

THE POWER FORCE II

The Dark Empire

After over 100 years of war, the Empire is still not satisfied. Their thirst for blood and conquest drives them to do unethical things. But the war is over, isn't it? They have signed a contract with the Galactic Police and the Allied Rebel Forces, promising they will never strike again. But can they be trusted? Rumors of a Second Great War spread like wildfire. Some believe it, some do not. Who to believe? Who do we trust in confused times like these? One answer is certain – never trust the Empire.

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1: Heir To the Throne.

Contents

In the dark corridors of the Supreme House, a certain man was walking in the silent darkness to the meeting room. But he was not just any man, but a very important one to Murai. The meeting room was large and round; and he can see outer space from the windows.

“**Dark Providence**, you made it.” said Orbital.

“Lord Orbital, I am ready for your orders. I am prepared for anything.”

“Very good.” said Orbital. He was an old man who wore tight black clothing. He is respected for his seniority in the Council. In fact, he runs the Council. Most people his age are senile and weak and walk around with canes, but not him. He is structured and well-rounded, especially with martial arts.

In contrast, Providence is young and inexperienced and somewhat arrogant, hasty, and a brute. “I can feel it. My time is now. I am ready to inherit the throne of the Dark Empire.”

“Not so fast, young Providence. It is not time yet.”

"Why not?" he asked. "I have been training my whole life for this moment! I am more than ready to assume this role."

Orbital: "You may be the son of Dark Spectre, but you are still young and inexperienced. To take your father's place requires great responsibility. A responsibility which you are not ready for."

Providence is getting ticked. "How much longer do I have to wait? What do I have to do to prove myself?"

"You can prove yourself by trusting my judgment."

Suddenly, Adel walked out from the darkness. Providence was surprised, as he did not detect her presence. She might as well be a shadow.

"Adel?"

"That's Lady Adel."

Orbital: "As you know, she is also a member of our Council. She has killed much more people than you think. Thus, she will be one of your trainers."

"I don't need more training!" said Providence, at the point of yelling. "What can she possibly teach me?"

"Don't be foolish. You do not know what she is capable of."

"Tch. You have got to be kidding me. I refuse to listen to someone like her. Why is she in charge of me? I am the heir to the throne!"

"Oh?" Adel said, her eyes glowing red. "You think so?"

"I'll prove myself right now!" Providence powered up with dark energy and leaped at her. Wham! He hit an invisible wall in front of her and fell down.

While on the floor, Adel put her arm forward and made a grabbing gesture with her fingers, and Providence felt like he's being choked. He was lifted off the floor by her telekinesis and gasped for breath.

Twenty seconds later, she let go. Providence gasped for breath, touching his injured neck. This is what it feels to be at someone's mercy, and it's a shitty feeling. Clearly, she is superior to him and he must know his place.

"I'm sorry." said the heir. He rarely apologizes.

Orbital had no reaction to the whole thing. "Good. You will meet your other trainer soon. His name is **Sheryu**."

In an arbitrary elevator, Sheryu and Providence conversed. Sheryu was a man with silver hair, a red scouter, wearing a white cape. "I am pleased to be your trainer, Lord Providence."

"The honor is all mine. So, where do we go first?"

"In order to defeat the enemy, we must first learn about the enemy. We are going to planet Masadonion."

"Masadonion? The home of bounty hunters?"

"Correct."

They went to their destination via space pods, the fastest way to travel through planets. They went into the **Galactic Bounty Center**, a place that the planet is known for. It is where all the galactic bounties are set.

The people can submit "votes" on who they want to see dead, and it will cost money to cast that "vote." Once there are enough votes on that one person, the committee will issue a bounty on that person, depending on how much they want that person dead. The money system used is UU, (Universal Units) which is the standard currency for the galaxy. For this reason, many bounty hunters are Masadonians, but other species are bounty hunters too.

"Why did you take me here?" Providence asked.

"You will find out soon enough." replied Sheryu. They walked past some Masadonions, and some of them were looking at the two strangers with hostility. It's not everyday foreigners come here.

Sheryu took his apprentice to a certain computer terminal. This terminal was attached to a column, which is connected to the main computer, which hangs from the ceiling. On the ceiling are some large TV screens, showing some of the latest news, latest bounties, etc.

Sheryu typed the password and pressed enter. Beep. Then he typed in the name "Tyson Spade." Beep. A picture of the hero showed up.

Sheryu: "This is the person in question. Our primary target."

Providence: "So, this is the man who killed Prince Diamond?"

"Correct. He is a sayan, a native of the planet Arlia. But his current address is on earth, planet S-3 of the Solar System. The Land of Paradise."

"He doesn't look that tough."

"Appearances can be deceiving, my lord. There has to be something about him, since he is able to defeat a powerful man like Diamond. In fact, he is also the man who destroyed the terrorist force Magnificent Seven."

"He destroyed the Magnificent Seven...single handedly?"

"Obviously not, he had help. But he was a significant part in their downfall. The only ones to have survived were Lady Adel and Voltron." Sheryu said. "He destroyed the once powerful Magnificent Seven, one of the most feared organizations of our Empire. Not bad for an earthling, right? But if you look into it, he has an interesting heritage." He pressed a button. Margarita and Mason's picture appeared. "These are his parents, Margarita Spade and Mason Spade. Let's look into his paternal side. Mason Spade's parents are Burdok and Elmira Spade. They were elite rebels who fought and died during the Great War. Now, his maternal side. Margarita is a rebel who fought in the First Division of the Rebel Forces in the Great War. Her father is Jeremiah Florencia, one of the Elite Four."

Providence: "I see."

"Interesting, right? There is more. Margarita's brother is Jerrell Florencia, also known as Headmaster Florencia."

"What? The leader of the Galactic Police Force?"

"Exactly. As you can see, this man, Tyson Spade, has some very strong ancestors. It is no surprise that his K-factor is especially high."

"And if I defeat him, I will be stronger than he is?"

"Yes."

Two Masadonions in robes and holding swords approached them. "Hey, lookit what we got here. Two Muraians. And they're trying to target the one named Tyson Spade."

B: "Hah. Right. Like they have a chance."

Providence: "Are you doubting my abilities, bounty hunters?"

A: "Say, you look mighty familiar. Aren't you that guy...Dark Providence? Yessss...there is a pretty hefty bounty on your head. 500 million UU's to be exact. More than enough to last a lifetime."

Providence: "You dare hunt me, your future Emperor?"

The Masadonions laughed. "Hahahaha! You have to be joking!"

"I was not joking."

"Don't be arrogant!!" the Masadonions jumped at him.

Sheryu jumped forward and punched one of them. Pow! He was sent flying backwards, and others ran away from his point of impact. Wham! He hit a column.

Hunter B slashed his sword at Providence, who dodged side to side. B jumped and slashed downwards, Providence gathered energy into his fist and punched the blade directly. The blade broke in half, and his fist hit the hunter's stomach. Doosh. He was sent scraping the ground.

Others just stared at them in awe. Providence and Sheryu walked away to the exit, ignoring everyone's stares. Some of the Masadonions wanted to beat them up, but they know when they see someone strong. To go against them would be stupid. In this universe, power is the one thing that matters. When facing someone superior to you, you must play your position.

Orbital was standing at the same place as before, staring into the vastness of space. It's amazing how life forms have existed for millions of years, maybe even more, but none have conquered the cosmos. The universe is too big for any single race to control. But not Murai. Orbital's goal is to control the cosmos no matter how big it is.

A warrior named **Gusher** walked into the room. He is a warrior who always closes his eyes, but he is not blind. "I heard."

Orbital turned around. "You heard about our latest target?"

"It is the one named Tyson Spade, correct? I can't wait to fight him." He was getting excited and he had a wicked smile on his lips.

Orbital was getting worried. Whenever Gusher, the cold blooded killer gets excited, things won't be pretty. "It is not your time to take action yet, Gusher. Have some patience."

He was charging energy into his hands. "How much longer do I have to wait? I must spill blood now!"

"I assure you, when the time comes, you will get to spill all the blood you want."

Gusher calmed down and walked away.

Orbital took a sigh of relief. He actually was sweating, fearing Gusher might do something, since he was in a dangerous mood.

"What you are about to hear might shock you...but the earth will enter a war soon...it is a reality that cannot be avoided."

A reality that cannot be avoided? Tyson is deeply disturbed by Jamell's words. Is there really going to be a war?

Nebula had similar thoughts. He goes and asks Erika for her opinion. "I don't know." she replied. "All I know is that war is never a good thing. I once controlled a whole city of people and I want what is best for them. If I feel they were threatened, I'd fight a war, there is no doubt about it."

"But not everyone thinks like that, Erika. War is what caused our population to decrease. My guardian Jack predicted that Nebulons will be in danger. That's why he lied to me, saying there is a plague, to get me to leave the planet."

"You never met your parents, right?"

"No. I heard they were killed in a massacre. Yet somehow I'm still alive."

"I'm just like you." said Erika. "I never met my parents."

"We're both orphans, huh?"

"Yes...but at least our children don't have to be."

"Woah...not so fast. I'm not planning on having kids anytime soon." Neb replied, waving his hands.

"But you already adopted one."

"Yeah, but making a baby is another story."

"We have plenty of time." Erika and Nebula embraced.

Blazer, Mai, and Sorell are in a briefing room. Commander Jamell came in and walked in front of the screen. A picture of Providence appeared on the screen. "Ladies and gentlemen, this is your mission. This man is Dark Providence, and he is said to be the heir of the Dark Empire."

Sorell: "The heir?"

Jamell: "Correct. He is the son of Dark Spectre."

Everyone was shocked.

Blazer: "The son of Dark Spectre...is him?"

Jamell: "We only found out about his existence a few years ago. He rarely ever leaves Murai, so we did not have much information on him. But he is about to make a trip to earth for reasons unknown to us. Your mission is to assassinate him."

Mai: "Being such an important person, I suppose he has lots of bodyguards?"

Jamell: "The bodyguards are the least of our problems. Dark Providence happens to be one with the gift. He, like us, has the sixth sense. His K-factor is very high, so this will be a very dangerous mission. But if we succeed, the Empire will take a huge blow to their morale. I bid you good luck, members of the Black Hand."

All the agents saluted. "To the glory of the Alliance!" they shouted in unison.

Nebula was spying on them from the opposite room. ([The son of Dark Spectre?](#))

The blue haired man was sitting by the window, staring into nothing. He looked like he was daydreaming; but in fact, he was having a flashback, one that was not very pleasant. It involved a group of soldiers shooting with machine guns. The horrible loud noise of the machine guns, the flying bullets, and the death of his parents. He lost everything in one day.

Adel came into his room. "Nebulax? We are ready to go."

"Fine." he replied.

Finally, the villains have arrived on earth. Adel made it clear that she is in charge, and if anyone disagrees, they can answer to her fist.

2: Infiltration.

Contents

Ring ring. Tyson answered his cell phone, and it was his brother on the other line. He just received some shocking and unexpected news.

Jamell: "Your target will be Dark Providence. I bid you good luck, members of the Black Hand."

All the agents saluted. "To the glory of the Alliance!" they shouted in unison.

Mai, Sorell, Blazer, and other agents flew towards the enemy's base. It was an old warehouse. There were guards at the gates and on the fields. These Muraian soldiers wore white armor over a blue uniform. Included in their attire are helmets with glasses that cover their eyes. This glass cover allows them to access their communication device and scan the enemy.

The Black Hand agents came in like a swarm. The guards who saw them were hit by beams and instantly killed. Kaboom! Reinforcements came. Fighters were shooting beams at each other and it turned into an all out battle.

Sorell cut through the crowd of troops, kicking and punching them away.

"So, they are here." said Adel. "This should be interesting."

Black Hand agents and Muraian soldiers were killing each other. Neither side can afford to show mercy. In a battlefield like this, only the strong (and lucky) survive.

Kapow! Wham! Sorell just beat up another soldier. She was surrounded by allies and enemies. Everyone was occupied with at least one other person. She can't afford to help others, so she went directly towards the base. She stopped running when a laser hit the ground in front of her.

Two soldiers jumped down from the roof. They approached cautiously, while she got into fighting stance. Suddenly, Nebula came from the side and hit one of them. Sorell jump kicked the other one. Whack!

"Hey there! It's me." Nebula said with a thumbs up.

"What are you doing here? How did you find out about this place?"

"What? I just helped you."

"You were spying on us, weren't you?"

"Well, uhhh..."

"Our mission briefing was confidential. I cannot believe this." said Sorell.

More soldiers showed up.

Neb: "We can talk about this later."

Blazer fought his way through the soldiers. It was no problem for him. He jumped away from a beam. "You..."

Sheryu laughed. "Agent Syrus? Fancy meeting you here."

"Sheryu Ratel...a scientist who is wanted for horrible experimentation and crimes against humanity. You turn innocent, ordinary people into monsters. The Black Hand has been after you for a while."

"Very impressive, Syrus. Somehow your organization managed to find me here. But I do not intend on being arrested."

"Arrested? We're not police! We are going to exterminate you!"

"Ohhh, those are some big words. I hope you are prepared to back them up."

Blazer turned super sayan.

"Oh? Impressive. A second stage sayan." Sheryu said sarcastically.

Blazer jumped up and fired a beam, Sheryu blurred and appeared on the ground.

"Your power doesn't mean anything if you can't hit me."

The sayan got ticked off and charged with a fist of energy. Sheryu was not worried, for his shield protects from the fist. Zzzzzap! Blazer had a hard time getting his fist past the shield and he struggled. Sheryu jumped up, leaving Blazer off balance, and Sheryu kicked him on the head. Whack.

Blazer turned around and let out a frenzy of fists. Sheryu dodged side to side and up and down. Then he jumped back and fired a shockwave. Bam! Blazer covered himself, as he's thrown airborne.

Sheryu smiled confidently.

In a dark laboratory, Sheryu and Dr. Jacobin were looking at a particular glass chamber. Inside was a man wearing shorts, he's unconscious and there's wires attached to his muscles.

Jacobin: "Once my experimentation is complete, Burten will be the strongest fighter alive."

Sheryu: "Good. I look forward to your good news. And if you need any kind of financing or support, you know who to contact. The Empire is interested in your outcome."

"Yes, but of course. I work for no other than the Empire. I assure you they will not be disappointed."

They continued to look at the unconscious Burten.

That was the past. Burten was destroyed, thus he was not the ultimate warrior. But this is the present. Sheryu and Blazer charged into each other and yelled at the top of their lungs.

While fighting, Adel showed up. Nebula and Sorell focused their attention to her. "I'll handle this one." said Nebula.

"Okay!" Sorell ran into the base.

Adel's cape waved from the wind. "Well, if it isn't Nebula, Tyson's other half."

"If it isn't Julian the traitor."

"My name is Adel now, don't you forget that! And I am a traitor only in your eyes."

Nebula powered up. "I don't care what the hell you've been through, there is no excuse for you to join the Empire. After all we did to fight against them, you go and join them."

"That is my decision. By the way, where is your brother?"

"Don't worry about him, your opponent is me!"

"Is that so? This should be a piece of cake."

Nebula is getting ticked by her overconfidence. He's going to show her. He charged and punched, Adel evaded to the side. Nebula continued advancing while she went defensive.

Meanwhile, on the other side of the base, Providence was beating up agents. They had him surrounded, but he powered up with dark energy, and the surge of energy destroyed their bodies. Baaaam.

"Aaaaaah!" they screamed before their deaths.

"Hmph. What a bunch of ignorant fools. Is this the best the Black Hand has to offer?"

Mai fired her pistol, and he dodged it, but the laser scraped his face. "What do we have here? Another victim."

"I am Agent Mai Octell of the Black Hand. We know you work for the Empire, so give it up."

"You dare challenge me, Dark Providence?"

Mai was surprised. "You're Dark Providence?"

His right hand was charged with dark energy. "I am going to turn your head into a trophy on my wall!" He ran forward and threw his fist at her, she dodged. Whoosh.

Once inside the base, Sorell beat up some more soldiers. Nebulax jumped from the ceiling to attack her, and luckily for her, her quick instincts allowed her to dodge it. Nebulax ended up making a hole on the floor. Sorell was surprised, as she was jumping away, pieces of the ground flew off.

She landed and prepared herself for the enemy's advances. Nebulax powered up with blue energy.

Sheryu black flipped in the air and landed. Blazer went on the offensive and fired golden beams continuously. Sheryu just disappeared and reappeared at random places

to avoid the beams, and he counter-fires when he has a chance. Kabam. Blazer dodged it. Sheryu jumped backwards and opened his palm to fire. Blazer knocked the beam away, and suddenly, Sheryu was right in front of him, and punched him hard. Pow.

Blazer fell to the ground. Sheryu laughed like hell. "Ahahahaha."

"This isn't over yet."

"You don't think so? You might be a second stage sayan, but I am a Muraian warrior. For years I have been trying to figure out how to make someone stronger by using manipulation of genes. I've made countless experiments. Including myself."

Blazer panted for breath. "You'd even risk your own life for an experiment?"

"In the end it was worth it. I was able to achieve power that I normally cannot achieve. It's quite a bargain, isn't it, Mr. Syrus?"

"You're just a freak show!" Blazer fired the Cosmic Beam, and Sheryu countered with a shockwave. Kabam! Blazer was hit and knocked out.

Sheryu laughed like hell.

Nebula continued to punch and let out everything he got on his enemy. In his eyes, Adel is no longer his friend. He once looked up to her when he was a kid...because he was a kid and she was an adult. But now he's an adult and she's a villain. A villain who gave up her life to join the Empire. He punched and punched while she dodged. He missed, and Adel blasted him away. Bam.

He landed but did not show hurt. He drew his sword and flew up. Slash! Adel dodged and kicked him in the stomach. Wham. Then she punched him and he fell, dropping his sword to the ground.

"Hah!" Adel taunted. "Is that the best you can do?"

Nebula got up.

"You haven't improved at all these twenty years."

Crash! Nebulax jump kicked, and Sorell dodged it, resulting in him kicking the wall, and the force of his foot made a crack.

Adel: "What are you doing with the Black Hand, Nebula Spade?"

Neb: "That's none of your concern. What are you doing back on earth?"

"That's a silly question, this is my home."

"Bullshit! You abandoned your home to join Murai. You're not welcome here anymore."

"You can't tell me what to do. Good old Nebula. You'll always be second best to your brother."

Those words ticked him off. All his life, Nebula has been trying to catch up to Tyson, for he is his own brother and best friend. He always feels like he's one step behind. It sucks to have the burden of being the older brother.

"Speaking of which, where is Tyson?"

"Your opponent is me, not him." Nebula replied fiercely.

"Confident, aren't we?"

Nebula powered up and he was surrounded by a blue aura.

While fighting, Nebulax senses Nebula's presence. (It's him! He's here?) Being momentarily distracted, Sorell kicked, and he blocked. Whack! He was pushed against the wall. Sorell leaped at him with a diving kick, and he rolled out of the way just in time.

"Hyaaaaah!" Neb screamed.

Adel was not impressed or scared, she just watched curiously. In the back of her mind, she already won. The question is whether she should make him suffer slowly or finish him quick. Decisions, decisions.

Once he's done, he flew up to her altitude and attacked like crazy. Whoosh whoosh whoosh. He punched and she dodged to the side, allowing her to kick him in the face. Whack! He fell to the ground and got up. She used her invisible choking technique, and Neb had trouble breathing. He felt like his neck was being crushed and gasped for breath as he was lifted off his feet. "Ughhh...ukkkkk..."

"Now die like a good boy." she said with an evil smile.

"Ukkk..." Nebula struggled and thrashed, but it was no use, her hold on him was too strong. In the brink of life and death, the Rainbow Crystal flashed, and its energy hurt Adel, and she shrieked.

"What is that?!"

Nebula landed and powered up. I knew this would help me, he thought triumphantly.

"What is that crystal you hold? So you found a new level of power? How interesting."

Nebula charged forward and let out another round of punches. Adel dodged and ducked them.

"Unfortunately," she said while dodging, "It won't help you!" She ducked a punch and jabbed him in the stomach, a move that paralyzed him for a second. Then she blasted him at point blank, pushing him against the tree.

His stomach was bleeding from the wound. But it's not over yet. He still had a little bit of ki left, and it's going to be his last resort. He gathered energy and fired the Target Energy Bomb. Adel used telekinesis and lifted up a whole tree, throwing it in front of her to block the bomb. Kabam! The tree was incinerated instantly.

Nebula was surprised. He can't believe how strong Adel is. But he will never admit to losing. Adel fired a red beam at him, knocking him against a tree. Wham.

Adel put her arm forward. The trees around Nebula began to shake and they fell on him. Slam! He was under a bunch of trees. There were no more movements. Adel laughed.

Meanwhile, the other important fight was escalating. Mai attacked with her martial arts moves, and she did them flawlessly, but he was able to intercept all of them. Whack! He just blocked a side kick. While airborne, she kicked with her other foot, and he blocked, she jumped over him and landed in a crouch. Mai had to catch her breath. She gave him her best moves, but none of them worked. Now it's Providence's turn. He gathered a black energy ball into his palms and fired.

"Atomic Star!"

Mai jumped to avoid it. Kabam! A piece of the ground was blown up. Now she knows she's in deep shit. Providence fired more black balls, and she dodged. Kabam! Kabam! She jumped away and landed. She had to get close to him somehow. Kabam.

Suddenly, Providence blurred and kicked her in the stomach, knocking her down.

Jamell was standing on a cliff, talking into his headset. "What? You're saying that Providence isn't the only dangerous one on planet earth? There are others?" He was talking with one of his men on Macedonion, who was an information gatherer.

"Yes sir." he replied from the other end of the line. "Amongst them are Sheryu Ratel, a wanted scientist, and Lady Adel. She is a psychic who works for the Empire."

Jamell hung up. He suddenly felt he had made a big mistake. Without further ado, he flew to the base.

Kapow! Mai got uppercut in the chin. Providence smiled as he bullied her. She wiped the blood off the corner of her mouth and she's ready for another round.

"If I knew the Black Hand was this weak...I shouldn't have bothered preparing. Why is the Empire worried about an organization like this?" He looked around at the dead bodies - the people that he killed. "They're nothing but weaklings."

"We're not weaklings." yelled Mai. "You're just a dark energy user. That is where your strength comes from. True strength comes from hard work and training! It's not something you would know about."

"Ha ha ha ha!" Providence laughed, crossing his arms. "You don't know anything, do you, Macedonion? Not just anyone can harness the power of dark energy. Yes, this substance can make almost anyone one stronger. Normal people cannot handle its power. Even those with the sixth sense have trouble with it. Only the strongest and the best can use dark energy! A person like you cannot possibly handle it, you will probably have a break down from a small dose."

"Tch. Like I need that stuff." She took out her pistol and pointed it at him. "Prepare to die, Dark Providence!"

In an instant, he ran forward and grabbed her arm, making her drop the gun. She put a spider on his arm and jumped away.

The spider's tentacles grabbed his right arm and electrified him and he groaned. "Argh! Do you think this little toy is going to hold me?" He powered up his right arm, and the spider was incinerated by his dark energy.

Mai was shocked. If that didn't work, then what will? The spider always catches enemies and paralyzes them, but Providence is certainly a different story. He's a warrior in a class of his own.

But Mai can't just give up. She gathered a red energy ball and threw it, he knocked it away. Wham. Mai is pissed and frustrated. Nothing is working and she has a bad feeling. Providence powered up, becoming full of dark energy. Mai now senses his fully charged form, and she's more worried than ever.

"You call that an attack?" He taunted. "Let me show you how it's done!" He threw another Atomic Star, and she dodged. Froom! It scraped the ground and blew up. The explosion was big and it lit up the forest.

It's time to make her final attempt. It's all or nothing. She ran forward, jumping away from his energy balls, and she punched him straight in the cheek. His head turned to the side, but he showed no signs of pain. Mai was shocked. He blasted her at point blank, knocking her a few meters away. Bam!

Jamell showed up to the fight scene just to find a bunch of dead bodies. They were his agents and Muraian soldiers. He was horrified at the sight. "It can't be..."

Tyson showed up and landed. "Mr. Jamell..."

"What are you doing here, Spade?" he asked. "How did you find out about this place?"

"That's not important. I know Nebula came here. Where is he?"

"I don't know. Find him yourself." Jamell blurred.

Adel just sensed Jamell's presence. (What? Jamell, the leader of the Black Hand is here? This is becoming unpredictable.) Immediately, she contacted all her agents.

Mai was beaten up badly, she was lying on the ground with smoke coming from her suit. Her suit was damaged and there's blood on her face. "Ugh...uhhh..."

Providence was smiling and enjoying himself, but then he got a call from Adel. "We have to retreat." Sheryu and Nebulax got the same message.

"What? Why?" Providence asked.

"An unexpected person has shown up. We need to leave right away. This is an order."

Providence gritted his teeth. "Fine." He flew off.

Nebulax: "Well, I have to go now. Fun time is over." He jumped out of the window. Sorell wanted to chase him, but she let it go. She quickly ran to the other fight scene.

She saw a bunch of bodies around and saw Mai having trouble getting up. "Mai!" she yelled. She went over to her friend and lifted her head up. "Mai? Speak to me."

"Ugh...it was Dark Providence. He's too strong."

Jamell showed up. "Mai? You okay?"

Mai coughed. "I'll be fine. I just need some rest." She forced a smile.

Jamell stood up and clenched a fist. "It's their fault...the Empire did this. They're going to pay!"

Tyson went to the woods to find his brother. His ki was very low so it was hard to find him. He sensed him under the trees. Immediately, he went over and used his strength to pick up the trees. He was there, lying unconscious and bleeding. "Nebula! Nebula!"

He's alive, but barely.

"Who did this to you?"

"It...it was Adel..." Nebula said, and then he fainted.

That name...Adel. So she is back. Now it's personal.

3: Frustration.

Contents

After their last disaster of a mission, the Black Hand took a huge blow on their morale. Mai and Nebula were injured and in critical condition. They shared the same room, with a curtain between them. Nebula had bandages on his head and various parts of his body, but they were covered up by a blanket.

"Nebula...I should've been there." Tyson said. "Shit...I should've came earlier."

Jamell and Sorell were on Mai's side of the room, and they're pissed off.

"That fucking bastard...Dark Providence did this to her. I should've gone to her help her instead of fighting that other guy."

"We underestimated our enemy." said Jamell. "There were too many dangerous people there. I should've known this in advance. It's my fault."

"No, Jamell. Don't blame yourself."

"No. I sent my agents to their deaths. I should've known better..."

"Jamell...the day we entered the Black Hand is the day we expected to die. We signed our death warrant the day we signed up. If we must blame someone, we must blame the Empire. We won't let them get away with this."

Tyson pushed away the curtain and came to this side of the room. "How is she doing?" he asked.

Sorell: "Her condition is critical, but not life-threatening."

"I see. Thank you for helping my brother. I appreciate it."

"Speaking of which, I have some questions for you," said Sorell. "How did Nebula find out about our operation?"

"Uhhh..." Tyson was scratching his face with his forefinger. "I'm not sure..."

"Don't pretend! He must have been spying on us, right? Either that or Blazer told him. This is confidential!"

Jamell: "Sorell, calm down." He touched her shoulders, and she brushed him off.

Tyson: "That is a possibility. If he did, I apologize for it. But I assure you, he was trying to help. He will not hinder you in anyway."

"We don't need your help. We can do this on our own."

Tyson was getting ticked off by her attitude. "Oh really? Look at what just happened. Are you people really capable of defeating those guys?"

"This is none of your concern, Spade."

"Wrong! This is my concern, this planet is my home. And correct me if I'm wrong, but Dark Providence's target is me, right?"

Sorell knows that is true, but she won't back down from an argument.

"Whatever the case, it's best if you stay out of this. This is our problem, and we will handle this on our own."

"Allow me to help you. Give me a chance."

"You can do what you want. But do not get in our way."

"You have a problem trusting people, don't you?" Tyson asked. "But I'll prove myself. I'll show you that kindness does pay off. I know someone who can heal Nebula and Mai's injuries. She's a miracle worker."

Sorell: "A miracle? Who are you trying to kid? There is no such thing as a miracle."

"No, it's true, I swear. She can heal any physical wound, no matter how bad it is. She was born with this gift."

Sorell was about to laugh. "You expect me to believe this stuff? Is she a magician or something?"

"No. She's my wife."

At this point Sorell regretted insulting this person. "Whatever..."

Jamell: "Sorell, why not give him a chance? We need all the help we can get at a time like this. Even if his claim is false, so what? I don't think Spade is a liar. And if it is true, what harm can it do us? In the end, we are all on the same side."

Sorell sighed, which means she will accept Jamell's words and trust Tyson. Tyson smiled.

Without wasting any time, he went to make some phone calls.

Blazer was standing outside of the hospital building, staring in the sky like he always does. He was bitter and frustrated about his previous fight with Sheryu. He was completely and utterly defeated. He couldn't activate the fourth stage. If he did, the fight would've been over in an instant. To top it off, Mai and Nebula are down for the count. The Empire is responsible for this disaster.

Crash! Blazer went through a wall. Some guards ran to him and he beat them up. Kapow. Kachunk. The room was full of barrels and barrels of stuff. He sensed another guard far away, so he took out his pistol and shot him. Bang! Guards appeared from the platform above and fired at him, he had to duck and hide behind the barrels. Bang bang.

Sheryu was in the lab, ordering guards to attack the intruder. There was an explosion at the other end of the room. Kaboom! Blazer walked out from the fire and approached him.

"You are the one named Sheryu, renowned scientist."

"And who might you be?"

"My name is Blazer Syrus. Your days of experimenting with dark energy are over!"

Sheryu fired a beam that looks like a spiral. Froom. Blazer blocked it with his shield. Bam!

With this distraction, Sheryu jumped out a window. Blazer fired a beam but missed and hit the wall. He jumped out and when he did his target was gone. Blazer punched the ground in frustration.

Sheryu escaped their first encounter. Back then, Blazer did not have the ability to go second stage. But now he does, and he still lost. It's a very important lesson he learned – being able to go second stage doesn't mean you are the best. There are other people who are stronger than you even in the first stage.

Blazer was kind of depressed. He rarely fails a mission, and this one was indeed a failure. Mai is actually his friend, despite how she treated him last time. He understands. The Black Hand is strict and disciplined. That is why all their agents are strong.

Immediately after being contacted by Tyson, the rest of the heroes gathered together for a meeting in the usual place, Macintosh's lab. Zelfire was in charge and he announced the situation to the folks.

Lisa: "Dark Providence? He is the heir of the Empire?"

Zelfire: "That's correct. According to Tyson, who was informed by the Black Hand, Providence is here on earth. The reason he is here is to assassinate Tyson. Ever since Prince Diamond's death, Tyson has been famous in the galaxy and he's the primary target of many assassination groups, including the Empire itself."

Mac: "So the Centilians are a part of the Empire? I had no idea."

Zell: "Neither did I. Apparently Planet Centilia has an alliance with Murai. It's a well kept secret, but now the secret is out."

Lisa, who had been quiet the whole time, stood up to speak: "What is the point of all this? Why do they want him dead? What do they hope to accomplish from all of this?"

The heroes were silent. They had the same questions, but none of them had any answers.

Zelfire: "I know how you feel. But this is the reality of the situation. Jamell told us that there is going to be a war soon. Murai is looking to eliminate any possible threats before they begin their invasion. That is the logical way to look at it."

Joe pounded his fists. "Heh. Tyson isn't the only strong one around here. If they want earth, they'll have to go through every sixth sense fighter. Including us."

Mac: "That's right. I can't let them do as they please."

Zelfire: "Then we're all going?"

"Yeah!" they yelled in unison.

Nebulax was resting by himself, polishing his sword with a hand cloth. He and Nebula use the same weapon – a sword. But their fighting styles are vastly different, being raised by two different people.

Nebula was still a baby when the horrible incident happened. Nebulax was a few years old, and at the time he could barely understand anything. While running away,

he saw his house set on fire. The troops were firing at the front, while he escaped from back. He lost everything in one day. His mother, father, his home, his whole life. His identity. All gone. And it wasn't even his fault.

Running running and more running. He was nearly out of breath. He tripped over a log and continued to run. The troops were behind him, he can feel it. He was only seconds away from death. Suddenly, a man dropped in from nowhere and destroyed the troops in an instant. Not even a shard was left of them. Little Nebulax was shocked. This man in a cape had such power. That's when he realized that power means everything in this world. It means the difference between survival and death. The difference between keeping your life and being eliminated.

"Mister...thank you so much."

The man turned around to face the boy. "You're welcome. It's dangerous out here. What's your name?"

"My name's Nebulax."

"And I am Nemesis. I am a fighter with the sixth sense."

"What you did was amazing! I want to be just like you."

"Very well then. Follow me, little boy, and I will show you the world."

And that was that. That one event shaped Nebulax's life. It's what made him what he is. After the death of his master, Nebulax joined the Empire. He realized that he cannot achieve his goals by going solo. He's master-less, but not alone.

It's too bad that he was separated from his baby brother. They were raised by different people, raised on different planets, and lived separate lives. They could've been raised together and shared similar goals. But that is not the case. Nebulax was raised by Nemesis, a man who seeks to conquer the world with his sixth sense. On the other hand, Nebula was raised by Jack, who taught him that kindness and justice are the most important things in the world. Those ideas and principles shaped his life.

Being raised by Margarita and Mason, those principles were further developed into his mind. It's already too late to erase his foundation. He's already an adult with his own ideas and goals. But Nebulax can never feel the same way he does. Never. Not after what happened to his parents. He remembered that tragic event (although his memory is a little fuzzy) like it happened yesterday. There is no such thing as mercy or forgiveness. It's either survival or death.

Nebula, still bandaged up, was moaning in bed. Even if unconscious, he can feel his wounds. Pulsating and vibrating pain. During his fight with Adel, he was able to sense Nebulax a little bit. It's only a hint of a presence though. But one little hint is more than enough. Nebulax is definitely here. What is he up to this time?

Tyson had thoughts of his own. Standing on the roof of the hospital, he thought about his past. The school explosion never quite left his mind.

Tyson, now a kid, is running down a dark hallway. He sees the light ahead – the outside. And someone's chasing him from behind. Loud footsteps. He didn't turn back to see the man's face, but he was a horrible man. Finally, Tyson made it to the light. And the man was gone. And he was outside of the school. But his friend Julian was still inside.

"Oh no, Julian!" he thought. And then the school exploded before his very eyes. No words could describe the shock he felt as he watched the building turn into flames of hell. All the people outside – college students and others – were screaming.

Pretty soon, firefighters came to put out the fire, and they had a rough time. Tyson fell on his knees, knowing he lost his friend. Tears dripped on the grass, and he kept on sobbing non-stop. He was so focused on Julian's death that he did not notice

everything going on around him. All the noise and people yelling...they were merely background noises.

This one memory stands out against the rest. It stands out more than his experience with Vegeta and Dark Destiny. Because he thought he lost a friend. But years later, when he's an adult, this "friend" comes back in the form of the Phantom – a cold blooded murderer. The same friend he idolized is the one who tried to kill him. And when he thought she's dead, she comes back again.

But this time things will be different. He has gained a new source of power – the Enchron Crystal. Adel has never seen the Phoenix before. And he intends on using it to its full extent. There is no place for softness or mercy.

Adel was resting in some cave. She was thinking about something, but we don't know what. She's probably the hardest person to read. One cannot tell what is on her mind. It could be anything or nothing at all. Her thoughts might have something to do with Tyson, but that's not certain.

Suddenly, a man appeared from behind. He is an expert in stealth and assassination. His eyes were as red and as dark as death itself. His mouth was covered by an oxygen mask, connected to a tank on his back. He doesn't wear this for leisure, it's due to a breathing condition he has. "Lady Adel, how are things going?"

Adel did not bother turning around. "What are you doing here, **Jurai**?"

"I'm just checking up on you to make sure things are going alright. I heard you had to withdraw, is that correct?"

"This is none of your concern. You just let me do my job."

"And I shall do mine."

"So the Empire sent an underdog like you to inspect me? Tch."

"I am the same rank as you, Adel. So do not forget that fact." replied Jurai.

She had a natural hatred for this man. In fact, she hated most people. Especially this weasel. There's something about his voice she just did not like. His words are sarcastic and insulting, and he's not trustworthy. And he feels the same of her.

One should never turn their back to the enemy, but she knows he won't try anything. Even if he does, her quick instincts will help her. He works for the Empire, so he knows better than to try anything stupid. The same thing goes for Adel.

Jurai: "Well, I don't want to disturb you anymore. Farewell." He blurred.

Adel was irritated. But she'll do her job. She also has a past with Jurai, but nobody knows except for them.

But the past is the past. The heroes must focus on the present and fight for the future. Tyson is determined to get revenge for his fallen brother. Even if it means killing his childhood friend. Jamell feels the same way. He has to avenge Mai. He may be a cold and ruthless leader, but he does care about his agents. They've served him for over twenty years. How can one not get attached to them?

The wind blew hard against his face. Like others, he has the ability to go second stage. And it's time he shows the Empire his true power. So they can fear the Black Hand.

Far away, Subzero senses a lot of strong warriors on the planet. And he's excited about it. But what connection does he have with these people? Will he become involved?

4: Those Who Dominate.

Contents

With their newfound determination, the heroes set forth to go and attack the enemy's second base. But the enemy is prepared for them as well. Who will be the victor?

The villains got together to have a little chat. Providence was impatient as usual. "When will I get a chance to prove myself? I must have the throne now."

Adel: "Relax, Providence. I am still in charge here."

Providence: "Just give the order, and I will destroy them all. The Black Hand is nothing to me."

Adel: "Naturally, they are angry that we killed some of their men. Our original target was Tyson Spade, but since they interfered, we will kill two birds with one stone. Once we eliminate these threats, the earth is ours for the taking."

The heroes – Tyson, Jamell, Blazer and Sorell flew to the enemy's base. Adel sensed them from far away. They did not bother hiding their presence. They want to announce themselves. This is not longer a sneak attack, but a declaration of war.

Once the heroes showed up, they were immediately attacked by Muraian soldiers. The soldiers were beaten up. The four of them actually make a good team.

Kapow! Tyson kicked a dude in the face, effectively knocking him down. A soldier from behind jumped at him, and he turned around and hit him in the stomach. Thud. Sorell kicked and punched them. Kapow! Whack!

Blazer fired a beam and hit one of them, pushing him all the way back. The other soldiers ran away from the beam's path. Froom. Boom!

Jamell did an aerial kick, hitting one of them and knocking him down.

Jamell: "Tyson, are you friends coming?"

Tyke: "Yeah. They'll be here very soon."

Adel appeared in the air and fired at them. The heroes jumped away. Kabam. "She's mine!" Tyson yelled, chasing her. She flew away into the woods.

Blazer heard Sheryu's loud and annoying laughter from far away. "Grrr. Sheryu!" He flew in that direction.

"Wait up!" Sorell said, flying up. Two soldiers got in her way, and she double kicked them away. Whack-whack.

Jamell finished killing another soldier and flew up. A hand grabbed his leg. It was Nebulax. He pulled him down and slammed him into the building. Crash. Jamell ended up under a pile of metal. Nebulax landed in a crouch.

Under the rubble, Jamell powered up, and a barrel flew at Nebulax, he titled his head to avoid it. It hit the wall. All the pieces of metal floated up in the air, repelled by Jamell's white energy.

Adel hopped through the trees and Tyson followed suit. He was hot on her trail. When she felt they're far enough, she stopped and turned to face him.

"Ahh Tyson, I've been expecting you."

"So have I. Why did you bother coming back?"

"I'm on a mission. You can't blame me, I'm just following orders."

"You might as well call those guys you're working for and tell them you failed. Because my death ain't happening. You were defeated not once but twice, and it will happen again."

"Ohhh." Adel replied sarcastically. "You think so? You don't know what kind of training I have undergone back at Murai. But I see you made a pretty good name for yourself here. The assassin of Prince Diamond. Now the whole universe knows who you are. You are exposed, Tyson Spade. You'll never know peace again. You're pretty much better off dead. Why not let me do you a favor and put you out of your misery?"

"No thanks. I don't accept favors." Tyson turned fourth stage. Flash. The same golden aura and that look in his eyes. Adel has seen it before, and it's nothing surprising.

Tyson makes the first move. He leaps and throws a punch, Adel dodges. Tyson's fist end up in a tree and he's stuck. Adel fires a blast. Kabam! Adel landed. Even though he was at the center of the explosion, Tyson came out with a few scratches. There's nothing to be worried about.

In another part of the woods, Sheryu and Blazer were running parallel to each other. At some point they stopped and jumped and hit. Slash. Nothing happened. Sheryu opened his palm and fired a wind-like energy beam. Blazer was being pushed back as he struggled to move forward. It's time. He turned super sayan and flew forward against the strong wind. Pow. He hit Sheryu's chest with his energy-filled fist.

"Ugh!" Sheryu was pushed away but he recovered quickly. "I see you're still full of spite, Blazer. I see you come back for another beating."

"Tch. I am here to end this once and for all. The last time we met you escaped but not this time. This time things will be different."

"And speaking of which, I still owe you for destroying my lab." Sheryu fired a beam, Blazer formed the SS shield. The beam was destroyed when it hit his shield.

"You and your kind of people deserver to be wiped out from this world!" Blazer fires a golden beam, Sheryu jumps away from it.

"I beg to differ. We make the world a better place!"

"Yeah like hell you do!" replied Blazer. He threw another beam.

Sheryu dodged in the air. "It's a matter of perspective, Blazer. Some people dislike dark energy, but some people love it. I happen to be one of them. Dark energy can be viewed as beneficial to society. But it's not something a brute like you would understand."

"Oh I understand. That you're an idiot!" He fired another one.

Sheryu dodged to the side. "Such spite and hatred. You have a lot of fire in you. But I'm afraid I will have to put out that fire for you."

"Go ahead and try." Both warriors powered up to their full abilities.

They both gather energy and fired a beam. Kabam. They grunted and strained themselves during the power struggle.

Sorell was fighting the rest of the troops. Then the other heroes showed up to help. They made quick work of the soldiers. "You got here just in time." Sorell replied gratefully.

Zell: "No problem. It looks like the party just got started."

Lisa: "Who exactly are we looking for again?"

Suddenly, there was an explosion from the building. Kaboom! Everyone was shocked. A beam came flying out from the building and flew at them. It went past Zelfire, then Lisa, then Joe, then Macintosh, and going to its target - Sorell. She had only a split second to react. Kaboom!

She was knocked away from the explosion. Her leg was bleeding. "Ugh!"

A man in gray hair walked out from the building in a high and mighty manner. His eyes looked around to check out the warriors. No competition here.

Sorell: "Dark Providence..."

Zell: "So he's the one..."

Joe: "The one named Dark Providence?"

Lisa: "Heir to the Dark Empire?"

Providence: "That's correct. I don't know what you are trying to accomplish here, but the second I entered the battlefield, you all have no chance of winning. Zero."

No one likes being talked down to. Especially not these guys.

Joe: "You sure talk big for a son of a bitch. Care to back up your words?"

"Gladly." he replied.

The heroes surrounded him on all four sides. Everyone charged up for their attacks. Providence laughed and powered up. His dark energy resonated throughout the area, and even the ground shuddered.

"HA HA HA HA HA! HA HA HA!"

The heroes braced themselves from the surge of energy. They've never felt anything like it. He's a one of a kind enemy. A powerful monster. Zzzzzzzt. A thick black beam of energy reached the sky. People in the other areas felt it too, but they were too focused on their own fights to care.

The four heroes gathered energy for their best attacks and fired. Kaboom!

Blazer and Sheryu jumped in the air and went past each other. They've been going at it for while but no one is really winning. At this point, Blazer wished he could turn into fourth stage. But he can't for some reason. He just can't do it. What is he doing wrong?

They continued to hit in the air randomly. Blazer was hoping to catch him off guard, but it's very hard. He punched and punched while Sheryu dodged. Whoosh whoosh. Sheryu tilted his head to avoid Blazer's furious fists. When Blazer punched too hard, he lost balance and Sheryu kneed him in the stomach and whacked him on the back. Wham!

He was almost knocked out from that attack.

Sheryu stayed afloat. "Ha ha ha. Is that all you can do? I guess the Black Hand is pathetic. You people are just mere bugs compared to what we are about to do."

"I won't let you start a war." Blazer said, getting up. Boy, that fourth stage transformation sure could come in handy right now. But no matter how much he desired it, it won't come to him. He's missing something. But what? Back then, when he fought Diamond, he had that feeling. That feeling that he can do it. But the feeling is gone.

Sheryu blasted him. Blazer blocked and braced himself for impact. Kabam!

His suit was messed up. It was dirty and torn. And that's just his suit. Blazer was bruised and bleeding from the head. "Ugh...ahh..."

"Hmph. And here I was thinking you'd provide a better challenge, after all that talk."

Right now, more than ever, Blazer needs the fourth stage. Second stage is clearly not enough. It's essential to his survival.

Blazer and Subzero went past each other. Blazer fell on his knees after the crucial hit. Subzero turned around. "Is that all you can offer me?"

"I'll show you!" said Syrus. Something came over his body and he started to glow (he's already in second stage, so I mean he's glowing more).

Subzero was shocked to see what's happening to him. He winced from the overwhelming light. "Aaaah!"

Kaploosh! Diamond kicked Blazer in the stomach. The prince had the upper hand the whole time, but after getting smashed into a rock, Blazer finally snapped and transformed. He could never forget this feeling – a rush of excitement mixed with a calm, serene confidence that he will win. It's like he's on top of the world.

But what really activates the fourth stage? How badly do you **need** it for it to show up? Or is it an inborn ability? How come Tyson can do it without trouble? Why is he always ahead of the game? Always one step ahead in power levels. Why can Tyson do something that he cannot? All these thoughts made Blazer really frustrated and then it happened.

Flash! Sheryu was shocked. He did not see it coming. Syrus got back on his knees, then on his feet. His hair was a vibrant white color, as is his aura. As he ascended to his enemy's altitude, swirls of energy surrounded his body.

"What is the meaning of this?" asked Sheryu.

All the fear and misery Blaze felt just moments ago were gone. "What you are seeing right now is called the fourth stage of the sayan evolution. It is something that goes past beyond the second and third stages."

"Fourth stage?" Sheryu replied in awe. He's heard of second stage, and in some occasions, third stage, but a fourth stage? It's so rare it's not even funny. Are sayans naturally stronger because they have more stages? Are they more fit to survive? Sheryu doesn't think so. "This...this doesn't mean a thing!"

Sheryu threw energy balls at Syrus, who dodged left and right. The balls went past him. Boom. Sheryu kept on firing balls in a frenzy, while Syrus dodged left and right, avoiding each one at the right time.

Ratel was getting mad. He charged energy into his arm and slashed, creating a line of energy, and Blazer dodged it, and flew forward and kicked him away. Whack!

"Why you..." Ratel gathered energy into a ball and fired it. Blazer blurred, appeared in front of him and punched him. Pow. Ratel was pushed back a few feet.

"This fight is over."

"This fight is over when I say it's over!" Sheryu shouted angrily. He proceeded to power up. He fired a continuous wind like beam like before. Blazer flew into it, and the winds were not strong enough for his new speed. Frooom. Once closer enough, the sayan delivered a blow to his face. Kapow. Sheryu fell into the woods. A cloud of smoke appeared on the spot that he landed.

"Now do you understand?" asked Syrus with his arms crossed. "The fourth stage is not something you can achieve with experimentation alone. Your methods can only get you so far."

Sheryu got up and jumped away, Blazer chased him. At some point he caught up, and Sheryu looked at him and got pissed off. He threw energy at him and Blazer dodged without losing any speed. Bam. Bam. Blazer returned fire with a golden beam, Sheryu avoided it. They flew all the way to the waterfall and stopped.

"This is where you **die**!" Sheryu fired a glowing white ball, Blazer caught it in his hand. "Huh!?"

Blazer threw the ball right back at him, and hit him on the chest. Zap. Sheryu screamed as he fell into the river below. Splash. Blazer followed up with a golden beam into the river. Kaploosh! Just in case.

Things got quiet for a while. Sheryu's presence was no longer there. Blazer flew away.

Kapow! Jamell just kicked Nebulax on the chin, and it hurt like hell. Nebulax was still thinking about his brother during the fight. He really wanted to see him again, but in order to do so, he will have to get through Jamell, who isn't an easy opponent.

Regardless, he has to do his best. Jamell wanted to end the fight quickly, sensing Providence's increase in power. He assumes that energy outside is Providence. Who else can it be?

Jamell opened his palm and fired a blast. Nebulax winced from the light.
"Aaaaaah!"

Boom! The four heroes fired their attacks at Providence, who screamed and repelled the attacks. Everyone was shocked. Now Providence is all charged up. He picks one person at random – he charges at Lisa, who blocks. Wham! She got hit and scraped against the floor. Zelfire, Joe and Macintosh ran at him from behind.

Macintosh jumped up and fired the Electro-shockwave, Zelfire follows up with the Spirit Blast. It explodes on Providence. Joe goes in and makes a punch. Providence blocks it. Their combo attack failed. He grabbed Joe's fist and squeezed it tight, and he groaned in pain. With his free hand, Providence punched Joe's stomach, knocking the wind out of him. He grabbed Joe in a stranglehold. Zell and Mac froze in their tracks, not knowing what to do.

Lisa got up and used Lift. A garbage can was lifted up and she threw it at him. Providence threw Joe to the side and blew up the flying garbage can.

Zelfire fired a beam, Providence flew up. Mac grabbed his foot. "Got you!"

Lisa lifted a metal bar and threw it at him. Providence was pushed to the ground.
"Ugh! You little..."

The metal bar around him bent, tying up his arms. Lisa threw a big piece of metal at him, pushing him against the wall. Slam! Now he's squished.

Lisa: "Zelfire, now!"

"Got it!" Zelfire used the Energy Blast. Kaboom!

It seemed for a moment that their teamwork paid off. But not to the extent they thought. Providence walked out of the explosion with only a few scratches here and there. The heroes were shocked. What do they do now?

Jamell and Nebulax's fight is coming to an end, whereas Tyson and Adel's fight was just getting started. Who will dominate and who will fall? Find out next time.

5: A Raging Storm! Double Showdown!

Contents

Tyson and his former friend, now his archenemy, Lady Adel, floated in the woods, giving each other the stare. On another front, Nebulax was battered up, facing the almighty Jamell.

Boom! The four heroes fired their attacks at Providence, who screamed and repelled the attacks. Everyone was shocked. Now Providence is all charged up. He picks one person at random – he charges at Lisa, who blocks. Wham! She got hit and scraped against the floor. Zelfire, Joe and Macintosh ran at him from behind.

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It seemed for a moment that their teamwork paid off. But not to the extent they thought. Providence walked out of the explosion with only a few scratches here and there. The heroes were shocked. If all that didn't work, then what will?

Joe was in pain from the original hit, and he can barely move. Sorell's leg was still injured. It's up to the other three to save the day.

Providence: "Who wants to die first?" He waved his finger at the heroes. "How about you?" he said, pointing at Macintosh, who was shocked. Suddenly, Providence blurred and appeared in front of him and hit him in the stomach. Poor Macintosh didn't even have a chance to respond.

Zell: "NoOoOo!" He jumped and attacked.

Providence merely raised his fist, and Zelfire ended up hitting his face on it. Whack. Lisa flew up and charged up. She was surrounded by electricity and her eyes glowed. She used Lift and lifted some random objects on the floor and threw them at Providence, whose shield protected him from the debris. Providence fires a beam. Zap. Lisa was hit and knocked down.

It's clear who's the superior one in this battlefield. "Face it. You earthlings are no much for us Muraians. I'll send you all to hell in one big bang. Don't blame me, blame fate that you are weak." He began charging dark energy.

Nebulax: "I cannot lose to you. I still have many things that I need to accomplish."

"I am not wasting anymore time here. Playtime is over." replied Jamell Lance. "This game ends now."

Nebulax grunted. "Shut up!" He did a jumping attack, and Jamell did a round house kick, knocking him into a pile of metal. Crash! Jamell ran out of the building.

Kapow! Zelfire just got punched away. Dark Providence was enjoying his supremacy over these fighters. He's been taught and raised that he is strong. The strong dominate the weak. That is how the world works. Suddenly, Sorell got up, despite the injury on her leg. She is not going let a "little scratch" get the better of her. She jumped up and punched.

Providence was about to move, but Joe grabbed his leg! Now he's screwed.

Joe: "Now's your chance! Get him!"

Sorell: "Got it!"

Sorell hits him hard on the cheek. Pow. Providence smacks her down. Then he kicks Joe away.

"You filthy rebels. You should all burn in hell!"

Sorell stood up. Yes, she knows she has a slim chance of victory, given the current situation. But giving up means death, and that is not an option.

Tyson and Adel were flying through the woods, avoiding trees and shooting energy balls at each other. At some point they stopped and hit each other physically. Wham! They flew back a distance and Adel shot red beams, while Tyson dodged.

"Come on! Show me the power that defeated Prince Diamond."

Tyson avoided a deadly beam as he navigated through the thick trees.

"I know you are holding back. Show me that power!" Adel screamed. She used Lift and two trees were pulled from their roots and floated in the air, and they turned horizontal and flew at their target. Tyson dodged them just in time. Whoosh. Adel punched him in the stomach, pushing him against a tree.

"Ugh!"

Her fist was still in his stomach, and she gathered energy into it to make it more painful.

"Aaaagh!" Tyson fell to the ground.

"How disappointing. Is that all I get for my patience?" said Adel.

Tyson got pissed off and decided it's time to use it. "Be careful what you wish for, Adel!" He screamed and summoned all the strength in his body. He was surrounded by rings of fire. Froom. "You forced me to use this."

"So, you reveal your true power at last. Quite impressive."

Tyson was worried – why isn't Adel scared? In fact, she looks quite happy.

"Now, let's see what you can do!" She fired the Cosmic Beam at him.

Tyson blocked it and fired the Eternal Flames beam. Adel dodged, and it hit her shoulder, burning her a little bit. Now she's worried. (So this is it, huh? How did he get such a power? Is this the legendary Phoenix?) She dodged a fireball. (How did Tyson come into possession of something like this?)

She dodged another fireball, and this one incinerated a tree.

Bam bam. Tyson was still firing them. He had plenty of energy left. Adel navigated through the trees and flew above the forest. Tyson followed suit.

Along the forest, there was a series of explosions. Boom, boom, boom. Adel was floating there amongst the smoke, searching for the enemy. (Impressive. Not only has he reached the fourth stage, but he also reached a new stage. He's done the unthinkable. Good. He is definitely a worthy competitor. It's a good thing I learned to control Zenulox's powers.)

She sensed energy coming her way and dodged a fiery beam. Froom. Tyson flew out from the smoke and charged. Adel summoned some rocks from the ground and threw them at him. Tyson just went through them and fired the Eternal Flames. Adel was hit dead on, and she was a burning body that fell to the ground.

Tyson landed. For a moment there he felt bad for her, but considering all the things she's done, she deserves it. Just when he thought he won, Adel stood up. She's still alive? How can this be? thought the hero. She should be ashes by now!

Adel: "What's the matter? You didn't think that can actually kill me now, did you? Did you think I would come unprepared?"

Tyson grunted.

Sorell continued to suffer as she fought against the tyrant. Whack! Pow! She was getting hit like crazy, and she barely hit back. Providence smiled. Sorell panted for breath and wiped the blood off her mouth.

"Hmph. Why do you even bother fighting? You're only making this more difficult for yourself."

"I won't let people like you win. This is...for the glory of the Alliance!" Sorell leaped and kicked, Providence blocked her kick and punched her in the stomach. Thud! The sheer force of the hit knocked her away, scraping the ground.

Jamell bent down and picked her up slightly. "Tanya? Are you alright?"
Sorell's eyes opened. "He's...strong. Be careful."

Dark: "So you're the one...the worthless leader of the Black Hand."

Jamell gave him an angry look. One that would frighten any ordinary person. This bastard Providence beat up his allies...including Tanya Sorell, the one he loves. He's also the one who injured Mai. All these problems that have occurred lately is because of him – Dark Providence.

Jamell stood up. "You are the one who hurt Mai?"

"Mai? You mean her?"

It's time to make her final attempt. It's all or nothing. She ran forward, jumping away from his energy balls, and she punched him straight in the cheek. His head turned to the side, but he showed no signs of pain. Mai was shocked. He blasted her at point blank, knocking her a few meters away. Bam!

Providence smiled. "She was a worthless warrior. She did not even put up a fight."

Jamell was getting pissed off. Every word he said was more irritating than the next.

"Jamell Lance of the Black Hand...how do you train your soldiers? They're not even adequately prepared for battle. It's no wonder Macedonion is weak."

"You have no right to say that. You have no right to insult my subordinates!"

"Ohh? Getting upset over a little thing like that? Subordinates are merely pawns. They're expendable." said DP.

"You're wrong!" Jamell shouted. "They're my friends!"

"Your subordinates are your friends? Ahahahaha! I've never heard of such a ridiculous thing. It's no wonder your organization is weak! Do you actually teach them these foolish ideals?!"

At this point, the hero powered up with white energy. "It's not something that you would understand, Providence. I will not let you leave this place alive! Hyah!" He charged forward and punched. Kapow! DP didn't even move. "Huh..."

"You call that a punch?" DP pushed away Jamell's fist and hit him in the stomach. Thud! It was a good one. DP let out a combo of punches and kicks, and finished off with a jumping kick. Wham! Jamell fell hard. DP shrugged. "It figures. A weak fighter like you can only produce weaker fighters. You're the leader of the secret organization known as the Black Hand and you're the president of Macedonion. If I eliminate you, Macedonion will be weak and ours for the taking!"

Jamell wiped blood off his mouth. "I won't let you take over my planet. I won't let you start another war!"

"That's not your decision to make. If Murai wants something, we take it. That's how it goes. That's how it has been for the past one hundred years."

"Don't even get me started...it's because of the Empire that all those people died."

"All those people died for a worthless cause!"

"Shut up!" Jamell fired a beam, DP knocked it away. DP fired the Atomic Star, and Jamell jumped away from it. Boom!

Sorell: "Jamell..."

Joe: "Ugh...you have to win...for us."

The hero did his best to take down the enemy, but Providence was well balanced in speed and power. No matter how hard he tried, Providence intercepted his attacks. Being the last one standing, all the pressure's on him. He needs revenge for those agents who died in the last raid. And all those who died for the sake of freedom.

Whack. DP kicked him in the guts. "Ugh!" Followed by a hammer on the back. Jamell was sent to the ground.

"You are absolutely pathetic. Ohh, are you angry? How are you going get revenge for your comrades in your condition?"

"You son of a bitch..." Jamell was really angry and frustrated at this point. The opponent is stronger than him in every aspect. That's the reality of it. In order for him to win, he has to advance to the next stage. The need for it was overwhelming. He stood still, eyes closed, and let the energy flow through his body naturally. Breath in, breath out.

Providence watched with curiosity.

Jamell's power level was gradually increasing, and suddenly made a big jump. White electric energy surrounded his body, even his eyes glowed white.

"What?!" Providence exclaimed. "He has a second stage?"

"That's right. Just because your K-factor is higher than other people doesn't make you better! The world belongs to those who seize it! It belongs to the true leaders."

"Do you know who you're talking to? I am the heir of the most powerful empire in the entire universe!"

"Even empires can crumble. This world...is too precious for me to let you ruin it." Images of him hanging out with Mai. They were having a jolly good time. And he also was intimate with Sorell. The one love of his life. Those events...those feelings he had at the time were priceless. They are only mere memories now, but very important memories.

Yes, he treats his subordinates as friends. But so what? Is that wrong? Does a leader have to be a tyrant? Is compassion not allowed in this world?

Froom! Jamell is now stronger than ever. It's time for the second round.

[B] Contents

Kaboom! Tyson dodged a bunch of red beams.

(So his natural power is fire. And water puts out fire...if I can get some water on him.) Adel looked around, and lucky for her, there's a few puddles of water here and there. She used Lift and the water rose up to the air. Objects are easy to control, but water is another thing. They have no definite shape, so when she lifts them, they are unstable and shaking.

The water flew at him and hit Tyson. Splash! The fire on him died out a little, but he didn't notice it. Adel kept on throwing water at him and he ran past them and attacked physical. Pow. She blocked his punches. She flew away and he chased. Adel led him all the way to the lake. The water made ripples as they went past it.

He was right behind her, and suddenly, she flew in a loop, and she ended up above him. Tyson had no time to react and she kicked him into the water. Splash. She went into the water herself and hit him a few times. She kicked him, making him go deeper down. Then she flew out of the water and fired a beam at the lake. FROOM.

Tyson came out. He was panting for breath. A lot of his fire has died out, and Adel smiled as she noticed.

Tyke: (I fell for it. How can this be? Am I losing?)

Adel charged and let out a combo of fists, while Tyson dodged and retreated. Whoosh whoosh. Eventually, she landed a hit to his face, followed by a jab to his stomach. He was knocked against the tree. Wham. Adel used Lift and lifted two trees and threw them at him. He jumped over them. Whoosh. It was a close call. He continued dodging things that were thrown at him.

He maneuvered through the flying objects and went straight for his target. Pow. Adel blocked his fist and blurred. She appeared behind and kicked him on the back.

Wham. A strike from behind is always bad. Tyson recovered in mid air, just to get kicked again. He fell to the ground, making a hole.

The sayan got up and panted for breath. (I can't lose in this form. How can I be losing?)

Adel gathered electricity and fired a beam. Kaboom. Tyson flew out and hit Adel in the stomach. She flew backwards and disappeared into the darkness. Now Tyson's by himself, exposed while the enemy is hidden. He can hear Adel's echoing laughter.

"Ha ha ha ha ha..."

"Where is she?"

Suddenly, she came from above and knocked him down. He got up and walked limply. Just then a tree came flying at him and pushed him against another tree. Slam.

Tyson's hair turned to black and he fell. He is still in disbelief.

Adel walked over to him. "So, the secret to your power is something inside of you. Namely, the Legendary Enchiron Crystal, which holds the spirit of the Phoenix. It's obvious that someone like is not capable of its immense power, so let me do you a favor and take it away from you." She opened her right palm. "I'm sure it will be put to good use in the right hands."

"No!" Tyson moaned. The crystal was slowly moving out of his chest and into the air, going to Adel's hand. "No...you can't."

"Ha ha ha ha. Without this you are defenseless."

Tyson can't believe this is happening to him. Has he failed as the Phoenix's master? Is he really going to lose the Enchiron Crystal?

Maybe not. A freeze beam went by and Adel jumped away. The crystal went back into Tyson's chest. Adel's hand was full of icicles. (What? Who could have done this?) Her own question was answered by a man standing a few meters away.

"Subzero..." Tyson said. "It's you?"

The ice warrior and Adel took a good look at each other. They can smell competition. Just seconds ago, Adel was relaxed, being confident she achieved victory. But that feeling is gone, and it's back to basic instincts. (When did he show up? I did not detect his presence at all.)

Neither of them said anything. But one can be sure of what they're thinking about.

Tyson is surprised to see Subzero here. A lot of surprising things happened today. The fact that he lost in Phoenix form is a big shocker for him. But everyone loses right? And he never expected that of all people, Subzero would be the one who'd save him. Or is he here for another purpose?

"Who are you, stranger?" Adel asked.

"I don't usually introduce myself to dead people, but my name is Subzero, the Ice Warrior."

"The Ice Warrior? Never heard of it."

"I don't know what you plan on doing with Tyson, but I will not allow it. Because his life belongs to me."

"Is that so?"

My life belongs to him? Tyson thought. I don't mind him saying that, as long as he is here to help me.

The fighters got ready.

Now in his second stage, Jamell is making his opponent worried. Providence is impatient and stubborn, and his personality shows on the battlefield. Not believing in the enemy's strength, he charged forward and punched. Jamell took a direct hit in the face, but he only turned his head slightly

Providence: "What..."

"You call that a punch?" Jamell drew back his fist and punched, Providence blurred just in time. He was floating in the air. Jamell fired a beam, and the tyrant dodged. Froom. The beam exploded in the sky.

They flew around and hit each other for a while. Then they backed off and gathered energy. Providence fired the Atomic Star, Jamell fired a white energy ball. The two forces smashed and exploded. Energy sparks were everywhere. Both fighters covered their eyes from the painful sight.

Providence charged forward and punched. Jamell blurred, appeared behind and kicked him on the back. Providence fell onto the roof of the building. "Why you..."

The wind blew hard as the two fighters did the stare. Subzero and Adel have a lot in common, yet they are so very different. One thing is for sure – neither of them are planning to lose. The stare was long and tedious; neither of them wanted to make the first move. The first move is crucial. One wrong move and it's lights out. The leaves on the tree were blown by the wind. Birds chirped in their nests. In the blink of an eye, they were gone. Flash.

They hit each other in the forest, moving wherever their body takes them. Wham! Wham!

Adel hits him on the chin, he lands on the ground. He puts his palm on the ground, turning it into the ice, and the ice was spreading rapidly. Adel noticed that she's now standing in a big block of ice. "What trickery is this?" she asked.

"This is no trick. This is my technique."

"Is that so?" Adel jumped up and used Lift. A bunch of random rocks floated around her, and she threw them at Subzero.

Subzero remained calm and quiet. He opened his palms and the rocks instantly turned into ice and they fell on the ground. Clunk.

They ran parallel to each other and hit like hell.

Tyson was too weak to stand, he could only crawl. (Can Subzero win this match?) Let's hope so. Otherwise, they're both screwed.

Wham! They just hit in the air and jumped away. Adel realized that her hand was partially frozen. (What?!) She summoned energy and the ice melted into water. (So he has the ability to freeze things and people. It is a dangerous ability. I cannot afford to fight him close range.)

Providence was still upset at the change of events. He absolutely refused to be defeated. His title is on the line. He charged and punched. Kapow. Jamell showed no reaction, even though his fist was buried in his cheek. "Is that all?" Jamell returned the favor and punched Providence's stomach, knocking him a few meters away.

"Ugh!" He actually coughed blood this time. "You..." Suddenly, he sensed an overwhelming presence. He was far, far away, but noticeable.

It was Orbital. Providence, retreat at once.

"But I'm not done!"

You are almost out of energy. We will fight another time.

"Fine." He threw a smoke bomb on the ground, and Jamell coughed from the smoke. He fired a shockwave to blow the smoke away. By that time, Providence was long gone.

"Damn it!" Jamell went to help the fallen heroes.

Adel floated up and summoned a bunch of objects from the ground, including leaves. All of those things flew at Subzero. He dodged. (She's a psychic...) He froze his

right arm, turning it into the ice sword. He slashed through the flying objects and went directly at the source – Adel gasped. He slashed, she dodged.

Her arm was cut and bleeding. She noticed the wound and got angry. He jumped and slashed and she dodged. Whish.

A distant beam flew at Subzero. It was too fast for him to dodge and he got hit and paralyzed from the waist down. “Ugh!”

Adel: “It’s you? Headmaster Orbital?”

Orbital was carrying Sheryu. “Sheryu and Nebulax are defeated. I did not expect the Black Hand to be on earth. We will abort this mission immediately. Go retrieve Nebulax.”

“But headmaster!”

“This is an absolute order.”

“Yes sir.” she replied.

Both figures disappeared. Subzero was pissed. He had a good chance of winning too. Or so he thought. But he did not see the guy who hit him by surprise. Who the hell was he?

At least this time, the heroes won. Sort of. Tyson was still depressed from his loss, including the fact that he almost lost the Enchron Crystal. But his mood will soon change when he goes back to the Black Hand’s hideout. They entered the hospital room. Sorell was shocked to see Mai standing up.

“I’m so glad to see you guys!”

She came and gave Sorell a big hug, then she gave Jamell a big hug.

Sorell: “Mai? You are okay?”

Mai: “I’m better than okay.”

Tyson: “Nebula? You alright?”

“Yeah.” replied Neb, giving a thumbs up.

Sorell: “But how?”

Mai: “It’s all thanks to her.”

Faith bowed. “How are you doing? My name is Faith Spade.”

Tyke: “She’s my wife.”

Sorell looked at Faith, then at Tyson. “You are his wife?”

“Yes.” she replied. “I have the ability to heal any physical injury, regardless of how serious it is. I was born with this ability, I cannot really explain why I have it. I guess that fate wants me to help people.”

Jamell: “I see. So you really **are** a miracle healer.”

Sorell grabbed Faith’s hand to shake it. “Thank you so much.” Then she turned to Tyson. “I apologize for my rude behavior earlier. It’s just that my friend was injured, and-”

Tyke: “It’s okay, I understand. I know how you felt.”

Jamell put his arm around Sorell’s shoulder. “See? I knew it would work out all along.”

Sorell: “No you didn’t. You came just in time to save us.”

“Because I was worried about you. I don’t want anything to happen to my fiancé.”

Everyone was shocked. Blazer remained silent, standing on the side of the room.

Faith: “You two are fiancés?”

“Yes.” Sorell replied blushing a little. “We have been engaged for a few months now.”

Jamell: “We decided to spend the rest of our lives together.”

Faith: “Congratulations.”

Sorell: "Thanks."

After some more chit chatting and hearty talk, everyone left.

Jamell: "Those people...they were willing to give up their lives to help us. These are the people who Blazer befriended, huh? It's no wonder he wants to stay on earth. I don't blame him."

Sorell: "He has made friends here. They are some really nice people. Maybe one day he will open up to them. One day."

In the next chapter, rumors of a Second Great War spread like wildfire, while some are still recovering from the first war. Some believe it will happen, some do not. The war is over, isn't it? The Empire has signed a contract with the Galactic Police and the Alliance promising they will never strike again. But can they be trusted? Who are we to believe? Who do we trust in confused times like these?

6: Unification. Can We Forget the Past?

Contents

Not much as happened after the dangerous battle with Dark Providence, the heir to the Dark Empire. A few years have passed and the heroes enjoyed another period of **temporary** peace. With an emphasis on the word temporary. Time after time, the heroes learn that peace never lasts. Especially for those with the gift. Call it fate. Call it unluckiness. Call it whatever you want. But those with the gift were meant to use it.

By now, Tina is old enough to walk and talk and have her own ideas. Junior is a little older but still a teenager. Erika and Nebula have been married for a while, and they just gave birth to their daughter, **Risha**. She's officially the second daughter of the Spade family, and Amanda is glad to have a little sister. Everyone congratulated them. It sure was a joyous day when Risha was born. It's a day that the couple will never forget. But besides that, nothing much has changed. Everyone is still the same old, same old.

On the flip side of the coin, rumors of a Second Great War are going around and it's making people nervous. Critics say it is not going to happen, others say it will definitely happen. Some people are paranoid enough to buy bomb shelters and even prepared a year's worth of food. Good for them.

In the dark corridors of the Supreme House, a certain man was walking down the hallway to look at the black sky. He used to be happy, but now he's an angry and bitter man. Staring outside, he was thinking back to a certain event.

Prince Diamond bowed down in front of the members of the Council. He actually survived the fight with Tyson, but at the price of his right hand. It had to be replaced with mechanical parts, just like Adel's leg. It's a good thing their technology is advanced, the replacement hand can do almost anything the original hand can. The ability to gather ki is still present, although the effect is reduced. The power produced will be up to the user.

The spotlight focused on Orbital and Diamond. "Prince Derus Diamond...we specifically ordered you not to attack the earth, but you disobeyed our orders and attacked anyway."

Diamond was mentally cursing himself. The damages have already been done. On Centilia, he the highest and supreme. But even a prince like him has to bow down in

front of the almighty Orbital. Being a member of the Council doesn't mean squat if you disobeyed an order.

"You got too arrogant, thinking you can take on earth all by yourself. Your reckless actions are a danger to us, the Empire. However...I think that losing an arm and half of your Centilian army is more than enough punishment. Consider yourself lucky that you are still alive, Prince of Centilia."

And that was that. Indeed, Diamond **is** lucky he did not receive further punishment. All this happened because of one man – Tyson Spade. He will get revenge one day. One day...

The people of the planet Arlia are having a rough time. Although it's been thirty years since the war happened, the effects are everlasting. Some people moved on, but some can never move on. Many lives were taken away. Lives that can never, ever come back.

Sephia and her men were walking through a poor village. Amongst them were Jarus and Longinus and some royal troops. They felt pity for these rebels – many of them were homeless and disease filled. It's no question that these people are miserable.

One particular old man was senile and staring blankly at the sky. There was a mother and a child, they were hugging each other, and by the looks on their faces, they haven't had any food for days.

Sephia, being a princess and all, cannot imagine what life is like in this village. How can people live like this?

A few kids were having fun running in circles. They froze at the sight of these troops. As Sephia and her crew walked by, all eyes were on her. Sephia didn't mind. She walked to the people lying on the street and offered them food and water wrapped up in packages. "Here," she said, you might need this.

The mother thought she was seeing an angel or something. "Oh thank you, young lady. God bless you." Then she shook her son. "Say thank you to the young lady."

"Thank you, miss," said the little boy.

"Your welcome," Sephia replied with a smile. She touched the boy on the head. "Don't give up. You are going to grow up to be a strong sayan, right?"

"Yes!" he said, nodding with big bright eyes. To have the gratitude of this cute little boy makes this whole thing worth it.

But not everyone treated the crew warmly.

A: "They are Loyalists? What are they doing here in our village?"

B: "Haven't they done enough damage already? What do they want here?"

A: "They should just drop dead."

Those words hurt, but she ignored them. The rebels were giving the loyalists angry looks. They looked like they were about to jump them at any minute.

C: "Get out of our village, you damn loyalists! We don't want you here!"

D: "You bunch of cold blooded murderers!"

Jarus: "Hey! How dare you talk to Ms. Sephia like this?!"

Sephia put an arm in front of him, signaling to stop his aggression.

C: "Who are you to talk back at us, loyalist? How many of us have you killed in the past?"

Jarus suddenly felt guilty. This guy's words are true.

The village leader, a man with gray hair walked towards them. "What brings you here, Princess Sephia?"

She was still acting formal. "Sir, we mean no harm by coming here. In fact, we intend to do the opposite. We want to help this poverty-stricken village by giving your

people food, water, and other necessities. Please, if there is anything you need, we will do everything in our power to retrieve it for you. Just name it."

Leader: "Tch. Why are you helping us, loyalist? What are your true intentions?"

"I can assure you, we have no hidden motives. We come here purely because of the kindness in our heart. We feel bad for what happened during the Great War, so--"

"So what?" the leader interrupted, surprising Sephia. "You think this can make up for what you did in the past? Kindness of your heart? Give me a break."

C: "Sir, don't even waste your time with them. Let's just kick them out."

Leader: "We don't need your pity here, loyalist. The sight of you being here is a sore sight for our people. We are better off without you! Now leave!"

Sephia: "But--"

C: "Just go away." The look in this man's eyes was those of hatred and many years of suffering. Suffering due to the loyalist's attacks.

These people have hated for decades. One kind act will not change their mind. Sephia decided to leave.

The villagers booed her and kids threw things at them. Jarus got upset, but he held it in. The mothers were scared and grabbed the children to stop them from screaming and throwing things.

Yes, it hurts. When you try to help a village, and they respond with hostility, it hurts. But who can blame them? They actually were innocent people. Their village was rampaged by loyalists during the war. Family members were slaughtered. Men, women, children. They now have nothing left. Nothing.

Sephia went home disappointed. She wonders if this is really something she should continue doing. She goes to see Neflite.

"Welcome back, my princess. How was the trip?"

"King Neflite...these rebels...they hate us. They want to kill us...I can tell from the looks in their eyes. *Sigh* I don't know if this will work out. I tried, I really did."

"Sephia...do you believe in what you are doing? Do you believe in unification?"

"Well, yes. But--"

"Do you truly want to amend for your sins and help these people?"

"Yes!"

Neflite: "We cannot blame them after all that's happened. For some people, it will take some time for them to trust us. For others, they will **never** trust us. That is how it is. You are a strong woman. I am sure you will help achieve our dream."

"You are right, honey. I should not give up, not after how far I've gone."

Coitus and one of his followers, **Kemia**, were walking down the street. Coitus thinks back...

Neflite and his Elite Guards confront Coitus and his men. It was a fateful meeting, as these former enemies are about to become allies. "Greetings, Mr. Tyrannus Coitus." said King Neflite. "It's been a while."

"Yes it has." replied Coitus.

Neflite: "You know the reason we came here?"

Coitus: "Yes, I received your letter. I'm surprised you want to bring this up all of a sudden."

"I must admit, I am surprised myself. I know what we loyalists did in the past was unforgivable. But I assure you, something like that will never happen again."

"Tch. I hope not."

Neflite was a little startled by his remark. He continues: "We loyalists are not the same people as before. We will do what we can to help the rebels. We know that many of your villages in Mesatomia are poverty stricken. As a token of our apology, we will send them all the necessities of life – food, shelter, and water. As you know, the Milky Way is facing a dire crisis. A war might break out, and if we want to win, we need to unite our race."

"So this time you want to fight as one?"

Kanus interrupted. "Don't trust them, sir. They're--"

Coitus extended his arm, signaling him to be quiet. "So, your highness, you are serious about this unification?"

"Yes."

"You have no intentions of joining the Empire?"

"No, none whatsoever. It was my father's idea to join during the Great War. We are a new generation. We have to overlook the past in order to secure our future."

"Let me ask you something. Just a few years ago you wanted to start purification. What made you change your mind?"

Neflite: "During my reign as king, I've seen and experienced many things...and I promised someone that I'd reunite our race. It is a promise I must keep. I don't want rebels to suffer anymore. I want to remove the labels rebel and loyalists. Those are terms forged during the war. My vision is very clear. Our race will fight as one against the Dark Empire. There will be no more rebels and loyalists...just sayans."

The rebel leaders had mixed reactions. Some of them believed him, some did not. But Coitus believed him. "Alright then...let's do it."

And with that said, Coitus and his men began spreading the message. There are three main continents on this planet – Mesatomia, Mesatopia, and Marsonia. Sayans inhabit 90% of Mesatomia and 20% of Mesatopia. Coitus and Neflite wants to spread their message to every single person on Mesatomia and Mesatopia. It will be a lengthy process, but it will be worth it.

But at present, they encounter resistance. In a certain village, while Coitus was speaking on the street, one man came up to him.

"Yeah yeah, all your ideas are great, but come on, do you really expect us to do as you say?" said **Charus**. The villagers turned their attention to him.

Coitus: "Excuse me?"

Charus: "Unification? Joining the loyalists? Fighting another war? Get real! Like that is going to happen."

"Listen young man, you do not understand the situation that we are in. Our planet is in danger of being attacked by Murai! There is going to be another war soon."

"It's better if we surrender. We can't afford to fight another war. We have barely recovered from the last one. And it was thirty years ago."

"Surrender? Are you insane? Maybe you should think about your words before you speak."

"Surrendering is better than getting killed, don't you think?" Charus said, looking at the villagers." They had no reaction.

"These words are coming from someone who doesn't understand a thing!"

"Doesn't understand a thing? I'm a veteran of the previous war."

Coitus was surprised. He didn't look like a veteran.

"I've fought many battles and seen many deaths. Including those of my family. I lost everything in the Great War! There is nothing "great" about it!" Charus said, clenching a fist. "I lost my mother, father, my sister, my cousin...almost everybody!" A tear dripped down his face. "Hasn't there been enough bloodshed?! You want us to

enter a second war? Then those tragedies...will repeat. There will be more tears and hatred and blood. Is that what you want, Coitus?! Is this what you want to put our people through?!"

There was a moment of silence. Charus was trying not to cry. But how can he not when he's speaking of something so personal? All the villages sympathize with him.

Coitus begins to speak. "Yes...you are right. We can never bring back the dead. But think for a moment what will happen if we surrender. Do you think they will just let us off the hook? The empire cannot be trusted. How do you know they will not attack us if we surrender? Are to give in to their demands just like that? Without even a fight? Are we sayans going to show them weakness?"

"I just don't want anymore deaths! That's all!"

"I know that if we fight this war, there will be more deaths. It's an undeniable fact of war. But if we surrender now...then everything that we've done in the past war was for nothing! Our parents and grandparents fought...for what? For peace and freedom. So that the next generation can have peace...and not live through what they have lived through. All those people who died...they died for a reason. And we must cherish what they have given us. If we surrender, then we will have destroyed what they fought for. Which is everything! Everything that you have today is because of what they did. Those who died did not die in vain."

Charus was shocked. He never saw it that way.

"Surrendering because you fear death is the coward's way. If you don't want to fight, then I don't blame you. But I will never ever let the empire control us. Earth is not going to give in. Definitely not Macedonion. Other planets have refused. And we sayans have our reputation to consider. If we surrender...then we are no better than the empire...for we would have given up our hopes and dreams. I'd rather die than have my freedom taken away from me."

Everyone was touched by Coitus's speech. The villagers clapped. Charus was shocked at this man's words. It's so true. He has totally forgotten why he fought in the first place. How can he let his family down? Surrender? Forget it. It's not an option.

Malin and Kane were here to see this touching scene. No one noticed them, for they were standing in a corner.

In a certain room of the Supreme House, the entire wall was a window and it gave a view of outer space. Orbital stood in the front, facing everyone. The Council members are here - Adel, Jurai, Kyria, Nebulax, Diamond, and Gusher is here too, although he's not officially a decision maker.

Orbital: "Fellow members of the Council...our time is near. All our patience and planning will soon be realized. We've waited for over thirty years for this moment...and our dreams and ambitions will be realized soon. Our armies have been prepared. Our ships are ready. The Alliance is weak while we are strong. We will triumph."

Diamond: "Lord Orbital, the Centilians still think I am dead. When should I make my appearance?"

"Soon, Diamond, soon. I assume that right now your brother is in charge?"

"Yes, for the time being."

"Good. When I say so, you will go back there and take over your rightful spot. They may be surprised, but that is what we wanted. No one else knows you are alive besides us. Centilia will join us soon. And we already have Masadonion and Draconion's cooperation. They have been old allies of us."

Suddenly, Orbital stopped when he sensed a rising power level. Gusher was getting excited, and this means bad news. "Yes...we can finally kill...kill all we want. So much blood to spill!!"

"Gusher, calm down." said Orbital nervously.

"Kill...kill!"

Jurai stabbed a needle into Gusher's neck, and he was still screaming. But then he got tired and fell asleep. Jurai and Nebulax carried Gusher to the other room.

Orbital was relieved. "That was a close one."

Adel: "What's the big deal about him anyways, Lord Orbital? He doesn't follow the rules like everyone else. And of all people, why should you be afraid of him?"

"You don't understand what kinds of powers he possesses, Adel. If you have seen what I have seen, you will know how I feel. But nonetheless, Gusher is a one of a kind warrior. He even had Dark Spectre's respect. He is an asset to our empire."

Jurai and Nebulax returned. "He's asleep, sir."

"Good. Now, let us continue. Part one of our plan consists of the kidnapping of a certain princess...the princess of Arlia."

Adel: ([The princess of Arlia?](#))

Orbital: "She is Princess Sephia, the fiancé of King Neflite. Once we have her, we control Neflite. We will use him to get the sayans on our side. Once we have Arlia secured on our side, the war is ours. But of course, it will not be easy to kidnap her. Do we have any volunteers?"

Kyria stepped forward. "Let me do it, sire. I am a native of the planet and I am familiar with it."

Adel stepped forward. "I will do it too."

"Very good." said Orbital, crossing his hands behind his back. "We shall proceed with our 30 year plan."

7: The Heart of the Empire. The 30 Year Plan.

Contents

Handing over a report to his superior, Geromius had a haunting thought in his mind. He couldn't help but ask it when Cuzzy was reading the report.

"Commander," he asked, "Are the rumors true? Is there going to be a war?"

"Probably." Cuzzy replied. "No matter how much I wish it isn't true, we can't deny the facts. The Empire is not to be trusted."

"If and when the war does break out, are we going to be involved?"

"Unfortunately, yes. Although the Galactic Police is not a military organization, an intergalactic war is something of proportion that we cannot ignore. It will affect everything. But when that comes does come, you have the right to not get involved. Involvement in the war is strictly voluntary."

Geromius was still worried. "Alright. Thank you."

Obviously, they weren't the only ones worried about this. As Osborne was working on his computer, he reminiscences the good and bad times back in Macedonion. His days in the Black Hand were some of the best and worst times he had. It was his very first experience in teamwork...and war.

Sephia handed a package of food to an orphan. The kid was grateful and thanked her. Sephia smiled. She continued down the road to help the other kids, but then an adult stopped her. "We don't need you here, loyalist. Just leave us alone."

This time, she did not resist. She left without saying a word. Sure, some people do appreciate her help, but most do not. What happened the other day still hurts.

"So what? You think this can make up for what you did in the past? Kindness of your heart? Give me a break."

"We don't need your pity here, loyalist. The sight of you being here is a sore sight for our people. We are better off without you! Now leave!"

Those were certainly some harsh words. But harsh is losing a family member in the war. Harsh is living day by day and trying to forget the past.

Not knowing what to do, she asks Longinus for advice. By now, they were done with their travels. Flying around villages can be exhausting. They were standing on a plateau, outside of civilization.

"Longinus..."

"Yes, ma'am?" he replied.

"You've served King Neflite's father for many years and you are one of the most loyal Elite Guards to the Neflite family. Do you think what we're doing now is right?"

"It is better than what we did during the Great War." Longinus replied. "I know that what we are doing is tough. Not everyone will accept us right away. Some never will. We have to accept that reality."

"But it seems that the majority of the rebels still hold a grudge against us." said Sephia as she stared deep into the sky. "I guess I can't blame them. Back when I was young, I participated in the war in the front lines with my brother Vegeta."

Sephia was a little girl who sat on Vegeta's shoulder. They'd walk into a camp and fire beams at the rebels. Kabam! Kabam! Their power was unrivaled on the battlefield.

"For some reason, when I was a kid, I was unusually violent. Maybe it was because my real parents died when I was just a baby, and Vegeta adopted me. I grew up in an environment of murder and bloodshed. But later on after the war ended, I was imprisoned in the Imperial Palace for a few years. During that time, I saw many things..."

Sephia was dirty all over, being a prisoner. She was being whipped by a female rebel. "Take that you filth!" Whip! Whip!

Sephia screamed in pain. "Aaah!!"

Another male guard was watching them. "We should just kill her!" he said with absolute hatred in his eyes. Sephia noticed how much he hated loyalists. "I lost my father to loyalists. We should just kill every single one of them."

Female: "We need to keep this one alive. Let me handle it."

"My eyes opened during those few years. After all the things we've done...we caused so much sadness and hatred to our own race. And for what? So we can be on the Empire's good side?"

"I admit," Longinus said, "I killed rebels too. I had to follow orders, as much as I disliked them. But I am glad King Neflite is starting a unification. I know he is doing what is best for our race, and so are you, Miss Sephia. Whatever you two do, I believe in you."

"Thank you, Longinus. You can return home first. I will stay here for a while."

"Are you sure?"

"Yes. There are some things that I need to sort out by myself."

"Bye then."

"Bye."

Longinus flew off. Froom.

Meditating in a cave, Subzero was deep in thought. He was thinking about having another duel with Tyson soon. Very soon. In fact, he can't wait for it. He fought Tyson before, but not when he was the Phoenix. He is intrigued by Tyson's strange new

power. As he meditated, his surroundings became ice. In fact, nearly the entire cave was iced.

Our main character, Tyson Spade, is also worried about the upcoming war. He speaks with Blazer one on one. "Blazer, your leader Jamell said that there will be a war soon. And earth will be Murai's primary target."

"That is correct." replied Blazer.

"I just can't believe it. Is there a chance that it isn't true?"

"Why can't it be true?"

"Why earth, of all planets? Why here? We are not even in the alliance!"

"Do you think those bastards at the Empire care? They want earth because of its strategic location. It is the Land of Paradise. They want to prove their power by taking over earth as a warning to other planets. Earth is also the most densely populated planet in the known universe. It's as simple as that."

"But the war is over, isn't?" Tyson asked in delusion. "My parents fought hard to end it!"

"Apparently, not to the empire. Their surrender in the First Great War was just part of their plan. No matter what, I still have to fight. If you don't like it, then you can choose not to accept it."

Tyson clenched his fist. "But it's just that...that a lot of people are going to die."

"That's the reality of war. It is something that cannot be avoided. You don't have enough tears in your system to weep for every person who dies as a result of war. I am afraid that the earth will not last long. Its military force is divided into too many factions. There are too many nations and getting to work together will be a hassle. The only way to avoid it is to bring your family to another planet. Or fight to the death."

"Remember," said Adel. "Let me handle this one. You are to stay out of it until I say so."

"Yeah, sure." Kyria replied non-caringly. "Whatever you say."

"Good. Now that we have an understanding, let's go meet our princess." And off they went. Sephia did not know she was being watched from afar. When the spy confirmed that she was alone, it is the perfect time to abduct her.

The princess was still staring blankly at the sky, but her attention was taken by the presence of her rival. Someone she has not seen in over two decades. Sephia turned around to see this person – Adel was standing there with the wind blowing her red cape.

Sephia thought she was seeing a ghost or something. She was dumbfounded and couldn't speak up. "You...you're...you're..." There was something about Adel's face...it was hauntingly familiar.

"Greetings, Princess Sephia."

"You're...Julian...Julian Powers!!"

"Well, actually, I am Lady Adel. Julian Powers is my former name. I'm glad you still remember me after all these years, princess."

The wind blew hard.

Wham! Whack! Julian kicked, Sephia blocked. Wham! Julian kept on punching; Sephia dodged side to side swiftly, then punched Julian in the guts.

"Ohhh, poor girl." she said as she stepped on Julian's body. "You should consider it an honor to be killed by me! Women shouldn't be fighting unless they are extremely strong and beautiful like me."

Julian: "No!" Somehow, she found the strength to kick Sephia away and stand up.

Sephia: "Hmph. You just don't know when to give up."

Julian smiled and suddenly was full of confidence.

Julian: "Hmmp. You sayans are all alike. You always underestimate your enemy because you're conceited. That is your weakness."

Sephia: "Pathetic human! No one talks to me that way!"

They charged into each other and hit.

Can it be? The one who fought alongside the earthlings is now standing before her very eyes. And she's certainly not here for tea and cupcakes.

"You're Lady Adel? You work for the Dark Empire?"

"You got that right."

"But...it doesn't make any sense. Why would you work for the empire? You're an earthling, aren't you?"

"Tch. That doesn't mean anything to me. My background doesn't determine who I am."

"I don't understand..." Sephia mumbled, still in shock.

"What I don't understand is...why is the king trying to unite the race? Why is he defying the empire?"

"That's because we know what's best for our race, Adel!" Sephia snapped at her. "But it looks like you switched sides at some point in your life."

"And so have you. You were once a loyalist, now you're a rebel. And I am once a rebel, now I am a loyalist. Kind of ironic, don't you think?" Adel said with a twist of humor. Indeed how ironic their fate is.

Providence and Orbital were standing somewhere, watching a giant crystal starship launch. These super structures are made from the toughest minerals found on Murai. They took the shape of a six-sided star. Its center functions as a laser cannon.

"Alas, so big and beautiful." Orbital commented. "These crystal starships take a lot of resources to build. But in the end it was worth it."

"Certainly." Providence replied. "Thirty years is more than enough to make an army of these. And best of all, nobody knows about it except us."

"Those fools have no idea. They think that Murai would actually surrender to the likes of them. All our planning and preparation will soon be realized. Soon, we will assume our fate that the **Ko-Rashm** has written for us – we will conquer the cosmos."

Sephia: "Why are you here?"

Adel: "It's simple. If we kidnap you, we can control King Neflite. We can convince him to turn on the rebels."

Kyria was listening from the ground level under the plateau. (Why is she telling the enemy our plan? Is she stupid?)

Adel: "King Neflite won't want to lose his precious fiancé, does he?"

"I won't let you do such a thing!"

"Hmph. So you are going to resist? Interesting." Adel powered up with red energy. "I look forward to this match! Show me what you can do!"

Sephia charged and punched, Adel kneed her in the stomach. Wham! She fell against a boulder. As she got up, she coughed. "Ugh..."

"What was that? You call yourself a fighter?"

"That was nothing."

"I hope you can do better than that. Don't disappoint me, princess."

Sephia was ticked off by her comments. She certainly is **not** going to be kidnapped, especially to be used as a bargaining tool. She can't let the rebels suffer

anymore. Not after the vow she made. She powered up and got prepared mentally for combat.

As fate would have it, these two enemies fought on earth thirty years ago, and on this very day, they will fight to the death again. This time, however, they are fighting for different sides. Will Sephia be able to overcome her past with Adel...or will fate have the last laugh?

8: Adel vs. Sephia. The Irony of Fate.

Contents

The sayan princess and the silent killer now face each other in the hard wind. Adel noticed that Sephia was uneasy. "What's the matter? Are you scared?"

"Scared? Of you? Don't kid yourself. I'm just surprised...that's all."

"Surprised? By me switching sides? Hah. Who isn't? I've heard it all."

"So you intend to kidnap me and use me as a tool of war? That isn't going to happen!" Sephia shouted.

"That depends on you, my dear. If you think you can take me, then bring it!"

Sephia charged and punched. Adel was clearly in sight, and she didn't move a muscle. Sephia thought she had it. She drew her fist back and punched. Whoosh. Adel blurred and appeared from behind. Sephia was shocked. "Uhhh..."

Adel blasted her. Bam! She ended up inside a rock. As she came out, she coughed. " *Kuff kuff* "

"Awww I'm sorry. Was I too rough on you? I should go easy on a princess."

"I've had enough of your insults, Julian."

"I said my name is Adel!" She fired a blast, Sephia blocked. Kaboom!

Kyria was standing in the same spot this whole time, listening to the battle. He plans to interfere if Adel screws up. But she probably won't.

The two fighters shot energy beams at each other, blowing things up in the process. Kaboom! Kaboom!

In the air, Adel flew at her with a fist full of energy and hit her in the stomach. Kapow! Sephia felt the wind being knocked out of her. She fell down and grabbed her stomach in pain. "Ugh...guh..."

Adel landed and watched her suffer. It meant nothing to her. She charged forward to kick, Sephia jumped back and got into a defensive stance.

"Pathetic." said Adel. "I can't believe I accepted this mission for you. And I had high hopes for you."

"What the hell are you talking about?"

"I thought you were strong. But I guess sayans don't live up to their reputation." Sephia grunted at her comments.

Malin jumped to the roof, holding a brown bag in her hand. Margarita was waiting for her as she sat on the roof by herself. "I'm back. It's hot." She took out the bun and handed it to her friend.

"What took so long? I'm hungry." replied Margrit.

"Hey, show some gratitude, will ya? Maybe next time you should get it instead of making poor Malin do everything."

"Maybe I should." Margrit said, taking a bite of the bun and making chewing sounds. "I'm faster than you anyway."

"Grrr. Anyways, how is it?"

"It's delicious. At least there's something good about Ethiopia. My dad used to get me these all the time. I loved them." She took another bite.

"A lot has changed in this city...in this continent for that matter. But some things are always the same."

Margrit: "For some people, the past is a happy place. For some, it's something they want to forget and move on. And pretty soon, we are about to relive the past."

"You mean the war?"

"Yeah."

The two continued eating and looking at the sky.

Malin: "Hey Margarita?"

"Yeah?"

"Did you hear about Coitus's speech the other day?"

"I wasn't there, but I heard about it from the locals. They said he was very inspirational. Which is expected of him."

"What's going to happen to us?"

"I don't know." Margrit replied. "Whatever happens, happens."

Meanwhile, the fight between Sephia and Adel were heating up. But Adel still had the advantage. Her cape waved from the wind as they stared at each other. Neither of them has said a word for a whole minute. Sweat dripped down Sephia's forehead as she was getting ready to make her move. She knows her opponent is strong, so she has to do it right. The fate of the entire sayan race depends on her...somewhat.

Kyria: (What is taking so long? There has been silence for a while now. Could Adel have succeeded already?)

"Here I come!" Sephia charged energy into her palms and jumped up. Adel jumped up and they hit. Wham!

They went past each other and landed. Sephia felt a pain in her stomach and groaned. "Ugh!"

Adel: "Ha! I have you." But then she noticed a scratch on her arm. "You were actually able to hurt me."

"Don't underestimate me, you witch."

"I wonder who's the real witch? Who once worked for the loyalists but is now a rebel? Why did you switch sides, Princess Sephia? Has your brain gone rotten?"

"No, your brain is rotten." She powered up and became full of red energy.

The two fighters blurred and hit each other in the air. Wham! Wham! They flew around and shot energy beams. Kabam! Sephia threw beams at her frantically. Adel flew around to avoid them. She lifted up a bunch of rocks from the ground and threw them. Sephia dodged them. It became an aerial obstacle course for her, but her speed and accuracy allowed her to dodge all the rocks.

Whoosh, whoosh. Sephia was tired of dodging and she powered up. The rocks that went to her got blown up. Adel covered her face from the exploding rock bits. Sephia charged forward and punched. Adel blurred and appeared above and elbowed her down. Wham.

Sephia was hurt all over, and she tried to get up, but couldn't get above her knees. Adel crossed her arms. "Hmph. After all that talk, you're still nothing."

The princess panted for breath as she tries to regain her composure. Clearly, she is being overpowered. And it's ironic that this person who stands before her very eyes used to be weaker than her. But it's not the same Julian/Adel as before.

Sephia landed on the roof of a tall building, searching for the Anubis Crystal. Her thoughts were broken when Julian suddenly attacked her and hit her face.

"You should be more careful, Sephia."

"My face! You ruined it again!"

Julian: "That's too bad. Really. I really feel sorry for you."

"YOU'LL PAY!" Sephia shouted, holding her face with one hand.

They charged into each other and exchanged martial arts moves. Kicks and punches. Wham! Thud! Julian was knocked away, and her feet scraped the floor.

Sephia: "Heh. Why would Margarita enlist a weak earthling like you on her team? You can't even help them."

"Who are you calling weak?"

"Listen earth woman, you should just go back to your mommy and daddy. You have no idea what a war is like. I've been killing people since I was a child."

"You're a cold-blooded murderer. And an ugly one, too."

"I told you not to call me that!!" Sephia shouted, and fired a shockwave of energy. Julian crossed her arms over her face. Dooosh! The energy knocked her down. "Ha ha ha ha. What's the matter? Who's face is ruined now?"

Oh yes, Sephia remembers those days very clearly. Julian hasn't crossed her mind until now.

"Why did I switch dies?" Sephia mumbled. "Why bother with the reunification? You don't understand a thing...Adel."

Vegeta searched the jungle for his enemies. What he found was a little girl on the ground, crying her ass off. "Waaah, waaah!" She was no older than five years old. Vegeta thought it was odd that a little girl was in the middle of a jungle. Did something happen to her parents?

Suddenly, dinosaur-like creatures called Arlians jumped out from the trees and attacked. The girl screamed for her life. Vegeta destroyed them in a blast. Kabam!

Vegeta went over to Sephia. "Where are your parents?"

"I don't know." she replied, sobbing.

"Come with me. I have a place for you to stay."

Since that day, Vegeta adopted her as his sister. He trained her and showed her many things – mostly dealing with death. Thus she became increasingly violent and adopted her brother's thirst for blood. Often times, she'd accompany him to attack rebel camps. She'd sit on his shoulder and they'd shoot beams in many directions. They were an unbeatable team.

Some time after the death of Vegeta, Sephia went back to her home and wandered about. For about a whole year, she was lost mentally and physically; she had no place to go or anyone to turn to. By chance, she found a peaceful village and lived there for a while. No one else knew who she was, so she's safe. But one day a rebel recognized her and reported it to Coitus. Coitus sent his men here and captured her.

"I don't want any trouble!" Sephia yelled as she's surrounded by three rogues.

The rebels were angry; they were ready to shed loyalist blood. Sephia jumped to the air and fired beams. They dodged the beams and hit her left and right. Whack! Whack! She was an easy target in the air. Whack! She fell to the ground.

Before Sephia Vegeta knew what happened, she found herself in a prison cell. It was in the confines of the royal palace. She was chained up to the wall. A man grabbed her by the hair and punched her. A woman walked in. "We don't want to kill her just yet. I am responsible for her."

Man: "She's a loyalist and she should die. I lost my family to loyalists."

Woman: "I know that. But I am in charge of her. I'll make sure she doesn't have an easy time."

"I've so many things during that time. I started to wonder if what we did was really right. All that death and suffering that we caused the rebels...and for what? So we can be on the empire's good side? Was that worth it?"

There was now a strong silence.

Sephia: "Was it that bad living on earth? Is betraying your friends really going get you what you want?"

"Hmph." said Adel. "That was an entire lifetime ago. I can't imagine living the way I used to live. The Julian that you once knew is dead. What stands before is Lady Adel, a dark lord of the empire."

Sephia stood up. "Why did you betray your earthling friends? Is the empire that important to you?!"

"Hmph. You won't understand what I went through."

"What the hell do you want from me?" shouted Julian. This Julian is the not the silent killer. No, she was a completely different person with different goals and dreams. She's a work worker and college-student who had a bright career ahead of her time. She's living the "average" life.

The man, her soon-to-be kidnapper, was a mysterious person in a trench coat. "You have a high K-factor for psychic potential, Julian Powers. I want you to come with me...if you do not want to get hurt."

"Like hell I will." She kicked, and he blocked. Wham. He lowered himself and punched her stomach, and it hurt like hell. She ran away, but three ninjas appeared and attacked. Wham! She was knocked unconscious.

While the trench coat man was setting the bomb, the ninjas attacked other students and kidnapped them as well. By the time the bomb went off, they were long gone.

In the dark confines of the desert lab, the subjects were being experimented in the most horrible way. A man was sitting in a chair with a metallic hat, connected to wires. The soldiers were checking his brain waves on the machine. The commander pressed a lever and the machine sent electric shocks to the man's body parts. The victim screamed like hell.

All the other captures were watching in horror as they tormented the screaming man. Some of them did not bear to watch. Any one of them could be the next. Amongst them was Julian and Jurai, and they felt the same fears that everyone else felt.

By the time they were done with him, the troops picked the next random person. It happened to be Julian, and she screamed as they dragged her to the chair. They forced her to sit down and put the straps on her arms and legs.

The doctor rubbed his hands together and smiled. "It is time to begin." he said in a creepy voice. "We will now test your psychic potential."

"No! No, don't do it! Please!" Before she knew it, Julian was being electrified and she screamed like the man before her. "Ahhhhh!!!"

Gradually, Julian's power became greater and greater and she practiced in secret. Not a single one of the experimenters knew about her true strength until one fateful day, when she just snapped. She has had it with this hellhole and in a mighty rage, blew up the lab. The lab explosion was as mysterious as the school explosion. No one knew what caused it.

As Julian wandered in the hot, dry desert, she started to think about what she is going to do with the rest of her life. These bastards have already taken much away from her. Now that she has regained her freedom, what will she do?

Become a cold blooded killer...known as the Phantom. No more being a nice lady. No more green skirt and blouse and regular "earth" clothes. Tight red pants, red shirt, a cape, and a mask...this is her new look.

Adel: "At that point I thought I had it all...until one day I ran into him..."

Tyson fired a golden beam, knocking Adel into the deep abyss. She screamed as she met her demise. In that terrible fall, she broke her legs. But the empire gave her a chance. Orbital, namely.

"I will guarantee that you can walk again." said the headmaster. "In return, you will work for us. Deal?"

"Deal." Adel replied hastily.

"How can I ever go back to earth after what has happened? It was my own people who did this to me. And for what? Because they wanted to use psychics so they can gain political power? Does that justify the means they used?" Adel shouted. "I'll never ever trust the earth or its people again. The empire gave me a second chance...through them I will achieve my goals."

"I'm sorry to hear such a tragic tale. But that reason alone does not justify destroying the earth."

"Who's going to stop me? You?"

"I am not going to let you ruin our reunification. There will be no more bloodshed amongst our own people. Never again!" Sephia shouted and powered up to the extreme. Electric sparks produced from her body and her eyes glowed red. "

"So you're finally fighting for real? It's about time!" Adel said, rather excited. She removed her cape, revealing her complete metallic armor set. "Let's go!" She charged up, summoning Zenulox's power in the process.

The two fighters are done talking, and they're ready for some action. They jumped to the air and hit like hell. Wham! Wham!

They went past each other. Whack! They hit in an instant and no one knows what happened. Adel's leg started to electrify and it limped a little. (Ugh. She had to hit my leg.) They did the stare. (Did she figure out my weakness?)

Sephia: (When I hit her leg I felt something hard. Is it artificial?)

After some more stalling, Sephia charged forward. She punched, Adel blocked. Sephia followed up with a sweeping kick to Adel's legs, and she fell. Adel landed on her hands and bounced back up, avoiding Sephia's second kick.

Adel: (She did figure it out. I can't fool around anymore.)

Sephia fired a beam at the ground, Adel flew up. Sephia followed suit, Adel used a psychic barrier, and Sephia felt like an invisible wall hit her. Wham! She was ditzzy for a second or two, but then snapped out of it.

They're both floating in the air. "I don't care if you are stronger today than back then," Sephia remarked, "You are a worse person than before. You betrayed everything that you once stood for!"

"Look who's talking, princess!"

Sephia gathered energy for a big red ball and fired it. Adel used psychic barrier and the red ball bounced back at her and fried her. "Aaaaaah!"

Adel grabbed Sephia by the neck. "Pathetic little worm." She punched her a couple of times in the stomach and let her neck go. Sephia fell to the ground. It's over.

"Kyria!"

"Yes?" said he, coming out from hiding.

Sephia was powerless and drained. She could only move her fingers. "Ugh...this can't be..."

Adel: "Contact Headmaster Orbital. Tell him the mission is a success."

Kyria: "Right away, Lady Adel."

9: Neflite's Predicament.

Contents

Last time, it was a fateful encounter with Sephia and her former enemy Adel. Although she was valiant, Sephia fell into the hands of the enemy and is now a captive.

"Very good work." Orbital complimented.

Adel and Kyria were kneeling and they stood up. "Thank you, Lord Orbital."

"With the sayan princess in our possession, King Neflite will be putty in our hands. There is going to be another civil war on Arlia. This time, it will be even bigger. All the rebels will die! Every single one of them."

Kyria: "Heh. They deserve it for going against us. I am glad to have switched sides earlier on."

Orbital: "But of course. The smart ones know to ally with the winning side."

Providence came into the room. "Lord Orbital, give me one more chance! Let me lead the Muraian army to victory!"

"I have already told you." said the headmaster, "You are not yet ready. You did not exactly succeed in your last mission."

"I just needed more time!"

"If you cannot even defeat Jordon Jamell, then you need some more training."

"Damn it, I have waited my whole life for this! How many more years do I have to wait?"

Orbital: "A true leader must have patience, Providence."

Adel: "Hold on. Providence may not be able to lead the army yet. But he is allowed in the battlefields, correct?"

"That is correct, but that might be too risky."

"Nothing's too risky for me!" said the cocky heir. "If I can prove myself by killing earthlings, then will you consider giving me the throne?"

"Fine then. We will see how you do."

Providence smiled. "I can't wait. I won't let you down."

Adel: "I will be in charge of him. Under my supervision, Providence will be able to kill the man named Tyson Spade."

Meanwhile, Neflite was worried that Sephia hasn't come home yet. She usually returns at night, and she never disappears without telling him first. So her sudden disappearance is making him worried. "Where could she be?" he muttered out loud.

"Sire," said Jarus, bowing down. "Someone is here to see you. He says he wants to speak to you personally."

"Who is it?"

To his surprise, it was Kyria. "Good evening, your highness." said he in a graceful tone. But Neflite isn't fooled by his politeness, he knows Kyria isn't here without a reason.

They continue their talk in an isolated hallway of the palace. "Let's get straight to the point, Kyria, what do you want?"

"Time efficient as usual, my dear king. I respect that. Very well. I will not waste any time. The reason I am here is to simply deliver a message."

"Which is?"

"We have Princess Sephia captured in our base." said Kyria with a smile. "If you wish to see her alive, then you should cooperate with us, the empire."

"What?!" Neflite said and grabbed Kyria by the collar. They were now in each other's face. "You let her go this instant. I swear, if I find a hair missing on her-"

"And you'll do what? If you kill me now, I promise you will never see her lovely smile again. The Council is waiting for my return. If I do not, then they will know what action to take on our hostage."

Neflite was angry and he wanted to hit this person badly, but he is clearly powerless in a situation like this. He lets Kyria go.

"Very good. I see you understand your situation, my dear king."

"Why are you doing this? You were once a rebel, aren't you? Why did you betray your people?"

"Ha ha ha ha! You're one to talk about betrayal."

Neflite grunted at his comment.

Kyria: "Was it not your father who executed order 66? Was it not him who ordered the death of all rebels? And was it not you who swore revenge on us? Was it not you who wanted a purification? So I would not talk about betrayal if I were you. You may be the king of Arlia, but in the galaxy, Murai is supreme."

"What do you want with Sephia?"

"Oh, it is not her, you see. It is what we want **you** to do. If you obey our every command, we can guarantee her safety. We want you to start a purification of the sayans. Kill every single living being who is not loyal to the empire."

Neflite was shocked and blank-faced to hear this. So is this what they want to do? Take the only woman in the world he loves and use her to make him betray his people? In an instant, his whole world fell apart. He made a promise to Terry Spade to reunite his people, and by God, he did everything he possibly can to do so. But now...it's kill the rebels...or lose Sephia forever.

"How can you expect me to follow such a ridiculous demand?" Neflite shouted.

"Why, don't you love your fiancé, my king? Or do you think your people are worth more than her?"

"Uhh...that doesn't matter. She is just one life. You're asking me to trade one life for millions!"

"That is up to you. You do not have to decide right away. A messenger will come back within twenty four hours to confirm your decision. Until then, farewell." Kyria left the room, leaving Neflite in the darkness.

The darkness of the room may reflect the state of Neflite's mind right now. Kyria's message of doom is nothing short of earth-shattering. How can he choose between Sephia and his people? If he disobeys the empire, Sephia dies. If he chooses Sephia to live, then all rebels will suffer. Even if Sephia is alive, would she want to see her efforts of reunification go to waste? Neflite secretly cursed himself.

(Father... What should I do?)

Longinus entered the room. "Sire? Are you alright?"

"Oh Longinus? What brings you here?"

"I was worried about you, sire. I heard from the other guards that you did not eat anything during dinner. Are you feeling sick?"

"No, I am alright. Thank you for your concern."

"Alright then. I will be on my way to bed." Longinus began to leave.

"Wait."

Longinus turned around. "Yes?"

"Longinus, you have been a faithful servant of mine through good and bad times. You have supported me in all my efforts to reunite our race. But what if one day...I suddenly change my mind?"

"Change your mind? I don't understand, sir."

"What if I make the wrong decision? What if I end up being like my father?"

"I've served the Neflite family my entire life. I followed your father's path during the Great War. But you are different from your father, sire. You are not one who is controlled by someone else. I trust in your decisions. Whatever you do it is certainly for the best of the majority." And with that said, he left the room.

Longinus's words only made Neflite feel guiltier. He continued to sit in darkness and think about his decision. It's probably the hardest decision he has to make in his life.

At some point during the night, the thought of making a decision was so painful that Neflite wished he was dead. It'd be easier that way. It'd be selfish and cowardly, but easier. But suicide would solve nothing. It will not bring Sephia back. Why did the empire put him in such a position? What can he do now? Can he bring Sephia back? That might put her in danger. Maybe someone else can do it...some experts...experts like...the Galactic Police.

"Longinus? Call Headmaster Jerrell."

"Yes sire."

Angela came into Jerrell's room in a rush. "You okay, Angela?" he asked.

She was panting for breath. "Jerrell, King Neflite wants to see you."

"Huh? King Neflite?" He's curious now.

"He says it's an urgent matter. He requests to meet you personally."

"Very well then. I'm going to Arlia immediately. You come with me."

"Alright. I'll make the preparations."

Hours later, Jerrell and Angela were on Arlia. This is supposedly Jerrell's home. But he felt no attachment to it. It's so strange. Everything here looks so different than when he was a kid.

Angela: (So this is Jerrell's home? The homeland of sayans?)

Longinus came to pick them up. He introduces himself in his usual polite manner. Without further ado, he takes them to the Imperial Palace in Ethiopia.

Neflite and a few of his men were already in the conference room discussing the situation. When Jerrell and Angela entered, it was like they were the light. Neflite and Jerrell saw each other and stared for a while. They met once when they were kids. And that was over thirty years ago. And on this very day, they meet again. They met as a spoiled prince and a runaway rebel. Today, its king of the planet meets headmaster of the GP Forces.

"Headmaster Jerrell Florencia...it's an honor to have you here." said the king.

"Same here, your highness." Jerrell and Angela sat down. "Let me introduce. This is Angela Lianz, one of my High Commanders."

Angela: "Pleased to meet you...sire."

Neflite: "You have been doing a good job keeping order in this galaxy. Keep up the good work."

Jerrell: "Thanks. It's been a long time, hasn't it?"

"Over three decades."

Angela looked at Neflite, then at Jerrell. (They know each other?)

Jerrell: "It's so strange talking to you like this. At one point we were enemies, but now we are on the same side. I bid you well on your efforts to reunification."

"Thank you."

"I heard about what happened with Ms. Sephia. Please receive my condolences."

"That is the reason why I called you here. The empire kidnapped her while she was away from my supervision. They are using her to get me to attack the rebels."

Longinus was shocked. It's the first time he's heard of this.

Jerrell and Angela took a quick glance at each other. "Are you serious?" asked the headmaster.

"I am afraid so. That is why I am asking for your help. I do not know who else to turn to."

"Don't worry. We'll bring her back."

"I am counting on you, Jerrell. Please bring her back safely." said Neflite.

"We will do our best. You have our word, King Neflite."

Sephia was being held captive in some warehouse. She was unconscious for a while but now she finally wakes up. "Uhhh...where am I?" She found herself tied up to the wall. "What is this?"

Kyria: "Looky here. Sleeping beauty just woke up."

"Why am I here?"

"You already know why. It is all thanks to you that Neflite will obey us. It is because he cares about you."

"Tch. You might as well give up. Neflite is not someone who will give up his principles. My life alone will not make him change his mind."

"Oh? You think so?" said Kyria. "So you are saying you are willing to die for the sake of your race?"

"If necessary, yes."

"Tch. What do you hope to accomplish by doing such a thing?" Kyria asked. "Do you think this will atone for you sins you've committed in the past?"

"Look who's talking? Why should I be criticized by someone who betrayed the rebels? Kyria...a member of the now defunct Mascus Colony. You betrayed Jerrell and everyone of your peers. You're a disgrace."

"Silence! You're the hostage, remember that!"

"Yeah whatever."

"Nonetheless, Neflite will give in to our demands. Because he cares about his oh so lovely sweetheart. The fall of the sayan race is near."

Sephia was worried. This guy is crazy, and so are the people he's working for. Will the sayan race really be doomed?

Longinus just finished negotiations with Coitus. They shake hands on it. "Thank you for coming here, Mr. Longinus."

"No, it is the will of my king. There is no need to thank me."

"You've been an excellent servant to him. I'm glad you are on our side." Coitus said.

"Same here." With that said, he left the building.

Once he was at the exit, him and Malin saw each other. They were both surprised and hesitant to talk to each other. There was a moment of silence as they just stared at each other. Longinus wanted to just walk past her and pretend to not see her, but doing so would be rude. Finally, he speaks up to break the awkward silence. "Long time no see."

"Yeah." she replied in the same uncaring tone as him. "Long time."

"How have you been?"

"I am doing just fine."

"That's good to hear." he replied. "I uhh...just saw Commander Coitus. He's a good leader. You're lucky."

"I suppose. You have a good leader too."

"Yeah."

Now they don't know what to say.

"Well, goodbye. It was nice seeing you again." Longinus flew away.

Malin watched him leave. She had something she really wanted to say, but per pride kept her from saying it. The past will probably remain as it is ... the past.

10: Fire And Ice.

Contents

Adel was making preparations for yet another trip to earth. Once her home, now it's a place she deeply hates. Oh how much she wanted to kill those damn earthlings, especially those people who ruined her life. For that, everyone will pay. Walking down an arbitrary hallway, she saw Gusher walking towards her. With hands in his pockets, he did not pay attention to anything. In fact, no one can really tell what's on his mind...nor do they want to know.

"Well, if it isn't Gusher...the silent killer." said Adel. "Where are you off to?"

No reply.

"Tch. You think you're so tough? Why don't you cut the act and show you true self?"

Gusher just faced her with his closed eyes. Not knowing what he's thinking makes her worried - and worry leads to fear - and fear leads to anger. "You have a pleasant energy..."

"What? Don't fuck around with me." Adel said, ticked off. "Why does everyone here respect you? You didn't do a damn thing for the Empire! Why does Orbital put someone like you on his favorites list?"

"Is it jealousy that I sense?"

"Why you..." Adel charged energy into her hands.

"Interesting." Gusher also charged energy.

The two faced each other and were about to strike at any moment, that is, until Orbital came in. "Stop! What are you two doing?"

Adel: "Tch. This guy is pissing me off."

Orbital: "Enough! We will not have our members fighting each other. Save your energy for the enemy. Otherwise you will have to be punished. Both of you."

Adel and Gusher powered down. Gusher walked into the darkness. Adel was mad that she did not get to hit him, but she had no idea what she was getting into.

Orbital: "I don't want anymore of this non-sense, do you understand, Dark Lord?"

"Yes, headmaster. Accept my apologies." She walked away.

Subzero was meditating in his little cave as usual. He was thinking about Tyson's unusual power that he fought Prince Diamond with.

Tyson was still standing. Surrounded by flames of fury and hate. His whole body is an inferno. He screams and powers up - and it was an energy burst unlike any other. A big beam of energy reached up to the sky and made the clouds dispersed.

"AAAAAAAAAAAAHHH!"

This made Diamond worried. Tyson charged forward with super speed and hit Diamond in the face. It was one of the strongest punches he's ever felt before. Tyson's

fiery fist gave him an extra burning sensation on his cheek. The mighty prince is now on the ground, dirty and roughed up.

At the time, Subzero was only half-conscious, but his senses were keen enough to detect Tyson's power. It was incredible. Incredible enough for him to want a second duel.

Nebula was walking by himself peacefully until he felt a strong gust of wind. He sensed Subzero's presence, and fair enough, Subzero was standing in front of him.

"Subzero?"

"Nebula Spade, long time no see."

"It sure is. What can I do ya for?"

"I have a message for Tyson Spade. Tell him to meet me...for a duel."

"A duel?" Nebula repeated. "Sorry, but right now, we have a lot of things to worry about, such as the upcoming war."

"Oh, he will accept."

"How do you know?"

"He'll accept." Subzero repeated and walked away.

"Fine, whatever."

"Another duel?" said Tyson.

"Yeah." said Neb. "He told me to give you this message. Are you going to go through with it?"

"A Spade never turns down a challenge."

"Well, fine."

"With everything going on, this would be a nice distraction. I need to see where my skills are at."

"I understand. Good luck, bro."

"Thanks."

Subzero, standing on top of a tree, watched the sky. Guess what he's thinking about? None other than his upcoming duel with Tyson. (Hmmp. This time, I'll defeat you for sure.)

Adel, Jurai, and Providence come to earth. "Remember the plan," said Adel. "Providence will take on Tyson Spade."

"As long as he does not have the Phoenix, I will beat him easily."

Adel: "That can be arranged. All you need to do is distract him and I will do the rest."

Subzero: "Finally, it is just you and me. There are no more interferences."

"Yeah. Just you and me." Tyson took off his coat, tossed it away, then powered up. Subzero also powered up. Snow balls floated as the warriors gathered energy. "You know, you're going to pay for what you did."

They charged and attacked. Wham!

Subzero charged and punched, and Tyson blocked, then kicked. They hit violently and their energy was so strong that the snow around them was blown away. A small blizzard just started and snowflakes fell on their hair.

Snowballs flew all over the place. When things went quiet again, Subzero recovered angrily. "THAT'S IT! I HAVE HAD IT!" He powered up like never before. A blue sphere formed around his body. The mountain roof and walls started to fall apart.

Winds blew violently. The ground surrounding him fell apart into the water. Now, Subzero was standing on a column of ice, surrounded by water.

Tyson covered his eyes from the wind and snow. It was total chaos. "What power..." He tried not to get pushed back by the wind, it was too strong.

"AAAAAAAAAAAAH! AAAAAAAAAAH!" Subzero raised his arms in the air, forming an energy ball. It grew in size and became enormous. "Time to die, Tyson Spade! Ahahahahahahaha!"

Tyson could only think of one thing to do. He gathered energy for the Energy Bomb and the ground around him cracked. Winds blew everywhere.

"Yah!!!" Subzero threw the Death Sphere at his enemy.

"Aah!" Tyson threw the Energy Bomb.

The two forces crashed at the tip, then struggled. The warriors put all their energy and strength into this attack. Veins popped up on their foreheads and their muscles were beginning to tire out, but they didn't stop.

BOOM! The Energy Bomb hit Subzero and the entire mountain exploded. It could have been seen in space, it was a small sparkle of red light.

That was Tyson's flashback of his last fight with Subzero. He met him on Trachian, the Ice Planet, while on his way to planet C-16. Later on they even teamed up to defeat the tyrant Prince Mulder. To Tyson's surprise, Subzero comes back years later to challenge him to a duel. But he had other intentions; he came to find Prince Diamond, the man responsible for the death of his family. But all those matters were resolved. Which brings them here today, facing each other a third time.

Tyson and Subzero walked towards each other to a talking distance.

The audience stood on a cliff. They were Nebula, Zelfire, Junior, Faith, and Amanda. They're curious and concerned about the hero.

"Ah, you came at last." Subzero finally spoke up. "I knew you would come."

"You're so sure, aren't you?"

"Of course. We have a lot in common, you and I. However, only one of us can be the strongest."

Tyke smirked to that remark. "That's true. Only one can be the strongest. There is no room for second place."

"Exactly." Subzero powered up. "Don't hold back."

"You too!" Tyson turned super sayan, and two seconds later, turned into the Phoenix. He's surrounded by flames.

(Finally, I get to see the power of the Phoenix first hand.) Subzero charged forward and punched, Tyson blurred. He appeared in the sky. Subzero fired the Ice Beam, Tyson dodged, and Subzero fired subsequent beams. Bam, bam. Tyson dodged them in the air.

Bam! Tyson countered with a golden beam. Kabom! Subzero flew up and shot some more beams. The two flew in circles and fired non stop. Kabam-bam-bam.

All the watchers see were bright, flashy circles.

Neb: "Tyson has this match for sure."

"Not necessarily." said the cautious Zelfire. "Subzero is well aware of Tyson's abilities. He would not issue a challenge without being prepared."

Amanda: "They are both excellent warriors. I don't know if they're friends or enemies."

Neb: "I'd say somewhere in between."

Bam! Both warriors grabbed each other and struggled in the air. It's a contest of sheer strength as they grappled each other's hands, and electric currents flared. They grunted and screamed like hell, exerting a lot of energy. Tyson's hands started to turn

to ice and he gasped. He had to let go, and Subzero punched him in the face. Kapow! He fell down somewhere. Aeeeeer.

Now Subzero had to find his opponent. Suddenly, a fireball flew at him, and it missed. Two more came. Froom. Subzero dodged. Tyson, standing somewhere, shot fireballs to the air, using his sight and sixth sense.

Subzero flew down to the ground level. While Tyson was still looking up, an ice beam came at him and he dodged. Whoosh! A piece of his shirt was frozen. Lucky him.

The two warriors charged into each other and began a fist fight. Pow! Wham! Kapow! They kept on hitting and ascended as they did. Tyson kicked him away, and Subzero flew back at him. They flew at high speed and got ready for the impact. Bam! The red and blue energy streams hit. They were two big spheres crashing against one another.

The audience felt that good. "Wow..." said Junior. "I'm glad I didn't miss this!"

Neb: "Amazing, they're almost evenly matched."

Zell: "These two have been waiting for a rematch all this time. It's like they represent the forces of fire and ice. Tyson's fighting with the fire and burning passion in his heart, against Subzero's calm and calculated nature."

Faith: "Like fire and ice..."

Smmmasssh! Tyson and Subzero hit on the elbows and pushed against each other. They grunted in pain and veins popped up on their muscles. Whoosh! They flew in the air and continued hit each other like hell. It is just as Zelfire says, Tyson uses the fiery power of the Phoenix, while Subzero counters with the polar opposite of cold death. Both warriors fired their strongest beams and they collided. Kabam!

But it's not over yet, not by a long shot if they can help it. Both fighters panted for breath. This battle has been exhausting from the beginning. Although never verbally declared, Tyson and Subzero respected each other as warriors and as men. This duel was one they were both looking forward to, especially Subzero, after seeing Tyson's new power.

Suddenly, Adel, Jurai, and Providence show up. The heroes sensed their presence and turned around.

Subzero and Tyson sensed it and stopped fighting. "It looks like we will have to cancel our duel."

Sub: "Agreed."

Adel: "Let's get it started, shall we?" She opened her palm and fired.

Amanda stepped in front of them and used the psi shield to block the attack. Wham.

Adel: "Not bad. But can you take another direct hit?" She fired again.

Faith grabbed Amanda and jumped out of the way. Junior, Nebula, and Zelfire jumped out of the way.

Providence and Jurai blurred, then Adel. Flash.

They flew around and shot beams. Things were chaotic, but to add to it, Muraian soldiers showed up. Subzero and Tyson fought their way through.

Tyson hit a guy in the air and threw him on the ground. The soldiers opened their palms and fired beams. Tyson dodged while flying up. Suddenly, another beam came at him, and this one is more dangerous than others. He blocked it, and he got pushed into the ground. Smash.

Providence smiled while crossing his arms. It's time to take his prey.

The others were having a hell of a time with the villains. Junior fought the Muraians, jumping on them and hitting them. Whack!

Jurai's eyes widened as he stared at his enemies. He spread out his arms and the ground was shaking. A big piece of rock hurled towards Nebula, who fired at it. Bam. The rock exploded into little pieces.

Zell: "We've got a tough one on our hands."

Neb fired a beam, Jurai jumped away.

Adel: "Think you can handle it from here?"

Jurai: "Of course. Leave it to me."

Neb gathered energy and fired a beam, Jurai summoned a wall of rock and blocked the attack. Smash! He put his palm on the wall, and out came a flying boulder, it hit Neb and knocked him against something. Wham.

Faith slashed a soldier. Another came at her and she slashed him in the stomach. She looked at the others, who were occupied with soldiers as well.

Tyson was a little dazed from that last hit. He found himself deep in the forest. He sensed someone dangerous nearby. The figure was walking towards him in a threatening manner.

"You are...Dark Providence?"

"And you are Tyson Spade. My job is to kill you." said Providence.

"Kill me? I don't think so."

"You know who I am, don't you. You know what I am capable of." He charged dark energy into his hand just to prove a point. "There's quite a high bounty on your head, Spade. Once I have your head, I will be the strongest fighter alive! I can finally take my father's place on the throne."

"Your father?" Tyson replied blankly.

"He was the most feared warrior of all the cosmos! All living creatures cower at even the mention of his name. He was the one and only Dark Spectre!"

"Dark Spectre?" The wind blew hard. "Your father was Dark Spectre?"

"Yes! And soon I will take his place as the most feared being in the universe. Every one who breathes will know my name and will respect me."

"Heh, that doesn't sound too good to me."

"It shows what you know, sayan scum."

Tyson frowned. He turned super sayan while Providence powered up with dark energy. Tyson charged forward and punched and hit Providence's bubble-like shield. Providence punched him in the stomach and he jumped back. "Ugh...this guy is serious."

Providence fired a dark energy ball, Tyson jumped away. Kabam!

Now the hero has seen some of this guy's powers. It's time to get serious. He turns into the Phoenix. Froom! He fires the Eternal Flames, Providence dodged it, but it burned parts of his shoulder. And he was not happy to get burned. "Why you..."

Providence gathered energy into his palm. "Atomic Star!!" He threw the black ball and Tyson dodged it. It blew up a big chunk of land. Many trees were destroyed from that move.

Tyson was glad to have avoided a deadly attack. Suddenly, a powerful force hit him on the back. It came to him as a complete surprise – the pain was devastating. In fact, the Enchron Crystal came out of his chest. "Aaaaagh!" He fell down, along with the crystal. He looked up and reached for the crystal, but it flew to Adel's hand.

"The Legendary Enchron Crystal...the source of the Phoenix's power...is now mine." Adel announced. "All mine!"

"No..." the hero moaned weakly. "It doesn't belong to you!"

"Finders keepers. Ha ha ha ha ha!" She disappeared.

Reality hits our hero hard. He just lost the Enchron Crystal, the thing that made him all powerful. It was stolen from him, and he's shocked and upset.

Providence: "How unfortunate, Spade. Now without the Phoenix, you are helpless."

Tyson pounded his fist on the ground. He was frustrated with himself for letting his guard down. How could this have happened? Providence and Adel planned this all along. And now he's screwed. "No...this can't be."

Now can he fight the tyrant of the Empire without the aid of the Phoenix?

11: Providence Strikes! Fight in the Forest.

Contents

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Providence: "How unfortunate, Spade. Now without the Phoenix, you are helpless."

"This can't be happening." Tyson gradually got back on his feet while regaining his composure.

Providence had the same attitude the whole time. "Shall we continue?"

"I'm going to get it back no matter what. And you're in the way."

"Is that so?" replied the tyrant, raising an eyebrow. He fired a shockwave, Tyson jumped out of the way.

Providence continued firing balls and destroying things, while Tyson was running and hiding behind trees. Kabam! Kabam! "Come out!" he yelled.

Adel was walking somewhere. She took a good look at the Enchron Crystal she just stole. It was very shiny and eye catching. "The secret to the power of the Phoenix is finally in my possession." She put it in her pocket. Just then, she sensed someone up ahead. But it's just a kid.

Junior: "Hey you, you're one of them, aren't you?"

Adel: "You're just a kid, what can you do?"

"I'm not just a kid."

Amanda showed up. Adel recognized her. (It's the Dark Child?)

Then Faith showed up, and she got in front of the kids. "You two stay back, let me handle this!"

(This is Tyson's wife? This should be good.)

Faith summoned a Soul Sword and charged. Slash! Adel jumped away from its swing. Faith turned around and continued slashing. A piece of her uniform was cut.

"Not bad." Adel commented. "Unfortunately, you are way out of your league to compete with me."

Faith ignored the comment and charged forward. Adel threw a rock, Faith chopped it in half. Crack. Adel blurred and appeared from behind, and blasted her against a tree.

"No!" Junior turned super sayan and charged forward to make a punch.

Adel jumped out of the way. (What? A kid so young can activate the second stage? Is he Tyson's son?)

Junior did a flying kick forward, Adel stepped to the side and he went past her. Adel kicked him. Whack! He was hurt, but he landed on his hands and bounced back on his feet.

"So you're one of the enemy." said Amanda.

Junior got up and charged. Adel blasted him against a tree.

"Junior!" Amanda shouted. She lifted a rock and threw it at her opponent.

Adel blasted it into little pieces.

"You're a psychic too, aren't you?" said Amanda.

"Indeed, you can tell. We are much alike, you and I, Dark Child."

"What did you call me?"

Kabam! Tyson continued running away from the explosions. "Stop running and fight, sayan!" shouted the angry tyrant.

Suddenly, Tyson appeared at his altitude. "If it's a fight you want, you got it."

Providence smiled. "Without the power of the Phoenix, you are powerless."

"That's what you think!"

Tyson and Providence charged into each other. Bam! They exchanged fists and pain and bruises. Pow! Kapow!

Providence grabbed him by the neck and pushed him against a tree. Wham. Now in a stranglehold, Tyson grabbed Providence's hand to push it off his neck.

"Now die!"

Tyson grabbed his hand off and punched his stomach. Thud! Providence was pushed and scraped the ground. "Ugh."

Tyson jumped and did a jumping kick, Providence jumped and kicked him in the stomach first. Wham! The hero fell down.

Providence crossed his arms. "Just as I thought. You are nothing without the Phoenix."

The hero got up and panted for breath. "Tch. I'll defeat you and get the Enchron Crystal back."

"Hmph."

Tyson powered up and screamed. The two of them took it to the air. Tyson fired the Super Sayan Beam, and Providence fired the Atomic Star. Froom! Tyson tried to fly away, but the Atomic Star hit him and electrified him. The dark energy was too much to handle for the hero and he fell to the ground and turned back to normal state.

"Ughh...ahh." Spade was scratched and bruised all over. He got up and stood limply. His vision was getting blurry and his arms were tired as hell. "That Atomic Star...it destroyed my super sayan form. He's without a doubt the heir to the Dark Empire. Dark Spectre's son..."

Providence landed on the ground. "Had enough yet?"

"Not quite." Tyke replied, wiping blood from his mouth.

"I'll make you a deal." the tyrant said cockily. "You get on your knees and beg for mercy and maybe I'll let you live! Ha ha ah ha!"

"Sorry, no deal!" Tyke flew up and fired a ball at him. Bam!

It had no effect on Providence, but Tyke knew this, he needed a few seconds to fly away.

Providence chased him and shot energy balls like he's shooting an injured bird. Bam, bam. Tyson dodged in the air, but one of them hit his back and he fell into the lake. Splash.

Providence landed near the edge and waited awhile. Could his enemy have drowned to the death? Suddenly, a hand came out from the water and pulled him down. Splash. Now submerged, Tyson punched and kicked him. Kapow. Their movements were slower than usual, as in all underwater battles. Providence blocked by crossing his arms over his chest, and counter punched Tyson in the face. Pow.

The hero screamed with bubbles coming out of his mouth. Prov fired a blast and hit him, and flew up. Kaboom! When the lake calmed down, Prov waited again to see if his enemy will come up. A minute passed by, and nothing. Tyson's ki is decreasing.

Suddenly, a powerful force hit him on the back. It came to him as a complete surprise – the pain was devastating. In fact, the Enchiron Crystal came out of his chest. "Aaaaagh!" He fell down, along with the crystal. He looked up and reached for the crystal, but it flew to Adel's hand.

"The Legendary Enchiron Crystal...the source of the Phoenix's power...is now mine." Adel announced. "All mine!"

"No..." the hero moaned weakly. "It doesn't belong to you!"

"Finders keepers. Ha ha ha ha ha!" She disappeared.

"I have chosen you to be my master. From now on, you can utilize my powers when you need me." said the spirit of the Enchiron Crystal, and it went into Tyson's chest. At first, it was an uncomfortable feeling, in fact, it was overwhelming. Tyson screamed as he felt his insides falling apart. Flash! Everything turned back to normal.

The hero woke up. (No, I can't lose here. Everyone is counting on me.) Indeed, he had a lot to live for, and he certainly won't die here. He'll make it without the Phoenix somehow...after all, what did he do before he found the Phoenix?

Splash! Providence was surprised as Tyson flew up to his altitude. "This is not over! Let's start round two!" He turned super sayan.

Nebula dodged a bunch of flying rocks. Smash! They hit the ground. Smash. Jurai took out some daggers and threw them. Whoosh. Neb knocks them away with his sword. Quang! Jurai charges forward and jabs him in the stomach. Thud. Neb coughed saliva and got thrown backwards.

"Ugh!" He got up. "Empire scum..."

Jurai's eyes narrowed. "Heh, time to finish the job." He leaped up. Suddenly, an ice beam hit him and half his body was frozen. "What?!" He flew away further and powered up to crack the ice.

Subzero aimed carefully and fired the Ice Beam, Jurai dodged. Both of them stared at each other, sensing a worthy opponent. They're both cold blooded warriors who do not care about other people. They know they have to be extra careful.

Jurai threw two daggers, Subzero dodged. The daggers went past him, and Jurai used his psychic abilities to make the daggers turn around and fly at his back. Subzero turned around and blasted them with ice. Bam!

The fight between Amanda and Adel was at hand. "Are you really going to fight me, Dark Child?"

"Don't call me that. That is not my name." replied the kid.

"Hmph."

Both of them lifted rocks and smashed them into each other. [Split screen – 2]
[Amanda, Adel].

“Just who are you anyway?”

“I am Adel, a Dark Lord of the Empire. You’re wondering how I know you? Its simple, really. You once worked for the terrorist group known as the Great Seven.”

[Close up – Amanda.] “What?!”

“I was the one who organized the whole thing, you see. Technically, I was the leader of the Great Seven. I ran their operations in secret. The true owner of the Great Seven is none other than the Dark Empire!”

“The Dark Empire?”

“Precisely! You belong to us, Amanda Foster. You should join us.”

“In your dreams!”

Amanda fired a purple beam, Adel blocked it. Bam! The Phantom fired a ground shockwave, Amanda jumped away from it, but its force hit her. Bam! “Aaaaaah!”

Adel opened her palm and faced the tree to the right. She used psychic force and lift to the tree. A heavy object as this requires more concentration, but this is no problem for her. The tree’s roots were pulled apart by this force and she was able to lift it up. Then she lifted up another tree and threw them. Whoosh.

It was hard for Amanda to dodge this one. One tree was on the bottom, the other on top, hurling at her at the same speed. She jumped up to avoid the bottom one, but the top one hit her and slammed her against another tree. “Ugh!”

The airborne tree fell, and Amanda landed on top of it. She was semi-conscious. Adel walked over to her. “You shouldn’t have been so stubborn. Your psychic potential is second to none. I am going to make you a great warrior.” Adel used Lift and lifted Amanda’s frail body up.

Kabam! Providence was blasted into the ground. He’s out of energy, so he escaped. Now that the fight’s over, Tyson ran to the other side of the forest. He finds Junior and Faith injured. First, he goes to his son. “Junior, are you okay?” No response. The kid was out cold. Then he goes to his wife. “Faith?”

She opened her eyes. “T-Tyson...”

“Who did this? Was it Adel?”

“Y-Yes. She took Amanda with her.”

Tyson was shocked. Not only did this bitch take the Enchron Crystal, but Amanda too? What does she want with Amanda?

Amanda was held captive on a remote planet. She was tied to the wall with metal bracelets.

Providence: “What do you want with that child?”

Adel: “She will be useful to us. She is a psychic.”

“Like yourself?”

“Precisely.”

“That is why you sympathize with her?”

“I do not sympathize.” Adel replied. “I already have the Enchron Crystal, and my mission is complete. Everything else I do is none of your business, your highness.”

“Fair enough. This child had better not cause any trouble.”

“I will be responsible for her.”

Suddenly, Jurai showed up.

Adel: “It’s about time. Obviously you were able to escape.”

Jurai: “The earthlings are stronger than I imaged. That ice warrior is a handful.”

"Ice warrior? You mean Subzero? Don't worry about him. Jurai, Orbital has requested that you go back to headquarters."

Jurai: "But I am needed here."

Adel: "Providence and I alone are enough to watch this base. You may go back to headquarters and make your report."

"Very well then. Just don't mess up." Jurai said with those creepy eyes. And he blurred.

Adel never liked Jurai from the start. It's the way he talks and the way he looks at her...everything about him spells untrustworthy.

When the heroes are in trouble, they meet up in Macintosh's laboratory. "I was having a duel with Subzero, and bam, these guys showed up." explained Tyson.

Everyone listened with all ears. "I can't believe you couldn't beat Providence, Tyson." Zelfire said. "With the power of the Phoenix, he should've been an easy kill for you."

What he just said hit Tyson's heart like a thunderbolt. The Phoenix would've kicked ass, but he lost the Enchron Crystal in battle. A very shameful mistake, and one that he doesn't want to bring up. "Uhhh, well, Dark Providence is trickier than I thought. I can't believe I let him escape."

Neb: "They also have Amanda." He pounded his own fist. "If they hurt her, I'll, I'll pulverize them!"

Zelfire touched Neb's shoulder. "Calm down. Save your anger for the fight."

"I know, but she's my daughter. I'm responsible for her! Ugh."

Tyke: "I know how you feel. I feel the same when Junior is in trouble. They are our children after all."

Macintosh had an announcement to make. "Guys, I have information that says that the Empire has a military base on planet Mars."

Tyke: "Mars?"

Mac: "It's the closest place they have to the earth. I bet Amanda is being held there."

Tyke: "Then we will go there right away. First we will need a space pod."

Mac: "I'll contact the Earth Military Forces and have them send one right away."

Tyson is standing on a cliff, letting the breeze hit his face and hair. "Tyson," said Jerrell, standing on the same cliff he's standing at right now, "You are about to face great danger. Everyone you know will become involved. Be extra cautious from now on."

(Is this the danger uncle Jerrell was talking about?) So all these events were going to happen no matter what? Is it Tyson's fate to be involved?

Suddenly, a powerful force hit him on the back. It came to him as a complete surprise – the pain was devastating. In fact, the Enchron Crystal came out of his chest. "Aaaaagh!" He fell down, along with the crystal. He looked up and reached for the crystal, but it flew to Adel's hand.

"The Legendary Enchron Crystal...the source of the Phoenix's power...is now mine." Adel announced. "All mine!"

"No..." the hero moaned weakly. "It doesn't belong to you!"

"Finders keepers. Ha ha ha ha ha!" She disappeared.

Ah, how it sucks to be without the Phoenix. It just isn't the same. When he had it, Spade felt like he was at the top of the world. But without it, he's at the very bottom. His fight with Providence was a difficult and risky one, and it's because he did not have it. Can he survive the next few fights without it?

Neb showed up. "Hey bro! What's with the long face?"

"Oh, nothing."

"You're worried, aren't ya?"

"Of course I am. Aren't you?"

"Of course. It's Amanda we're talking about. Poor kid, she never had an easy life. She doesn't deserve this."

"Life is not fair, especially when we have something called the Empire exists."

"Well, whatever." Neb said, putting his hand on his brother's shoulder. "As long as I have the Rainbow Crystal, and you have the Phoenix, we are invincible."

"Nebula...about that..."

"Huh?"

"I did not want to tell you this before because I am ashamed of what happened. I lost the Phoenix."

Neb actually smiled. "Is that all? You looked like you lost your soul or something."

"But it will greatly affect our chances of victory!" Tyson yelled.

"I know. But what did you do before you had the Phoenix?"

"Uhhh..." It was a gotcha moment.

"We've beaten up guys way stronger than we were. We've gained power beyond anyone's expectations. Without the Rainbow Crystal, I can still win like I always did. And so can you."

Now Tyson felt at ease. "Thank you."

"Are you feeling okay? You don't need to thank me."

"Let's go to Mars!"

"Yeah!" shouted Lisa.

Tyke: "Lisa? How long have you been here?"

Lisa: "The whole time. I was practicing my stealth. I'm going to Mars with you guys."

Neb: "No way. It's too dangerous for you."

Lisa was unhappy. "You can't treat me the same way like you used to. I am a psychic now, remember? I can do stuff that you two can do!"

Neb: "I know, Lisa. But we are dealing with some very cruel people. Plus, you are still new at this."

Lisa: "Are you saying that I am not strong enough?"

Tyke: "It's not that..."

"My sister is involved. If she is involved, then so am I. I need to settle things with her. Many years ago, I thought she left this world. But it turns out she is still alive...my older sister Julian Powers. She's not the same person, but she is still my sister. The three of us, we grew up together. I always wanted to help, but I was too powerless to do anything." Images of the notorious trio as kids. Little Lisa was hiding behind a rock while Tyson and Nebula were in a fighting stance. "I've never been part of anything big or important, but I always wanted to help in my own way. It's a miracle I survived up to this point. Maybe I have the same luck as my sister. But now it's different. I have the power to make a difference. No matter what you say I will not let you talk me out of it."

Nebula and Tyson glanced at each other.

"You've grown strong, Lisa."

"We stick together always, remember?"

The three of them put their hands together. **"Together forever!"**

Ah, what a wonderful moment for these three. They stood at the edge of the cliff, letting the breeze blow against them. It felt great. They stared at the blazing sun, awaiting their journey to Mars.

Next chapter: Trip to Mars. The Psychic Showdown
Finished 9/01/2007

Characters		
Name	Role	Personality
Orbital	Council head	Super S
Adel	Council member	S
Nebulax	Council member	A
Gusher	The Empire's secret weapon	?
Dark Providence	Heir of the throne.	A
Sheryu Ratel	Wanted scientist	T
Jurai	Council member, unknown origin	T
Kyria	Council member	T
Charus	The guy who argued with Coitus	S
Coitus, Kemia, Kanus	Rebels	-
Neflite, Sephia, Longinus, Jarus	Loyalists	-