultra Blast at Triclops. It pushed him out into the air and exploded. The three-eyed man was history.

Dergoneous: "T-Triclops? *Gulp* Well *chuckle* its been nice knowing ya!" He ran like hell out of there and flew into the sky. Mason was about to go after him, until he sensed Jerrell.

Jerrell arrived and saw Margrit on the floor. "What happened? Margrit?"

"They're gone." Mason said with a sigh.

Mason and Jerrell quickly rushed back to the colony to heal Margrit.

Luckily she was still alive. Her injuries were very bad, and if she was left untreated, she woulda been meeting the Grim Reaper. She was put into a healing chamber filled with a chemically rich water. These chemicals provided healthy nutrients for the patient. A respirator was attached to her nose and mouth to give her air.

Jerrell: "How could this have happened? Mason, you were there. Who did this to her?"

Mason: "Dergoneous and Triclops attacked her, and I went to help. But..."

Jerrell: "Kori's goons? She should have no problem with them."

Mason: "Look, what happened was..."

"They must've pulled a dirty trick." Jerrell said, interrupting Mason.

"No. It's my fault. I was there...and..."

"And?"

Mason wanted to tell him the truth. Maybe that will relieve him of his guilt. But the words won't come out. "And..."

"Look, you did your best, Mason. You don't have to take all the blame. The ones who should be guilty are those bastards."

"I...I killed Triclops. But the other one got away. I...I shoulda been more prepared. Jerrell, I'm sorry."

Jerrell sighed. "I'm leaving now. I have work to do." As he walked out, he saw Kane, Lisa, Piper, and Zelfire peeping from the side of the room, and they were acting like they just showed up. "What a bunch of nosy people."

Kane: "I'm sorry, sir."

Jerrell: "You can go visit her anytime you wish. But don't mess around with the equipment."

Everyone felt guilty. But regardless, they went in the Medical Room.

Mason was standing there like a statue, staring at Margrit.

Zelfire: "Poor Margarita. Is the life of a sayan?"

Mason sighed. "I already took care of Triclops. That's the least I could do."

Kane: "When will this war end?"

Lisa: "Why those scums! If I ever meet one of them, I...I... I'll kill them!"

Piper: "Okay, calm down, killer."

Everybody left the room except for Mason. He wanted to be alone with her. Mason touched the glass and said: "Margrit...Why did you do it? Why? Am I that important to you?"

Zorton joined Mason in the Medical Room and tried to sooth his pain. "Mason, don't worry, she'll be okay."

Mason: "I hope so."

Zorton wasn't very good at it, but at least he tried, and Mason knew he meant well.

"Thanks, Zorton."

"No problem, kiddo. Now, let's get some rest." Zorton left, and then Mason followed.

Jerrell: "Margrit...what happened to you? You should have no trouble handling those guys."

Kane: "Talking to her? She won't hear you from here."

"Oh, it's you Kane."

"Jerrell, do you think that maybe Margrit..."

"Maybe what?"

"She and Mason...you know..."

"I don't know."

"Well-"

"I don't like playing guessing games. Be straight with me."

"Did you ever notice how she acts around Mason?"

"Mason is Mason. He saved our colony. It's natural that Margarita will pay attention to someone of his level of fighting skill. But what about it?"

"No, I mean, well, I, that's not what I meant."

"I don't know what you're getting at. I have some important things to do, if you'll excuse me."

Kane sighed. How will he make Jerrell understand?

Meanwhile, Dark Spectre made a visit to his 'favorite' warriors.

"Dark Spectre? What are you doing here?" Radus asked.

"I came to help you, of course."

"You didn't need to come in person...sire."

"I realized that all of you are having trouble with that Mason, right? Well, I have a solution. Take this."

Dark took out an energy orb. The light was so bright that Radus has to adjust to its light. "What is it?"

"An energy orb. Consider it as a gift from me. It will give you more power than you ever had before."

"That's incredible!"

"Indeed. It is made by the top scientists in the universe. I have been searching for an easier way to become stronger, and this orb is the perfect solution. It is filled with large concentrations of **dark energy**, and once you absorb it into your body, you will feel completely different. So go ahead, take it."

"I'm honored to receive this from you. But I have to ask, why me?"

"You're not the only one who's getting it. Kori and Starburst will also get one. I only give these to those I deem worthy. I want my Empire to remain strong."

"Yes, sire!"

After the incident involving Margarita, peace and tranquility in the colony was rare. Mason couldn't sleep or eat. He felt guilty for what happened to Margrit. Now she's in the healing chamber. It'll be at least days (or weeks) before she will wake up.

"Why did she do it? Why? Why am I so special here? Why?" Question marks filled up his head each night.

Jerrell wasn't happy about this, either. (Margrit...I'll get revenge for you. Soon enough, I promise you, we'll tear apart the Empire to pieces.)

Meanwhile, Zorton was meditating by the lake. He wasn't so thrilled about what happened to Margarita, either. He got on his feet and blasted the water, making a big splash. The water reached very high. He took a deep breath and made another splash. He caught his breath and recharged his energy. Behind the bushes, someone was watching him.

Zorton heard a clapping sound. He looked behind and saw Radus clapping.

Radus (in a sarcastic tone): "That was amazing! I am impressed, Zorton. Yes, that's your name, isn't it, **Zorton?**"

Zorton: "How did you know it was me in the beginning?"

Radus: "C'mon! We're old 'buddies'. I can recognize you without your mask. Your fighting style is exactly the same as before. Zorton, your skills haven't improved much."

Zorton: "Your fighting style is the same too. I will not forgive you for what you have done."

Radus smiled. "You want revenge, don't you? Here is your chance. Come get me!"

They began fighting fiercely. It wasn't just a regular match, it was a grudge match, a grudge that lasted twenty years.

Radus fired a green ball, Zorton dodged, and fired a red disc. Radus dodged. They continued exchanging projectiles, and things in the environment blew up as a result of their recklessness.

"Heh, this is exactly as I thought." Radus said. "You haven't improved a bit over these years. What have you been doing?"

Zorton: "The same goes for you!" He fired a beam.

Radus knocked it away. "Oh, but this is where you are wrong. I am much more powerful than before. You don't even compare to me, rebel." (There's no way I can lose, after absorbing the orb.) He fired a strong beam.

Zorton covered his face from the light. "Aaaaah!"

Kaboom.

Radus laughed. But Zorton was still alive. His suit was damaged. "Is that all?"

"Is that all?? Don't act so cocky, you're practically half dead, old man."

"I see now. You think you are stronger, don't you? Because they gave you more dark energy."

"You're finally starting to understand, don't you?"

They charged and hit each other in the air.

Radus continued talking as they kept their distance. "Dark energy is the best."

"It's dangerous for you. You're being used as a guinea pig, Radus. You're just a lapdog for Dark Spectre!"

"Quiet, you!" He fired a stream of balls.

Zorton dodged, but some of them hit him. "Aaah!" He fell to the ground. A part of his mask was damaged, and his face was partially revealed.

Radus landed. "Pathetic! This will be the fate of all rebels. Those who are stupid enough to join the Faction, and those who are unfortunately associated with the Faction,

whether by birth or what not, will be eliminated. We have no room for scum like you in Arlia."

"You...will...not win this war."

"Oh really? That coming from someone who lost his family? Heh. I heard that your son is still alive, Burdok. And he's in the colony, right? I'll find your son and kill him!"

"**Nooo!**" Zorton screamed and charged recklessly, as Radus opened his palms and fired. Boom.

Jerrell stared at the healing chamber, with Margrit inside. She looked so peaceful while unconscious. He swore he will make the Empire pay dearly, even if it costs him his life. He powered up.

Mason was on his bed, his head full of thoughts. He just couldn't sleep with so much on his mind.

("Mason...") the voice of Zorton said. He was trying to communicate telepathically.

"Who is this?"

("Don't you recognize me?")

"Zorton? Where are you?"

("I...I need your help.")

"What's wrong?"

("I need your help. Radus has captured me...")

"Radus? Where are you?" Zorton's voice faded away and couldn't be heard.

"Zorton!!! I've gotta find him!" He flew out from the window and tried to sense Zorton.

(Where are you Zorton? I can sense him, but barely. His power is fading away! I've got to hurry.)

He turned towards the direction where Zorton was being held captive. "Don't worry, I'm coming soon..."

Lisa: "Zelfire, have you seen Mason or Zorton?"

Zelfire: "Not really."

"I haven't seen them all day, it's like they disappeared."

"Don't worry about them. They can take care of themselves, right?"

"Yeah, but its not like them to run off like that."

"They'll show up when they get hungry. Speaking of food, it's almost lunch time!"

Mason reached an abandoned building and entered. He walked slowly inside, being very careful.

"Zorton?" he asked.

"Mason?"

"I found you at last!"

"Get out of here! It's a trap!"

D. Soldier#4: "Yes, and now its time to die!"

Dark Soldiers appeared out of their camouflage and ambushed Mason.

D. Solfier#3: "Die!"

"You're not taking Zorton!" Mason said.

Pow! Wham! Crack! Within seconds the fight was over. All the soldiers were finished.

Mason unchained Zorton and took him outside into the forest. "Zorton, you told me to come here..."

"No, it was Radus. He can communicate telepathically like us."

"Radus?"

"He tricked you. I could've asked for your help, but I did not because it was a trap."

"So I was actually talking to Radus before?"

"That's right." Radus said.

"Huh?"

"You managed to defeat the useless soldiers in record time, but you won't beat me that easily. In fact, you won't beat me at all."

Zorton: "Leave Mason out of this! This is our fight."

Radus: "Forget it old man. You've already lost. Now, Mason is mine!"

Mason: "Come and get me!"

Radus: "He he he, I knew you'd show up if I used Zorton."

Mason: "Of course, after all, he's my ally, and we protect each other!"

Radus: "He's your ally? Is that all?"

Mason: "What do you mean?"

Radus: "You mean you don't know?"

Zorton: "No, don't tell him!"

Mason: "Know what?"

Radus: "He never told you? I'm surprised, after all these years..."

Mason: "Zorton, what's he talking about?"

Zorton: "I...I'm sorry Mason. I've been keeping this secret from you all this time...but I think its time you know."

Mason was confused so he listened carefully. Zorton removed his mask, and Mason saw his face for the first time.

Mason: (Zorton is old. I had no idea.)

Zorton's face was definitely not what Mason imagined him to be. He was wrinkled, with black spots on his forehead. His face was one that contained years of struggle and agony, and sleepless nights.

"Mason, I am your father..."

"What?! You're kidding me, right?"

"No, it is the truth. My real name is **Burdok**, I am a sayan like you."

"Nooooo!"

"Please listen, I didn't mean to hide it from you..."

Radus: "Awww, what a touching moment. And now I'll defeat you! Like father, like son!"

Mason: "So you're the one who hurt my father?"

Radus: "That's right! Poor old Burdok, he's been wearing his mask ever since the first time I attacked him!"

"Twenty years ago, when Radus attacked my home, I suffered a fatal injury. Until this very day I can't breathe without this mask."

Mason: "What happened to you all these years?"

Zorton: "When my home was attacked, I had no choice but to send to another planet for your safety. I tried looking for you after I became stronger. My journey to Earth was long and perilous, but I made it there at last. I searched for the strongest fighter there, and found you. I wasn't sure it was you, but when I saw your birthmark I knew you were my son."

Mason: "But why? Why Radus? Why did you do it?"

Radus: "Because he's a rebel! And all rebels must perish!"

Mason: "That's all you have to say? Well then, goodbye Radus!"

They started fighting and Zorton at this point couldn't do anything but watch them. Radus shot fire beams while Mason dodged all of them. Then they both blurred out of sight. They continued hitting each other, and Mason punched him. Blood was dripping from his mouth. Radus wiped the blood off his mouth and laughed.

Radus: "Is that all you've got? Oh well..."

Mason: "What?"

Radus put his hands together and closed his eyes. Mason wondered what he's about to do.

Suddenly, Radus split into two! Then four! Then six! Then eight!

"What the?!"

Now, there were eight Radus's surrounding him. "How did you do that?"

Radus #1: "Heh heh heh. Only those skilled enough can learn the **Split Form Technique**."

Radus #2: "It's over! You lose!"

"I must be seeing things! So many Radus's! Unreal!"

"Which one is the real one?" Zorton asked no one.

Mason: "It's an illusion, so one of them must be real." As he's trying to figure out which one was real, all the Radus's laughed out loud. It seemed there was no way to tell them apart.

26: Peace Of Mind.

Contents

So much has happened lately to Mason and his friends that at times they think it's all one big bad dream. A dream that they don't wake up from. Mason's life turned upside down when he first discovers that he's not a native of earth, but rather, a sayan who came from Arlia when he was just a baby. And on top of that, his enemy, Renegade, claims that they are brothers. So much things have happened, so many fights fought, and suddenly, they end up in Mascus. But nothing was as shocking as finding out that his companion Zorton is his real, biological father.

Radus clearly beat Zorton (or Burdok), but can Mason succeed where his father cannot? Can he beat Radus's illusion trick and resolve the twenty year grudge and reunite as a family?

Mason: "Damn...which is the real one?!"

Radus #5: "By the time you figure it out, you'll be dead!"

Radus #4: "Give it up! You can't win!"

Mason attacked one of them, but his hand went right through him like nothing's there.

Radus #8: "Nope. Try again."

He attacked another one at random.

Radus #2: "Sorry, wrong one!"

He tried a third time. "Damn it, I'll get the right one!"

Radus #6: "I don't think so."

The Radus's closed their eyes, and they rotated around Mason.

"Oh no, this is worse." The process of elimination wasn't going to work here. Mason had run out of ideas and panicked.

Radus: "You lose!!!" All eight of them attacked Mason at the same time. Pow! Pow! Whack! Pow!

"AAHHHHH! Ahhh!"

Then they shot a fire beam at him. Zzzzzt...

"AAHHHHH!" They stopped and Mason fell flat on the ground.

Radus #3: "It's over already?"

"Uhhh..."

Just then, he heard a voice in his mind. ("Mason, Mason...can you hear me?") Burdok asked.

"B-Burdok? Father?"

("You can not use your eyes to find the real one. You must rely on your other senses.")

"My other senses?"

("You can't use your eyes...use your sixth sense. To do that, you must follow your heart. This is the only you can win...")

"Okay, I'll try."

("Don't try. Do it! Remember, you must follow your heart. This is the only way you can find the answer.")

All the Radus's circled around him. Mason closed his eyes and began to concentrate. All he saw was pitch black, nothing but darkness. But what's this? Radus's life force was right in front of him.

"Yes, that's the one!"

He leaped and punched the real Radus and all the fakes vanished.

Radus: "How did he know? It must've been sheer luck."

"It wasn't luck, that's for sure. Your petty little tricks are child's play."

"I'll kill you!" He fired an energy ball at him and hit him. "Got you!"

Mason was hit, but was unaffected.

"What?"

"You call that an attack?"

"What's the matter Mason? Are you angry? Of course, I don't blame you. Who wouldn't be angry if he was separated from his father for twenty years, and now he's finally found him. It's a shame, you just met your father and just about to be killed." Radus charged up for the finale. "Prepare to die! After you're gone I'll kill your father!"

"Enough!" He raised his hands into the air and his body released a green ball of energy and it was spreading in all directions. Before Radus could fire, the ball touched him, and he was just seconds away from death.

"It can't be...Can he be...the strongest sayan...in the universe?!" As he said that, his body blew up. Only a piece of his suit was left.

Mason breathed hard and landed on the ground. The explosion created a large crater on the ground.

"You lose."

"Mason!" He was shocked, and at the same time pleased that his son was able to achieve victory.

"Father?"

"Mason...you did it, again."

"Why, why did you keep this from me?"

"I'm sorry...I just couldn't tell you. I didn't plan to keep this from you forever. One day you will find out, but I just thought it would be too much for you. As a sayan warrior, you must not show any weaknesses."

"Having a father is a weakness? Is that what you're saying?"

"Well, I...I...it would affect you in battle..."

Mason ran at him and hugged him tightly. "Father..."

"My son. I'm sorry you had to suffer because I was a rebel. I'm really sorry."

"Are you still one?"

"Yes, I am. You're the only one who can challenge Dark Spectre. You have the heart and strength and courage that is stronger than all of us."

"Really?"

"Yes, that's the truth."

"Burdok, answer me honestly. Do I have a brother? Named Renegade?"

Burdok's mood changed in an instant from happiness to apathy. "Don't even mention that name! That traitor son betrayed me! What kind of a person would betray his own family, and a father who loved him so much? He gave away the secret location of our home, so that was how Radus was able to find us. You were just a baby then."

"I met him and fought him on Earth. He ran away and I never saw him again."

Burdok: "What a cruel fate for two brothers. We were once a happy family, and now look at us! That one night took everything from me, my happiness, my family, my hopes..."

Mason: "What about my mother?"

Burdok: "Oh, she was a beautiful and charming woman. We loved each other so much. After the attack, I lost contact of her and never heard from her again. She could be dead or alive right now."

They returned to the colony. They thought things would get complicated if their secret was to be revealed, so they decided it'd best if no one knew, just yet.

Mason went into the Medical Room to visit Margrit. She was still in the same condition. "Hey Margrit. Guess what? I've discovered that Zorton is really my father and his real name is Burdok. Isn't that shocking? It's just too much for me. I mean how would you feel if you were an orphan and discovered that your father was someone you knew all along? I haven't told anyone yet. Only you. *Sigh* Things have been crazy ever since I discovered I was a sayan. So how you're doing? Oh yeah, stupid question. You must be still very tired in there. I just hope you wake up soon. So I can find out why you did what you did."

The machined beeped. De de de de... "What's going on? What does this mean?"

Margrit opened her eyes and saw Mason.

"Margrit?" He drained all the water out and opened the door on the chamber. Margrit walked out of it wet and soaked.

"Mason!"

"Why did do it? Why are you so stupid?!"

"I don't know...I guess I just acted out of instinct...but you taught me something the first day you came to the colony. My life was in danger and you risked your life to save mine."

"Is that what this is all about? Returning a favor?" Mason asked.

"Yep. I guess we're even now."

"Margrit...I don't buy it."

"I don't have to explain why I do things."

"But I want to know. And I think it's more than that."

"What do you mean?"

"You tell me."

"I don't know what you're talking about." she said, turning away.

"Back there, not anyone would have done what you did." She started blushing. "You've done so much for me, yet I haven't done much for you. And you've taught me

a lot of things. Things about the earth and wisdom that I never knew. Even things about myself that I didn't know."

"Why is your face turning red?" Mason asked.

"What?" Margrit asked, embarrassed. "It's not."

"It is."

"Stop playing around." she said, turning away. She was afraid to look at him directly.

"Well, that still doesn't explain why you did what you did. I just want to know."

"I can't explain it, Mason. I'm so confused. It's like my heart won't stop beating."

Then, he grabbed her shoulders and looked into her eyes, and she was shocked.

"Then, let's end the confusion." He touched her cheek and lightly brushed her hair off her face.

They kissed and closed their eyes. In that one moment, all their worries were gone. Nothing was important anymore, other than each other.

They hugged tightly, with Margrit's chin resting on his shoulder.

27: Forbidden Love.

Contents

Kori just received an invitation from the notorious Starburst. The telegram was short and brief, but it caught the attention of the curious Kori. He entered the Battalion, and entered the main control room.

Kori walked in. "You are Starburst?"

"Welcome to my ship Lord Kori, isn't it great?"

"Let's get to the point. What do you want?"

"My dear friend, I guess you want to get straight to the point."

"Tell me, why did you invite me here?"

"I want to cooperate with you. Our alliance will be powerful. Jerrell and his colony will not be a match for us."

"You mean working together? Forget it! I'm better off by myself."

"Oh really? You can't fool me. We've both been defeated by the sayan named Mason before, am I right? I know exactly what happened."

"Grrrr...you're right, but I don't see how we can make things different..."

"I have a plan to destroy the colony once and for all, but all I have is this ship. You control many planets, and with one word, you can have anyone help us."

"So, basically, I have the resources and you're the brains of the operation, right?"

"Precisely. Think about it, you'll never be able to do it alone. Once we succeed we'll share the reward, whatever it is." said Starburst confidently.

"Hmmm. I see no reason why not."

"I knew you'd come to your senses, my friend."

"Whatever." They shook hands and smiled.

Margarita was tossing about in bed, thinking about what happened the other day. She couldn't quite shake the feeling out. Hugging him was an unfamiliar feeling, yet comfortable and warm. She just couldn't stop thinking about it.

Oh yeah, she thought, she has to meet him in the morning. Just the mere thought of it sent a rush of excitement over her, and at the same time, some nervousness.

Mason was walking down the hallway faster than usual and ran into Piper. "Hey what's up?"

"Nothing much. I gotta go."

"Hold on, what's the rush?"

"Uhh, nothing. Really." Mason said, and continued walking down the hall.

"What's with him?"

Lisa met up with Piper minutes later. "Have you seen Mason?" she asked.

"Yeah, I just bumped into him. But he looked like he's in a hurry."

"In a hurry? He's been acting very strange lately."

"Yeah, I've noticed too."

"I hope nothing's bothering him."

Piper sighed. "Mason has been through a lot lately. He's discovered that he's a sayan and all. I guess he just needs time to absorb the truth."

"I don't think that's the reason why he's always busy. I think it's something else."

"Something else?"

"Well, ever notice he's acting differently around Margarita? Ever since she woke up?"

"Uhhh, what do you mean?"

"Never mind." Lisa said, knowing Piper won't understand. But Lisa herself knows that a woman's intuition is rarely wrong.

Mason went into the Garden to meet Margrit. She stood there by the flowers, and he noticed that she looked so angelic, which was quite a contrast compared to when he first met her.

"Margarita..." he said.

She turned around. "Mason..." She wanted to say something, but didn't. She seemed to be at a loss of words. "

They proceeded to sit down at the fountain.

Margrit: "Does anyone know you are here?"

Mason: "No."

Margrit sighed in relief.

"We are supposed to keep this a secret, right? How long are we going to hide it from everyone?"

"As long as it takes. We can't let anyone know, especially Jerrell."

"I just can't go on sneaking like this."

"The colony has rules on these things, Mason. I don't want us to get caught."

"But we can't keep it from them forever."

"Well, what about Burdok? Are you gonna hide the fact that he's your father from everyone?"

"How did you know? You heard it?"

"Of course silly. In the healing chamber, I was unconscious but I could still hear you."

"You can hear me speak to you inside that chamber?"

"Yep. I heard every word. Next time you might wanna think twice before telling a secret to an unconscious person."

Mason smiled. "You're better than I thought."

"Does anyone else know? Other than you and Zorton?"

"No. Just the three of us."

"You only told me? You didn't even tell your best friends?"

Mason sighed. "No. Just you. It will be too complicated if they know too much. It's because..." Now he was at a loss of words. "Because I value more than anyone else."

Margrit just stared at him in shock, then looked away. "Really?"

"Really. This isn't about my friends. It's about you and me."

"Mason, I-"

"I don't think it's safe here. Jerrell might see us."

"You're right, let's go somewhere else."

Margrit took him back to her private training room. They thought it still wasn't safe enough. She took him into a small closet filled with files. They hugged and kissed. That's how things have been with them ever since. They always secretly meet together, not letting anyone know.

And they went on and on like that, and didn't get caught. Until one time, when they were in a private room...

Margrit: "I'm so glad to see you."

Mason: "Me too."

"I don't know why, but my heart is beating really, really fast."

"Really? Let me check." He put his head on her chest and listened carefully.

Margrit blushed as he did. Her heart was beating fast, just as she said. thud thud thud. "You're right. it is. Let me slow it down for you."

Then he kissed her lips, and they put their arms around each other.

The door was slightly ajar, and Jerrell was standing there, and he saw everything.

Margrit and Mason finished the kiss, then saw Jerrell, and they looked like they saw a ghost.

Margrit: "J-Jerrell!"

Mason: "Did...you see everything?"

Margrit: "This is not what it looks like!"

Jerrell: "I see. This is why you're hardly training anymore." He walked away.

Mason: "Damn. We've got to explain this to him."

Margrit: "It's useless. Jerrell will never let us be together! Love is forbidden here, he-"

"I'm sure if I tell him how we feel, he'll understand."

"No, he won't! He just won't let us. Especially not me."

"We gotta try."

"It's no use. Nothing will get to that cold mind of his. I'm not allowed to love anyone."

"What a stupid rule! He has no right to watch you that strictly."

"Mason, he has every right, I'm afraid. You see, he's not just my superior, but my **brother** as well."

"He's your **brother**?!"

"Yes. I'm sorry I haven't told you before. We thought it'd be better if no one knew."

Everyone has their secrets. But this one is especially shocking, yet when Mason thought about it, it all makes sense. How come Jerrell is number one, and Margarita is second in command? How come Jerrell treats her well? He treats her...like a sister.

Jerrell entered Margrit's room and searched violently. One of the drawers were locked, so he just pulled it right out and broke it. He held the pink book in his hands, the **diary** of Margarita. He read from the day that Mason came here.

June 4, A.E. 2365

Dear Diary,

Today a very embarrassing thing happened to me. I had lost a fight, and I haven't lost since when I can remember. It seems that every battle is getting more dangerous and Dark Spectre's minions are getting stronger.

But a very special thing happened - Mason came in and saved me! I didn't know what came over me, I cried like I never did before...

...

July 30, A.E. 2365

Dear Diary,

I think I'm in love with Mason. Oh, he must be the most wonderful person I've known in my life! The other day he said I am the most beautiful woman in the galaxy! And he says he's the luckiest man alive.

We are so happy together, we shared almost everything. For the first time I don't feel so lonely anymore, knowing he's always here for me. I'm relieved from the pressure of fighting. I'm forgetting about the outside dangers and it feels great to be so relaxed.

But I still have one fear: what if my brother finds out about us? I just know he'll never let us be together. What would I say? What could I say? I just think it's best for the meantime if we just kept this little secret to ourselves...

Jerrell: "Now I understand everything. That's what Kane was trying to tell me before."

Kane came in. "What are you doing in Margarita's room?"

"Hey, it's my colony. I can do as I wish here."

"Is that...Margarita's diary?"

"Yes is it."

"Don't tell me you're reading it. You have to respect her privacy."

"Kane, I've just discovered that she's in love. With Mason."

"Oh, that's wonderful."

"Look, the evidence is in these entries, read it." He shoved the diary to his face, and Kane tried not to look at it.

"I can't look at it. It's not right to read other's personal things. Especially when they belong to a friend."

Lisa was outside in the hall, leaning against the wall. She listened like she was all ears.

Jerrell was by himself in the training room. "Now I understand everything." he said, just as Mason and Margrit came in.

Margrit: "I'm glad you understand."

"And do you understand that we have rules in this colony?!"

"What rules? Rules that deny happiness?!" Mason said, which really pissed Jerrell off.

Jerrell: "What do you know? You're just a sayan from earth." Then he turned to Margrit. "You! I can't believe this! Of all people, it had to be you, Margrit."

Margrit: "Jerrell, please listen."

Jerrell: "Didn't I make it clear already? Didn't I? You can't love anyone here! It weakens you in battle!"

Mason: "That's the most ridiculous thing I've ever heard!"

"Jerrell!" Tears rolled down her eyes.

Jerrell: "My word is final! You two can't be together! Absolutely not. If you can't accept it, then leave the colony." He walked out of the room.

"Margrit?"

" *Sob* It's not fair! *Sob* "

Mason was pissed. "Damn. Your brother is more stubborn than I thought."

"He's just trying to help me. *Sob*"

"**Help?**" That word seemed to have offended him. "You know what? I'm going to talk to him alone."

"No!" Margrit said, grabbing his shirt. " *Sob* Look, Jerrell is my brother and he really cares about me."

"Oooh, now I get it. He's trying to **help** you by separating me and you, which both of us don't want."

"He thinks having feelings for someone harms them. He just doesn't understand how I feel."

"Then I'll make him understand."

"We can't use violence to solve this."

"I'm not going to use violence. I'm going to use reason." Mason left.

Margrit just watched him leave, and she ran down the hall crying. Suddenly, Lisa was in front of her. Margrit was embarrassed by her crying, and just walked past her. Lisa had a lot that she wanted to say, and she really wanted to comfort her friend, but she just stood there, as Margrit walked past her. Looks like she missed her chance.

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The Great War - 2		
Name	Role	Personality
Terry, Margrit, Zelfire, Piper, Lisa, Kane	Protagonists	-
Jerrell	Leader of the colony	S
Kano	Space pirate	A
Kori	A Dark Lord whose mission is to destroy the colony	
Dergoneous	Kori's henchmen	A
Triclops	Kori's henchmen	A
Radus	Zorton's old enemy	T
Kerell	Margrit's old partner	T
Blazer	Traitor of the colony	A