

THE POWER FORCE II

Conclusion

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Summary

48: Eyes Wide Shut.

Contents

The front door of the starship opened up, and the troops stood in two parallel lines, single file. They all put their arms over their chest. Orbital walked down the stairs and he was pleased to see his men being obedient, as they should be. He walked between the two lines of troops and took a good look at the sky.

(We are just outside the perimeter of the capital. Once the capital falls, then the Earth Military Forces will fall into chaos, which will lead us to victory.)

One of the troops stepped out of the line and approached him. "Lord Orbital, our sensors detected an intruder coming in from three o'clock."

Orbital's eyes squinted. "An intruder?"

Osborne, coming from the sky, landed on the grass. He was startled to see Orbital in person. This is the real thing. Up until now, he's only heard about this person and seen him in pictures, but now he is facing the most important man in the entire empire. "Orbital..."

The fact that he came alone made Orbital curious.

Osborne did not care about how scared or overwhelmed he is by this man's presence. "Orbital...You...you are the one responsible for this war! You were the one who destroyed Space Station Boaz, and now you want all earthlings to suffer?"

One of the Muraians stepped forward. "How dare you speak this way to Supreme Commander Orbital, the one who holds the highest position in Murai and the universe?!"

Orbital extended his arm, silently signaling the troop to stand aside. The troop obeyed at once.

"I sense some dissatisfaction in you, High Commander Osborne."

Osborne was startled. "You know who I am? You've done your homework."

"Of course. You are one of Headmaster Jerrell's most important subordinates. You Galactic Police have been causing me a lot of trouble. You've become a nuisance...an eyesore."

"Is that why you destroyed Boaz? So you can have your revenge?"

Orbital laughed. Osborne had no idea why he is laughing. He just grunted.

"This is not about revenge," replied Orbital. "Boaz was merely a warning. It was a sign to the Alliance members not to interfere with us. But apparently you police did not take my warning seriously."

Osborne got so mad that he charged energy into his fist. "You've already taken enough lives for your campaign. No more will the galaxy have to suffer at your hands!"

"My dear friend, you speak as if I have wronged. No, it is the opposite! I am doing this for the good of the galaxy," replied Orbital. "All species seek to be ruled. The galaxy is diverse and unorganized, and I am merely providing a system to put everything in place. Planet earth is just begging to be ruled by us. The universe is made up of those who are ruled, and the rulers, and we are merely fulfilling our duties according to the Ko-Rashm."

"You're insane!!" Osborne charged forward and punched.

Orbital dodged the attacks swiftly. Osborne was fighting with his anger, he was a bag of hot air. Whoosh. Whoosh. Orbital dodged punch after punch. Osborne has had it, and he performed a high kick. Orbital jumped over him, somersaulted smoothly, and landed on the ground in a crouch.

Osborne turned around and charged forward and punched. "Yaaaaah!" However, his determination was a waste, as Orbital blocked his punch, and counter punched him in the face. **Kapow!!** Osborne fell to the ground and rolled a few times before coming to a stop.

The hero got back up, still determined to win. Orbital was able to damage him this much, that's not bad for an old man.

"You are twenty years too early to be fighting against me," taunted the tyrant. "I have been in the battlefield much longer than you have."

Osborne powered up. "Tell that to someone who cares!" He fired a beam forward.

Orbital quickly pressed the switch on his bracelet, and he was surrounded by a shield. The beam hit the shield. Kaboom! The person inside was safe and unharmed. Osborne grunted and continued to fire non-stop. But none of them were able to penetrate the shield. Kaboom! Boom!

Osborne stopped firing after he grew tired.

Orbital gathered energy. "Now I will show you why they call me Orbital!" He released the energy into the air, and it took the form of a sphere, and it is an energy orb, a big glowing orb floating in the sky. Osborne had no idea what he was looking at, and he grew afraid. The orb went towards Osborne and zapped him by sending a ray to him.

Zzzzzzzt!

Osborne screamed as his energy was being drained. He tried to resist, but it was too much for him, and he fell on his knees. "Uhhgh! Aaaaah!" Despite the torture, he still would not give up. He went forward and tried to grab his enemy. Orbital punched him hard, knocking him to the ground.

The floating orb went over to Osborne and continued to suck his energy. It was painful every second, and Osborne couldn't get up.

As the orb sucked Osborne's energy, it was feeding the energy to Orbital. Once Orbital had enough, he disabled the orb. The hero could barely move. Two soldiers came and grabbed him by the arms and lifted him up. He moaned in pain.

Troop A: "Sire, we should finish him off right away. He is a threat to our plans."
"No." Orbital replied. "He **is** one of the high commanders of the Galactic Police. He will be useful to us."

"You w-won't get away with it." replied the fallen hero.

"And who is going to stop me? The Galactic Police? Ah hahahaha!"

Osborne came here, hoping to defeat the leader of the Empire, but he not only failed, but he became a prisoner. What does this madman have in mind for our hero?

The conflicts that have happened on earth and Arlia so far have all been leading up to the final moments of the war, as it is nearing its end. The heroes have been through many trials and tribulations. Nebulax faced his evil brother Nebulax, Erika overcame her past shadows and defeated Ostrovsky. Subzero was able to avenge his past by ridding the world of Prince Diamond. Even Adel has defeated her own demons of the past.

But, there is still one hero who has not faced his main opponent. And all the battles before will be nothing compared to the upcoming one, for it will be the biggest, most destructive battle of all.

Kabam! Tyson just fired a beam at two guys, and the beam pushed them all the way into the building, and the building blew up in the explosion. All the enemies in the area have been cleared, and it is safe for now. Just like other cities, this one turned into a wasteland of fallen buildings. No one was around, except for those who fight.

Adel and Tyson landed. "All the soldiers in this area are defeated." Tyson announced.

"There are still more of them in the western sector. But they are on the other side of the city, so we are okay for now."

Seconds later, the other heroes show up. It was just Blazer, Subzero and Nebula, the strongest of the pack.

Tyson was excited to see them. After a long day of fighting, he was glad to see his allies. "Yo, guys!"

Neb: "We just cleared out the southern district. How are things holding up here?"

Tyke: "We're doing just fine."

Adel suddenly felt something. The feeling struck her like a thunder bolt. (What is this? Can it be him? No...what is he doing on this planet?)

Bam! Gusher just finished off another guy. Then he sensed a bunch of energy signals in the east. Still thirsty for another fight, he went in the direction of the heroes.

Tyson and the others were still chatting. Adel, however, could not bring herself to celebrate. She was still trying to figure out what she sensed earlier.

"I have a feeling that this fighting will be over in no time." said Nebula.

The feeling struck Adel again. This time, however, there is no doubt as to what the source of this horrible feeling is. Yes, it is no other than the feared warrior called Gusher. She can feel him coming, flying in their direction.

(No...it is him!)

Her worst fears have come true. The heroes were still chatting, and she felt a need to interrupt them. "Listen, everyone, we need are in great danger. We need to get out of here now."

"What do you mean?" Tyson asked blankly. "We just got here."

"Trust me." she replied impatiently. "We have to go now. If you value your lives then you will listen to me and leave...immediately."

"I am not going anywhere until I find out what is going on." Nebula said.

"Gusher is coming," she said. "One of the strongest warriors in the Empire is coming this way."

"One of the strongest?" said Subzero.

"I have never heard of him.

Everyone noticed how nervous she was. It's not like her to be acting this way.

Adel spoke in the same panicky tone. "Trust me. You do not want to be anywhere near this guy when he starts fighting. We have to avoid him at all costs!"

Nebula: "Ohhh, is the mighty Lady Adel scared of someone? I never thought I'd see this day come."

Tyson: "He's that strong? It makes me want to meet him even more. This could be an interesting match."

Adel: "Tyson, you do not want to fight this one. It is best if we leave now, and avoid a battle with him. It is not worth it."

Nebula: "We have Tyson with us, and to top it off, he is the Phoenix. And this is only one person we are talking about, so we have nothing to worry about. But iff you're scared then you can go."

Adel was becoming frustrated. "You don't understand. None of us are a match for him. You haven't seen what I've seen. I've been in the Empire for years, and I have never felt a presence like Gusher's. He truly is a monster...a cold blooded soldier who kills without remorse."

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? 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?"

"Forgive me, headmaster. Accept my apologies." She walked away.

And she was glad she walked away that day. Her arrogance made her blind to Gusher's true power, and she sensed a little bit of his true power that day, when they were walking down the hallway. Gusher was getting ready to fight, and when as he was about to power up, a little bit of his power slipped out. And that little bit gave Adel the chills.

She could never forget that day. That horrible feeling still haunts her to this very day. Adel tried explaining this to them, but they just do not understand.

"You guys do not understand the severity of the situation. If you stay here any further, you will die."

Tyson: "We're going to die? Don't be ridiculous. We've survived the war up to now, haven't we? I personally would like to see how strong this guy named Gusher is. It will be an interesting challenge."

Adel: "If you guys have a death wish, then that's fine by me. I am not going to sit around here to wait for my death." She walked away from the group.

Subzero got in her way. "You've been acting a little strange today. Stranger than usual."

"None of you would listen to me. If you stay here this will be your graveyard. I am helping you by telling you to leave."

Suddenly, Gusher appeared in the sky.

Adel: "No...it's too late!"

Everyone stared him as he landed slowly on the ground. Sweat dripped down Adel's head. (Not good...)

Tyson took a good look at him and wondered what is the big deal about this guy? Could it be that Adel is just having the jitters? He looks very ordinary, except for the fact that his eyes are closed. Is he blind? He has short, silver hair, and he's wearing a grey sleeveless jacket, with matching grey pants and black boots. The others were thinking the same thing. Using his sixth sense, Tyson discovered that this guy's energy level, while it is quite strong indeed, is nothing remarkable. It is nothing he has seen before. Does Adel know something they don't know?

Gusher stared at Tyson and only Tyson, for some reason. Tyson's life force feels familiar...as if they have met somewhere before. Gusher's sixth sense is sharp and keen, unlike anyone else with the sixth sense. His senses are so strong that he can feel someone's life force and recognize that person, even if it is years later.

Tyson's life force made him remember something. An event from long ago...

There was a baby crying. Crying very loudly. And there was a woman holding the baby.

"Who are you?" Margarita asked. "And what do you want?" She held Tyson tightly, and stepped back. There was no place to escape, since behind her was the edge of a hill.

Gusher took a step forward.

"I'm warning you, stay away!!" Margarita shouted.

The baby cried loudly and emitted his energy as he did, and Gusher felt it.

"WAAAAH! WAAAAH!"

Indeed, Tyson was that baby. His cries still echoed loudly in his mind. WAAAAH! WAAAAH! That baby, twenty years later, grew up to be the warrior known as Tyson Spade.

Tyson took a few steps forward, signaling to the others that he wants to do this single handedly, without their help. They understood his intentions without him saying a word, and they stepped to the side. Warriors understand each other.

Tyson walked past Adel, who gasped. "You're not seriously thinking of taking him alone, are you?"

"Just let me do this. I can take him."

Gusher smiled. "Yes...it was you...it was you that I sensed long ago!"

"What are you talking about?"

"You...have a pleasant energy. And I want to fight you."

Tyson got ticked off. "Don't patronize me." (Sheesh, what is this with guy?) Deep down inside, Tyson knew that something was wrong with this person mentally. He just can't pinpoint what exactly it is.

Adel: (Gusher is getting excited. This is not good. Is it because he senses Tyson's power?) Then she looked at Tyson. (He has no idea what he is getting into.)

"I can feel it...you have a pleasant energy."

"Look, I have no idea what you're talking about." Tyson replied. "I don't know why Adel makes such a big fuss about you, but to me, you're just another Muraian. You people are the cause of this stupid war, and I am going to end it."

"War...war!" shouted Gusher. He proceeded to power up. His body became full of dark energy. His head was tilted up and he screamed. "Hyaaaaaaah!!" Gusher hasn't been this excited in a long time. Every time he gets into a fight, he usually wins with no contest, but once in a while, he finds a worthy opponent. And worth opponents make a worthy fight. His hair was being blown by the energy, and his entire body was rings of dark energy.

Tyson just watched patiently for his opponent to be done, with a grimace on his face.

Blazer: "That certainly is a lot of dark energy. But still, it is no cause for concern."

Subzero: "My question is, why are his eyes closed? Is he blind?"

"No...he isn't." said Adel. "He keeps his eyes closed intentionally. I have never seen him open his eyes."

Now, the heroes are listening to Adel seriously.

Subzero: "What do you mean he keeps them closed intentionally?"

"My guess is that he is hiding his power." Adel replied. "He relies solely on his sixth sense to see. And that is more than enough for him."

Nebula: "Hmph. He is fighting Tyson with his eyes closed? How arrogant."

Adel: "Gusher has **never** lost a fight before. He is the Empire's secret weapon."

Subzero: "In other words, we are dealing with a fighting so strong that he is able to fight without the use of his eyes, and even so, no one has been able to defeat him or seen his eyes open?"

"That is why I was telling you to leave. It is not something that I want to find out."

Blazer: "And Tyson challenged him, knowing this?"

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Gusher was done powering up. Tyson was not impressed. It's his turn to show his power. He took a deep breath, held out his fists, and yelled at the top of his lungs. "Aaaaaah!" He produced a golden aura, and his hair turned to a sparkling gold color. Within seconds, he turned second stage. Then he continued to power up, producing a golden-white aura around his body, especially on his hair, his eyes turned white...and he was in the fourth stage. "This should be enough."

Gusher smiled, and he gathered energy into his palm and threw black balls. Tyson charged forward, jumping over the balls as they hit the ground. Bam, Bam. Tyson's speed was too fast for the eye to catch up with, and he hit Gusher in the cheek. Dooosh. He was being pushed back, with Tyson's fist in his face, as his feet scraped the ground.

All the heroes were surprised. They didn't think Tyson would be able to get the first hit, let alone this easily.

Gusher was pushed back a few feet, and the impact of the punch was felt completely. Tyson was still in the punching position, then he put his hand down and waited. Gusher wiped the blood off the corner of his mouth and he smiled. The hero was freaked out by his reaction. Usually, people dislike pain. But not this warrior. Who knows what he is thinking in that dark mind of his?

After staring for a few seconds, they charged into each other and hit. Bammm! This is the moment everyone has been waiting for. Those in the sidelines just watched in suspense as they tried to keep up with the warrior's movements.

Bam! Tyson unleashed a series of punches, and Gusher dodged them left and right. Even though he is not using his eyes, he can feel his opponent's movements

accurately. Whoosh, whoosh, whoosh. No matter how fast Tyson punched, his opponent reacted a little faster.

Suddenly, Gusher blurred and appeared a few meters away. Tyson jumped and did an aerial kick. Gusher blocked it. Whack! Tyson landed and immediately gave another kick, and Gusher jumped away and landed smoothly.

The warriors flew to the air and hit. Wham! Gusher punched Tyson in the face, and as he was falling, Gusher flew down and kicked him in the face, making him fall even faster. Wham! The impact wasn't exactly enjoyable.

When the smoke cleared, the hero got back on his feet and stood firm, like he wasn't hit at all. But, of course, it hurts. Now he is beginning to see his enemy's strength. This is not going to be an easy battle. It could be the toughest one yet. But he did not let that fact discourage him. Tyson has fought many powerful enemies during the course of his lifetime, and each time he did not give up. That is the principle to which he lives by, and if necessary, the principle that he will die with.

All he did was stare with his bright, shining eyes. Without a second thought, he flew to the air resumed the hitting. The warriors circled each other and hit randomly. Bam! Bam!

Nebula: "Tyson has this match hands down. It will only be a matter of time before his opponent wears out."

Adel: "I wouldn't be too sure of that. Gusher is just as fast and strong as he is. Plus, add to it that he is a cold blooded warrior who kills without a second thought."

Nebula: "The way I see it, Gusher is going all out, and Tyson hasn't even used the Phoenix yet."

Subzero: "Maybe he wants to study his opponent first."

Adel: "Listen guys, here's the plan. We wait until Tyson tires him out. When his guard is down, we attack him."

Nebula: "What are you talking about? This is a one on one fight. Making a surprise attack is dishonorable. If you are scared, then why don't you go ahead and leave?"

"Fine." replied Adel. "Don't say I didn't warn you." She continued to watch silently, hoping that a miracle will occur. If she knows anything about Gusher, every fight he engages ends up with bloodshed. And it's always someone's else's blood.

Bam! Bam! The fighters remained in the air. Tyson is beginning to think that this fight was a bad idea. *(Damn it. I can't read him at all. There's something about him...)* Indeed, there is something that about Gusher that scares even our brave hero. It is not the freakish smile, but what he is hiding behind the smile that worries Tyson. Tyson knows that Gusher is a psycho killer who's probably killed people all his life. But there is much more than meets the eyes. There is something much deeper, and darker to this Muraian. *(I just have to stay calm and not use too much energy. I'll find his weakness sooner or later.)*

Gusher hissed and flew towards Tyson. Frooom! The two resumed hitting, flying all over the place. First comes the physical contact, then come the fireworks. They exchanged beams like they had plenty of them.

Nebula just sensed something. The others sensed the same thing. "It's Zelfire." Nebula announced.

Blazer: "He made it just in time."

Nebula: "I'll go see him." He flew off to the nearest building and landed on the roof.

Zelfire arrived. "What's going on here? Who is Tyson fighting?"

"Don't worry about it, he's not important." Nebula responded. "How are things going on your end?"

"Things are fine. We cleared out Muraians from the central district."

"I'm glad you made it back."

"Thanks. Oh, Faith and the others are coming here."

"Really?" Nebula asked in surprise.

"Yeah, they should be here any minute now. I was just scouting the area."

Not far away, Faith and the children, along with Midas, were flying in the sky. Faith was holding Tina's hand, and they were both laughing like they didn't have a care in the world. "We're almost there." Faith announced.

There were a group of broken down buildings in front of them. And behind those buildings was there the fight was taking place. Faith definitely sensed the fight.

Junior: "Mom, something is happening over there."

"I know." she replied.

"We have to go in there and help him."

"No." Faith replied. "All of you stay here." Then she turned to Midas. "Father, keep an eye on them. I am going ahead."

"Remember," said Midas. "Do not do anything rash."

She did not respond and flew into the buildings.

"I hope daddy is okay." said Tina.

Kapow! Tyson was punched in the face left and right. Gusher didn't let up and kept on punching with his super fast arms. Kapow-pow-pow! While in the air, Tyson was being pushed back further and further. Gusher finished the combo with a hard punch to the stomach, and Tyson coughed saliva. Thud!! Then Gusher whacked him on the back, sending him straight to the pavement. Wham!

Adel was becoming impatient. The other said that butting into a duel is taboo, but she doesn't care what they say. She's still deciding if making a surprise attack on Gusher is a good idea. She's frozen with inaction, and her head was sweating heavily.

Tyson got back up and panted for breath. This is just what Gusher expects. He wants a worthy opponent, and now he's got one.

(This guy is quicker than I thought. And he has a lot of stamina. Even if I do turn into the Phoenix, I can only stay in that form for a short period of time. I have to get him to use up his energy, then I can transform and finish him off.)

The fight continues as Gusher fires his dark energy blasts. Tyson escaped into the buildings to avoid getting hit. Gusher blew up the buildings. Kaboom!

Tyson continued to fly, thinking he's safe, and suddenly, Gusher came out from one of the buildings, taking him by surprise. Kapow! Gusher yelled like a maniac and hit him in the face, knocking him to the wall. While he's embedded into the wall, Gusher kept on punching him non-stop. Pow. Pow. Pow. The hero could not defend himself in that position. Pow! Pow!

Near Washington D.C., Mai and Sorell were flying in the air. "Sorell, are you sure that Orbital is in the capital city of this country?"

"I'm not sure. I received the message from somebody an hour ago. I don't know who he is, but he says he's an ally." Sorell replied.

"How do you know this is not some kind of trick?" Mai asked.

"Orbital is the supreme commander of the empire. He runs this war campaign. We can't afford to miss out any chance to capture him."

Orbital sensed their presence. "Oh, we have more visitors today. Word spreads fast, doesn't it, Osborne?"

Osborne did not reply. He remained on his knees, and his wrists were tied behind his back.

When the two agents showed up, Orbital pointed a gun to Osborne's head. They were surprised to see that the captive is an old ally.

Sorell's eyes were wide open. "Osborne? It's you?"

They stepped forward, and then Orbital said, "Not so fast."

Mai: "What do you want?"

"Oh, only the entire universe, my dear." he replied. "Agent Tanya Sorell and agent Mai...oh, and how is Jamell Lance doing? Still stubborn as usual?"

"Just let him go. We will be the ones to fight you." said Sorell.

"Then prepare yourselves." The Muraian troops came in front of Orbital and they lined up and got into fighting position.

Mai and Sorell also got into fighting position. The wind blew hard as both sides prepared themselves mentally. This will be a fight for the earth, a fight for peace and freedom. Will the heroes be able to save Osborne, or be defeated by the hands of the tyrant?

Kabam! Tyson was knocked against the wall, and he fell to the ground. Thud. At first, it seemed like he was unconscious, but then he got back up and stood on his feet. Gusher still had that same facial expression as when he started, with that wicked smile on his face. Yes, this fight indeed excites him, and it's too bad our hero isn't exactly enjoying it like his enemy is. This could be Tyson Spade's toughest fight of his live. Will be able to pull through, or suffer the same fate as all of Gusher's victims?

49: Endgame.

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Bam! Bam! The two warriors were dishing it out in the air. They were not holding back anymore, but just giving it everything they've got. Bam! Bam! Tyson and Gusher were just two blurs flying in circles, they were moving too fast for the normal eye to see.

Faith and Zelfire showed up, standing on the roof. All they can see were the warriors hitting each other. Bam! Bam! Faith, of course, was worried. Any fight that her husband is in makes her worried.

"Who is he fighting?" she asked.

"I have no idea." Zelfire replied honestly. Usually, he is the knowledgeable one in the group. And the fact that he doesn't know who the hell this guy Tyson is fighting makes him worried.

Meanwhile, the confrontation in the capital city continues as Mai and Sorell face off with Orbital and his troops.

"Release him now." Sorell demanded, referring to Osborne.

"I do not take orders from anyone." Orbital replied. "If I were you I would show your superiors a little respect."

"Your respect is right here!" Sorell said, gathering energy into her fist. She threw an energy ball and Orbital jumped away. Kabam!

"A foolish mistake." said the old man. "That mistake will be your last. Get them!"

The troops charged at the heroes.

"I'll take them. You go and free Osborne!" Mai shouted.

Sorell nodded and jumped up. Mai got into fighting position and waited for the troops to come. One of them charged straight into her and she kicked him in the stomach, effectively knocking him away. Whack! The second guy came and she hit him in the face. Pow!

Since Mai was taking care of the henchmen, this leaves Sorell and Orbital alone, just the way they like it. "So you're the one I've heard about...the leader of the Dark Empire, Orbital."

"That is Lord Orbital to you, damn Macedonion."

"Your stupid little war cost our people many lives thirty years ago."

"Do not blame me for that. Blame the incompetency of your people. They were betrayed by their own leader!!"

That blew the fuse. Sorell was already pissed off, but she can't just stand there and talk. With a fist full of energy she charged at the most hated man to have ever lived, and Orbital blocked it and got a hold of her fist. She was surprised that someone of his age can be so quick.

Orbital smiled while she struggled to get her fist free. Suddenly, he let go and they kicked and hit on the ankles. Whack!

Gusher was hitting Tyson in the air with his super fast fists. Pak-pak-pak. Tyson blocked and they became increasingly painful. Pak-pak-pak. Once in a while, Tyson would find an opening and attack, but Gusher was able to avoid his attacks. It was Gusher was mostly on the offensive, as he is out of control. Just like a wild animal released from its cage, an untamed beast whose sole purpose is fighting.

Blazer: "Why isn't he using the power of the Phoenix? This is a waste of time."

Nebula: "Maybe he wants to study his opponent first. He's usually cautious."

Subzero: "The Phoenix is his final weapon. It looks like he's not going to use it until the end."

Blazer: "He's holding back, and he's wasting his strength."

Subzero: "Somehow, I get the feeling that Gusher is holding back as well. And he doesn't know what it is. Maybe he wants to wait and see what happens."

Tyson flew forward and kicked, and he was sure this one will land, and Gusher blocked. Whack! Then he hit Tyson, knocking him into the ground. Wham.

Nebula: "C'mon, you can do it!"

Gusher floated about in the air, mulling over how he should make his next attack. Tyson was on the ground, wondering if he should go on the offensive. Nothing he tried has worked so far, and he can't predict Gusher's moves. There is just something about him.

Gusher gathered dark energy into his fist, and it was a large amount of energy, too large for a normal person to handle. He flew down and sped up, with his fist facing down. Tyson saw what he was doing, and quickly jumped out of harm's way. Gusher descended like a comet, and when his fist made contact with the concrete, rocks and boulders flew all over the place. He made a crater that was even bigger than himself. The energy in his fist was so strong that the crater grew bigger and bigger, and the entire area became a danger zone, with Gusher at the center of the impact. Baaaam!!

Even though Tyson avoided the deadly hit, he had to cover himself from the flowing energy and the rock chunks hitting him.

The observers were shocked. It was an unexpected move made at an unexpected time.

Zelfire: "Ugh...what power!"

Blazer: "No way..."

Everything became bright and no one could see for a few seconds. Then the light disappeared. Tyson was relieved that the energy storm was over. Gusher came out of the crater and walked slowly towards Tyson.

The super sayan has already confirmed his own position in this fight. There can be only two positions in any fight – winner and loser. And Tyson isn't exactly on the winning end. That last explosion could've killed any one, had they been caught in it. But Gusher was at the center of it, and he wasn't even harmed. It looks like the hero can no longer win this fight without going all out.

The hero stretched out his arms and let out everything he had. His chest began to glow, and it was the Enchron Crystal that was glowing.

Adel: "He's going to use it."

Tyson continued to power up, screaming with his mouth wide open. His body became surrounded by rings of fire. Froom! They were around his chest, his arms, legs, and everything. Even his golden hair became flames. He was a walking body of fire, hot and burning...on the outside and inside. He is now one with the fire.

His spirit energy came out of his body and took the form of a giant bird with wings – the form of the Phoenix – one of the most powerful creatures of legend. The Phoenix was composed completely of fire, and it roared loudly, declaring its presence to the world, before disappearing.

Gusher was not scared, but rather, he was delighted. Nothing ever scares this guy. The stronger the opponent, the better the fight, and he has been seeking for a good fight for many years.

Nebula: "He is now the Phoenix. His power is nothing like before. I never get tired of seeing it."

Blazer: "It's about time. Now the real fight begins."

"Well?" said Tyson, "What do you think now?"

Gusher couldn't contain his excitement. "Yes...yes!! This energy...this energy is extremely pleasant."

Tyson was still upset. Gusher keeps on saying that his energy is pleasant, and he is sick of hearing it. There is definitely a screw loose in this guy's head, and he is going to fix it. How "pleasant" will it be when he gets a pounding?

The two fighters charged into each other, both ready to draw their fists. Tyson landed his fist on Gusher's face, and he got punched and burned at the same time. Sssssst! Gusher can feel the fire upon impact. Kapow!! He fell and scraped the ground.

The cold blooded warrior got up like he wasn't hit at all. He charged forward and went on the offensive. Tyson dodged his attacks swiftly. Whoosh, whoosh. Gusher was able to land a punch on his face, and followed up with a jab to the fist. Then he kicked Tyson into a wall. Crash! A cloud of dust covered the area where he went into.

Tyson got back up, and all the rocks around him were blown away. The scratches on his arm disappeared, as well as those on his face. It certainly is different being the Phoenix. All minor injuries heal automatically, and that is one of the bonuses of having a legendary power.

Tyson used the fire on his feet to propel himself forward, and kicked Gusher on the head. Whack! Gusher got up and grunted. For the first time, he showed signs of frustration.

Nebula: "See what I told you? Gusher may have been exceptional, but Tyson has defeated exceptional fighters before."

Subzero: "I have fought him as the Phoenix before, and I have to say, he is unlike any opponent I have ever faced. He truly is a power house."

"He is winning for now. But there is still more to it." Adel said out loud. She was still the only one who's pessimistic about this situation. "It's not that simple." she said.

Nebula: "There is more to it? What more is there to it? The Phoenix is invincible, it is just that simple. Not even Gusher stands a chance."

"You guys just don't understand." said Adel. "You don't know what I've experienced...back on Murai, I had an encounter with Gusher."

Adel and Gusher faced each other on the street. She happened to run into him, and she wanted to finish off where they left off last time.

"I'm sick and tired of your attitude!" Adel shouted. "Why does Lord Orbital respect you and value you higher than other members of the Council?"

"Because," he replied, "He recognizes true strength."

"True strength? I'll show you true strength." She powered up.

"A challenge? Interesting." Gusher began to get excited. "You make a worthy opponent."

That remark ticked Adel off even more. She gathered red energy into her hands, and Gusher got ready. He hasn't fought in a while, and became excited. His right eye opened slightly, only slightly, it seemed like his eye was glowing.

Adel definitely felt something from his eye. Gusher's power was undeniable.

Suddenly, Orbital showed up. "Stop! What are you two doing?"

Adel quickly powered down. "My apologies, Lord Orbital."

"You should not be fighting each other. If you have so much energy, go and complete your tasks."

"Yes, sire." Adel and Gusher walked away.

She acted tough, but she was actually glad that Orbital came by. When Gusher opened his eye a little, Adel did not even know what she was feeling. Now that she thought about it, she's better off not having fought him. Who knows what he could've done to her if he used full power? He only opened his eye slightly, and she felt something horrible inside of him. That feeling almost made her sick.

"I don't know how to describe it, but what I felt was real." said Adel, staring at the floor."

Blazer: "So his eyes are the source of his power?"

Nebula: "I've never heard of such a thing in my life."

"Trust me on this one. You don't know Gusher's history." said Adel. And she had another flashback.

Orbital was having a private conversation with Adel in the Supreme House, the room where they had a view of outer space.

"Adel, what I am about to tell you is for your own good. Do not mess with Gusher; doing so would be a mistake.""

"I keep on hearing about how strong he is." she replied. "But I have never seen him in action. Why is someone like him on the Council? He doesn't even know how to communicate with people."

"Trust me, he is a very powerful foe. Probably the strongest I have ever encountered in my life. He is true menace, when his potential is unleashed. He has only opened his eyes once that I have seen, and I was one of the witnesses. The only other person to have seen him open his eyes was Dark Spectre."

Adel gasped.

"He is the only man to have fought Dark Spectre on equal terms...he may even be more powerful."

"That is impossible."

"Lady Adel, the day that he opens his eyes is the day civilization is destroyed. Just remember that."

"At first I did not think much of it. I was just as skeptical as you were. But after doing research, I realized that Orbital might not have been exaggerating." And she thinks back to the shocking truth behind her research. "Back in the Great War, there was a division in the rebels known as the First Division. They consisted of a group of highly trained sayans. They performed many missions such as infiltrating and destroying bases."

Blazer joined in. "The First Division? My father Blaze led the first division..."

Adel: "Under the leadership of Blazer, the division did well. However, one day...they happened to encounter Gusher. And they fought him. He killed every single one of them...only one survived, and he was Blaze."

Blaze was shocked. "I've heard about the tragedy of the first division, but I never found out who was behind it. I never thought it'd be him..."

Subzero: "He destroyed an entire army by himself?"

Adel: "Gusher is also responsible for the mysterious deaths of many other highly skilled warriors...whether they were sayans, Macedonions, even Muraians...he is the one responsible."

Subzero: "In other words, he is a force to be reckoned with."

"Ridiculous." said Nebula. "You're just paranoid. This fight will be over before you know it. Then we can go home and relax."

Adel ignored his comment and watched the fight. (Gusher, what are you hiding from us?)

[B] Contents

Gusher had a frown on his face. When Tyson transformed, he became excited, until he received some pain.

"Well?" Tyson taunted. "What happened to that tough attitude of yours?"

Gusher screamed out loud and fired a dark energy beam. Tyson countered with a beam of fire, known as the Eternal Flames. The two forces collided and BAM!

Sorell and Orbital kicked and hit each other's legs. Whack! Sorell followed up with a series of punches and karate chops, and Orbital dodged them systematically. He has fought many skillful warriors over the past few decades, and he has seen many different styles of fighting. Whoosh, whoosh. Sorell was hitting fast, but Orbital was too quick for her hands.

Sorell kept on punching and kicking, and she did a high kick, and Orbital blurred and appeared a few meters back. Sorell gathered energy and fired a small beam. Orbital pressed a button on his wrist device and a shield appeared. The beam hit the shield and disappeared. Bam!

Orbital shot a wave of energy from his arm, and Sorell jumped away from it. Frooom! The energy cut the ground, and it could have easily cut a person in two.

Doosh. Sorell landed in a crouch. She fired a bunch of spider-bots at her target. Orbital kept his shield up and the spider-bots exploded on the shield. Then he lowered his shield, and at the same time, released an orb.

Tanya did not what to make of this thing. It was hovering in the sky and heading towards her! She gasped and quickly back flipped away. The orb attacked in the form of electric shocks. Zap. Zap! It was like a moving thunderstorm, a thunderstorm that sucks your energy. Zap.

Sorell flew to the air, and Orbital made the orb go after her. He can control its movements from his right arm. Sorell was scared and she kept on looking down as she flew up. The orb tailed her and it was as fast as she was.

And this is all part of Orbital's plan. While Sorell was distracted by the orb, Orbital released a second orb and it went towards Mai and the soldiers.

Pow! Whack! Mai beat up another soldier.

[Close-up – Sorell] "Mai! Watch out!"

Mai saw the orb coming and did not know how to respond. The bright ball came and zapped everyone in the area – Mai and the soldiers. Twenty seconds later, they all fell unconscious.

Sorell got mad. She stayed in the air and fired a beam at the orb, and blew it up. Boom! Nothing was left but sparkles of energy.

Suddenly, Orbital appeared behind Sorell, and she was caught by complete surprise. This was quite the unexpected move, and she had no time to react. WHACK! She was hit on the back, and it was a critical hit. She fell all the way to the ground, and the fight was pretty much over.

Splat! Sorell tried to get up. She got on her hands and knees. An orb flew over her, and its shadow covered her.

A spade pod was traveling at high speed towards the blue sphere known as the earth. Jerrell was sleeping with his arms crossed. On the outside he seemed peaceful, but on the inside, there was much turmoil.

"It's you..." Jerrell said as he was stunned to see who it was. "Orbital!"

"Greetings, Headmaster Jerrell. I am Commander Orbital of the Dark Empire. I believe we've met before."

"Orbital, you are the current commander of the armed forces of the Muraian Army. You are the man solely responsible for this stupid war."

"You give me too much credit, headmaster. I am merely carrying out the will of the Muraian race. It is our right, no, our destiny to control the universe."

"Stop spouting non-sense!" said Jerrell, losing control of himself. "...Do you know how many people have died because of your idealistic non-sense?! Including those at Boaz!"

"Sacrifices are necessary during a war." said Orbital. "...The destruction of Boaz was your fault! If only you stayed out of our business. But apparently you did not. Consider that a warning, if you will. A way to show our power to the rebels."

"A warning!?" Jerrell yelled.

"And by the way, do you know who attacked Boaz? It was none other than myself!!"

Jerrell was shocked. And now, he's lost it. He can only hold his temper for so long. Orbital was laughing and mocking him.

"Shut up!" Jerrell threw his gun at the screen, and it went straight past it.

"My my, aren't we a bit hasty? Your sayan blood is raging for war, is not, Jerrell Florencia? Yes, you are just like us, for you thirst for war as well."

"Don't even compare me to you...I am not going to let you do this, not if I can help it! You're nothing but a coward who watches from a big screen and order people to kill other people. You're a spineless coward! If you're even half of a man you'll come and face me one on one."

Orbital frowned. "I have never been so insulted by anyone! Fine, if it is a duel you want, it is a duel you shall get. Come meet me on earth. Here are my coordinates. The screen turned into a map, with a red dot indicating Orbital's location. "I expect to see you soon. Farewell, headmaster."

And immediately after that transmission, he set course for on his space pod. And it is only minutes away. The computer beeped rapidly, indicating that it is slowing down as it is going into the atmosphere. Froooooom!! The pod was burning up, but it is insulated, so the person inside will be fine, despite being a little hot.

It continued to burn up as it entered the sky. It went through layers of clouds while slowing down. The pod descended all the way to the forest and made a loud bang as it landed. Kaboom! Like usual, a crater was created by the impact.

The Draconians nearby saw and heard the explosion, and they grew curious. Half of them went to check it out while the other half stayed behind. The Dracos went to the site of the impact.

A: "A space pod? What planet is it from?"

B: "More importantly, who is inside?"

A: "I get first dibs on whoever comes out."

B: "You rough him up and I'll finish him off."

The Dracos snickered and laughed like a bunch of greedy hunters. The pod door opened, and they waited in suspense. Jerrell Florencia came out and he did not look up.

You can bet the Dracos were surprised. "It's Headmaster Florencia of the Galactic Police!"

B: "What luck! The leader of all the GPO's is here before our very eyes. His head must be worth at least 500 million UU!"

A: "Today must be our lucky day. Florencia, you have a choice to surrender, and we will only blow off one of your limbs. Ha ha ha ha!"

The Dracos' laughter and snickering went in one ear and out the other. Jerrell did not even consider them obstacles, but mere annoyances. He came to see one man, and one man only. He powered up without even looking at them, and the Dracos grew nervous as they checked their scouters.

Suddenly, the entire crater became full of electricity. Zzzzzzt. The Dracos screamed as they were being shocked. Then came the explosion. Kaboom!!

The other half of the group became startled by the explosion. They hurried to the landing site and saw a bunch of dead bodies of their allies. The site was full of smoke and fire.

"What happened?" said one of them. Then they saw Jerrell. "Shoot him!"

They fired like crazy, and Jerrell stared at them with deep hatred. The look in his eyes can phase even the calmest of people. He is not here to waste time, so he did not bother holding back.

KABOOM!

Jerrell used his sixth sense to search the area. He checked the coordinates on his handheld device and then flew off.

The black and red beams collided and resulted in an explosion of unreal proportions. Both energy beams were pushing one another, and Tyson and Gusher were pushing themselves to the limit to beat their opponent. "AAAAAH! AAAAH!" They were screaming and grunting like savages. In a situation like this, there is no room for failure, because one little mistake could mean complete incineration.

Their powers were even and the beams cancelled each other out. Kaboom! When the smoke cleared away, both warriors remained in their respective positions. They stared with calm intensity. Suddenly, without warning, they both blurred out of sight and continued hitting randomly. Bam. Bam.

Tyson looked like a fireball in the sky, and essentially, that's what the Phoenix is. It's main source of power is fire - which is energy. It is both the fire outside and the fire

within that makes the Phoenix powerful – the fire within is Tyson’s burning desire for victory. The burning desire for peace and freedom. And no one can put out this fire, no matter how much water you put on it, this fire will not bow down.

Tyson punched Gusher in the face, followed by a knee to the stomach. “Ugh!” Gusher grunted in pain. Tyson followed up with a kick to the chest, effectively knocking his opponent away.

Gusher continued fight uncontrollably. He has no strategy whatsoever, other than to shred his opponent to pieces. He charged forward and punched, Tyson blocked, but he was knocked into the next building. Kaboom. They both went inside and hit the floor.

All the observers were in suspense as they could not see what’s happening inside. They only heard sounds of hitting.

Pak. Pak. Gusher punched Tyson’s face, even though it burned his fists. He kept on punching. Pak. Pak. He did not care about the pain, as long as he inflicts pain on his enemy. Tyson returned the favor with a jab to the face. Then came a kick to the head, and Gusher was knocked out of the building, and he landed on the street. Thud.

Tyson came out of the building and landed on the floor. Gusher panted for breath and he has scratches all over his arm and face. This fight certainly has turned in favor of the hero.

But Gusher was not about to slow down. With the same tenacity as he started, he charged forward, and Tyson charged forward like a rocket, and they hit on the wrists. Kabam! A circular shockwave resulted from their collision, and it was felt by everybody within the immediate area.

Froom. Jerrell flew like a jet across the grass plains. He landed on the ground and he sensed trouble. Three people – and he knows them. Osborne, Sorell and Mai. They are all here? He ran forward and saw three people laying on the ground.

“Osborne!” he yelled, running over to his friend. “Osborne. Speak to me.”

Osborne woke up and moaned. “Watch out for him...”

“Mai and Sorell are here too. What happened?”

“Ah, so you arrived at last.” said Orbital. “I was beginning to think you would never come.”

Jerrell turned around with an angry face. “Orbital...you did this!”

“It is good to see you again. You are just in time to rescue your commander. He was no contest at all. You have gone soft on your soldiers, Jerrell, son of Jeremiah Florencia.”

“So you finally show yourself, Orbital. You’ve been hiding for the past three decades like the coward you are. You never show yourself because you are a weakling.”

“Ohhh?” said the old man with sarcasm. “Can a weakling defeat one of your top men and two Black Hand agents?”

“Grrr, how many more lives do you have to ruin before you are satisfied?” said Jerrell.

“I will not be satisfied until I destroy the entire Galactic Police organization, and their destruction begins with you.”

“Challenging me out here will be your biggest mistake.”

“Fool, did you think I called you out here if I did not have the proper preparations?”

Jerrell powered up, and he became full of electric energy. Orbital powered up as well, and he was full of electricity and energy waves. Now that the two are fully charged up, the battle can begin. Jerrell used his Electric Storm technique, which consists of him releasing massive amounts of electricity at his opponent.

Orbital turned on his white shield, and he was safe from the storm. Orbital fired an energy wave that cut the ground, and Jerrell quickly rolled away. Froom!

Orbital blurred and appeared in front of him and attacked. Whack. Whack. Jerrell blocked the first few, but Orbital kept on hitting him and he became overwhelmed. Kapow! Jerrell was hit in the face and he fell to the ground. Orbital was about to attack him while he's down, but his instincts told him to jump, which he did, to avoid a laser. Zap!

Jerrell fired his gun through his cape while he was down, a move that he learned throughout his years of fighting. He got up and pulled the trigger furiously. Bang, bang.

Orbital turned on the shield once again. Bang! Bang! The first few lasers did nothing. But some of them went through the shield. One laser hit his right shoulder and he groaned in pain. Orbital turned off the shield and jumped away.

The tyrant got angry and he decided to stop fooling around. He raised his hand to the air and released an orb and it hovered ten feet in air. It hovered over Jerrell, who has no idea what it is. It tried to zap him, and he jumped away, and he dropped his gun.

Zap! Zap! Jerrell back flipped away. The orb was relentless in chasing him. He flew away and it continued to chase him. Orbital released a second orb and it gravitated towards its target, as if he was an orb magnet.

Jerrell was being chased by two orbs and he couldn't escape them. They zapped him, and it was extremely painful. "Aaaaah! Aaaaah!"

Orbital laughed like hell as he watched his victim suffer.

"Aaagh! Aarrrrgh!" The pain of having his energy drained from him was unbearable, and his legs gave out and he fell on his knees. He tried to fight it, but it was difficult to move.

This gives Orbital a surefire sign of victory. "What is the matter, Jerrell? Getting a little tired? The energy I gain from you will make me stronger!"

Indeed, each time Orbital drains someone of his energy, the orb will transfer the energy to him immediately. So not only do the orbs paralyze the enemy, but it also benefits its master. Whoever controls the orbs can kill two birds with one stone.

"After your funeral, the Galactic Police will be no more! They will be wiped out from history, just like the rebels in Arlia were! All the glory will be mine and mine alone! Ha ha ha ha!"

The hero was growing weaker with each passing moment. He could barely stand up, or even focus his vision. Everything in the situation tells him that he is supposed to lose, but there is one thing that keeps him going.

The thought of the Galactic Police is the one thing that he cares about, the one thing that he's been working judiciously at for the past few decades. It is not just a police organization, but an organization that represents hope, just, and peace and freedom. Jerrell has been living under the shadow of the Empire his whole childhood, and now the same empire will take everything away from him.

But he will not let it happen again. Never again will he submit to someone else, especially to a tyrant like Orbital. Everyone is depending on him, and he must rise to the occasion.

"No...I won't lose!!" Jerrell forced himself to rise on his feet, which startled Orbital. He screamed like how a sayan would scream when facing danger, and he powered up to the maximum. "Hyaaaaah!"

"What?" Orbital exclaimed.

Jerrell continued to power up, despite the pain he was feeling. Finally, his hair turned to gold, and his energy became gold as well. "Hyaaaaah!!" Jerrell powered up like crazy, while the orbs were still zapping him. The super sayan energy was too much

for the two orbs to handle, and they exploded. Kaboom! They became mere energy sparkles, and they flew all over the place. This gave the hero a more dramatic transformation.

Orbital winced from the energy flying around. "He's a second stage sayan?"

Jerrell just stood still, with an expressionless face.

"The orbs could not handle the energy from a second stage sayan?"

"It looks like you bit off more than you can chew, Orbital. You never should have pushed me. Now you are going to face the consequences."

"Heh. Even if you are second stage sayan, it does not matter. I have faced many others like you back in my day. And none of them lived to see daylight."

Now, the tides of have turned in Jerrell's favor...or has it? Regardless, he must fight with all his strength. For he does not fight just for the preservation of his own life, but for a much greater cause. A cause that not even he can fathom. He is fighting for those who died in the first war, this current war, and all those who will be affected in the future.

He is now fighting at full power, as he faces off with his archenemy. Will the hero be able to defeat the mastermind of the Dark Empire, or perish in the process?

50: To See Or Not to See.

Contents

The fight between Tyson and Gusher continues, and it is the deadliest fight yet. Things have already escalated, but the real battle is about to begin.

The warriors were still hitting about in the air. Each time they hit, they make a loud noise, it sounds like a bang, and their hits can be felt from miles away. The other heroes were watching still. Nebula was confident in his brother's ability, Subzero was accessing the situation calmly, and Adel was panicking.

It is clear that Tyson has the upper hand when Gusher was finally showing signs of frustration. Tyson did not care about Gusher's reputation anymore. Why should he? Tyson himself has been an exception to the rule, over and over again. Those who seek power can only dream of possessing the power of the Phoenix.

Gusher attacked directly, and Tyson blocked and punched him in the face, knocking him into the concrete of the street.

The silent warrior got up as he was not hit at all. Tyson was no longer worried, considering the position he is in. At first, he thought that Gusher would prove to be a tough opponent, but as it turns out, the Phoenix will suffice. Now that he is a walking embodiment of fire, he does not show fear or doubt, only courage and confidence.

Gusher grunted and charged forward. It happened so sudden that Tyson had almost no time to react. He quickly put his arms over his face and Gusher punched him. Kapow! He was knocked all the way to the next wall. Bam.

The silent one crossed his arms, waiting for his opponent to recover. He was still powering up constantly. He has reached a point where he does not even need to concentrate on his energy, he charges up automatically, as if it is breathing.

Faith grew worried, and Zelfire can see it. "Don't worry. He has this handled. Only a few have been able to challenge the Phoenix."

As expected, Tyson came out of the concrete. But he didn't just come out; he shot out of there like a fireball. The two stared for a while. Gusher charged forward.

"Eternal Flames!" Tyson shot a fire beam, and it hit Gusher's shield.

He tried to push it, but the flames were too strong and they burned him. Froom!! Gusher flew away from the beam. Tyson fired the beams non-stop while Gusher flew away. Buildings were destroyed in the process. Kabam-bam-bam.

Meanwhile, in the grass plains of the capital city, the other important fight was taking place. Jerrell's vibrant glow was a threat to Orbital, who knew nothing of the word defeat. He golden aura is an eyesore. To say these two hate each other is an understatement. They have hated each other for decades, and now that they finally met, their intense feelings of hate will manifest into one of the most memorable struggles for the planet earth.

Orbital and Jerrell ran into each other and jumped and hit in the air. Wham! They landed and immediately jumped for their next attack. Wham. They hit a few more times, and then landed a safe distance from one another.

As a super sayan, Jerrell was much faster and stronger than before, that much can be certain. Orbital's orbs would not work on him, and thus this fight is in Jerrell's favor. But Orbital may still have a few tricks up his sleeve.

Orbital fired the energy wave, and it cut the ground. Froom! Jerrell jumped away from its path of destruction. He blurred and appeared randomly, each time getting closer to the enemy. Orbital blurred and they appeared and hit on the arm. Wham!

"I will wipe you from existence!!" shouted the tyrant.

Then they pushed each other away and landed.

"Why must you resist, Jerrell? You know the war is a lost cause."

"We won the First Great War, and we will win this one as well."

Orbital burst into laughter.

"What's so funny?" Jerrell asked, not amused.

"You naïve fool. Do you think we'd actually give up on our conquest of the universe?"

Jerrell got curious, but his face remained serious.

"Thirty years ago, Planet Murai signed a contract of unconditional surrender to the members of the Alliance. But we did not surrender because we lost the war, no, it was merely a prolongation of the war. Ever since that day, we have been preparing everyday so that this day can occur. We decided that earth will be our primary target. That was part of Dark Spectre's thirty year plan. Everything that is happening right now is because of our desire to conquer the cosmos! And nobody can stop us."

Jerrell was shocked to hear all this. "So, you tricked us into thinking that you surrendered, so that you can catch us off guard. You people are despicable!"

"Watch your tongue! You are speaking to the future emperor of the galaxy!"

"What gives you the right to take over other planets? Why can't you leave them alone!? Do you have to kill so many people just to be satisfied?" the hero yelled angrily.

"It is our right...no, our destiny to rule. This is such the destiny that has been handed to us by the Ko-Rashm. They were the most intelligent and most powerful of all the species in the known universe, and we Muraians are their direct descendants. There are only two types of people, those who are slaves, and those who are masters. Those who are weak become slaves, and the strong become masters. Planets like earth and others are ruled by inferior people. If left alone, they will only bring ruin to themselves. We are doing them a favor by taking over their planet. We bring our structure and our technology so that they can be better off."

"Your logic is twisted, you and your hellhole of a planet!" Jerrell yelled. "What you are doing is creating unnecessary violence."

"Oh, you think so?" said Orbital. He has been in a high position his entire life, and he never listens to any criticism. It goes in one ear and out the other. "I wouldn't expect a bloodthirsty sayan to understand. Even if sayans a warrior race, we Muraians are still superior!"

"I've heard enough out of your mouth!" said Jerrell, powering up.

Orbital shot a bunch of energy balls, and Jerrell strafed to the side, dodging them. Bam, bam, bam. Jerrell rolled on the ground and fired the SS Beam. Bammm! Orbital used his light shield to block it. Froom! His wrist device was damaged afterwards. "Why you..."

Jerrell blurred and appeared, and kicked Orbital in the face. Whack! The tyrant fell and hit the dirt. He got up and wiped the blood off his mouth. He's never been hurt like this in a long time, and now it is personal.

Tyson shot out a beam of fire, and Gusher flew around it and attacked directly. Wham! Gusher kept on punching like maniac. Tyson flew higher than him, dodging his next punch, then kicked him, knocking him down to the concrete floor. Wham!

When the smoke cleared, Gusher was still standing. Others noticed that he's constantly releasing energy from his body, like a continuous power up.

Subzero: "Look, he is powering up as he's fighting. What could this mean?"

Blazer: "He's realizing that he needs to get serious to fight Tyson."

"Is he preparing for a final attack?"

"None of us can tell what he's thinking. He is a complete mystery. But I think he is going to be burnt to a crispy toast before he can do anything."

Gusher was still releasing energy from his body, giving him a nice glow. He flew up and attacked. Tyson swooped down like a fireball and hit him. Wham. Tyson punched him non-stop, and then finished up with a hard punch to the face, knocking him to the ground. Bam.

"I have had it with you people from Murai trying to take over our planet." Tyson said.

Gusher wiped the blood off his mouth. He did not care about what his enemy said. He might as well have been speaking gibberish. "You die..."

"I don't want to do this, but you work for Orbital. You have killed many people mercilessly throughout your life, and now you are the one at someone else's mercy."

The villain grunted angrily, and he charged forward once again. Tyson defended himself against Gusher's aggressive attack, which was nothing but straight punches. They were hard punches indeed. Pow pow pow. Suddenly, Gusher hit Tyson in the chin, knocking him up. Whack!

Gusher chased him and was about to hit Tyson, but he blurred. Tyson appeared behind him, and hit him from behind. Wham!! The Muraian fell to ground, making a small explosion of dust.

A beam of fire came from above, and Gusher quickly jumped out of harm's way. Froom! He could easily have become charcoal. But the hero did not stop there, he continued to fire more beams. Gusher flew out of the way, as they exploded on the ground. Kaboom!

After dodging some more fireballs, Gusher flew up to Tyson's altitude and stayed there. He was still uncontrollably angry. He fired a beam of dark energy, and Tyson countered with the Eternal Flames. The two energies collided and kabam! Tyson's beam was clearly the dominant one, and it pushed the other beam all the way

back to Gusher. He was hit by the flames and he was knocked into the nearest building. Kaboom!

The observers were having an eyeful watching the fight. It is nothing everyday that they get to see such a spectacular fight, possibly between the two strongest fighters in the universe.

Gusher came to the edge of the building, still mad as ever. He grunted and frowned. Tyson, fighting posture, was waiting for him in the same spot. He was floating in the air, still with a confident look in his face. Things have been going his way since he became the Phoenix, and it will remain that way for the duration of the fight.

Gusher hissed angrily and charged forward. His body was still charging energy, but apparently it was still not enough. He always won the fight quickly, and everyone feared him. Orbital always uses him as a last resort, as a guarantee of victory. Gusher has never met a fighter that he did not defeat, until now. And it is upsetting him more than anyone can imagine.

He gathered energy into his fist, charging forward with all his might. Tyson predicted that he would make such a foolish move, and Tyson will have to respond by throwing a beam at him, and it is none other than the Eternal Flames. The fiery beam of death came hurling at him, and it hit Gusher, who tried to push it. But instead, it pushed him back, further and further, until he lost control.

Not only did the beam push him back, but while it did, it burned him and encircled him into a ball of flames. FROOM! "AAAAH!!" For probably the first time in his life, the blind warrior screamed in agony.

Both fighters knew this was coming, yet Gusher, as illogical as he is, still tried to make a head on attack, which will now be his downfall. FROOM! Gusher was burning to a crispy toast, and he fell to the ground. **Kaboom.** He fell into a pile of concrete.

The observers could not believe their eyes. [Split screen – Adel, Blazer, Subzero, Nebula]. Even more shocked was Faith and Zelfire.

[B] Contents

Tyson landed on the ground and expected that his opponent would pop out of the rubble at any time. He waited and waited, but nothing happened. His sixth sense told him that Gusher's energy signal has disappeared...for good.

"He did it!" Nebula shouted in excitement. "Just like I told you!"

"Did he actually do it?"

"He did it?" Adel asked. "Is he really dead?"

"Of course he's dead, can't you feel it? Nothing!" Nebula replied. He's probably nothing but ashes by now. You did it, brother! You did it!"

The Phoenix waited a few more moments before jumping to conclusions. Indeed, as Nebula says, his energy signal is completely gone. When someone's energy signal is gone, it means he is either unconscious or dead. But after what Tyson did to him, it is doubtful that he is unconscious.

Adel: "But...he didn't even open his eyes..."

Blazer: "Maybe he was blind after all."

"Something is just not right. He couldn't have died...no...not after what I felt back then."

Subzero: "But all the signs indicate that he is dead."

"Gusher...is dead? Is this finally over?" Adel murmured to herself.

The fight is at last over. Tyson turned around and walked away from the rubble. Once again he is triumphant. But his eyes widened in disbelief as his sixth sense picked up something. Gusher's hand popped out from the rubble, and he stood up.

It just cannot be. It does not make any sense. Tyson turned around, and it was the worst two seconds of his life. But his own eyes would not betray him, right? There Gusher was, still alive and able to fight. His clothes had holes on it from the burns, and there were burns all over his skin, but the fighter had smile on his face.

"Yes...fantastic!" yelled the madman. Here he was, beaten to a bloody pulp, yet he has never been so happy in his life. "This is the fight I have been seeking!" He could no longer hold back that smile, that devilish grin that sends chills down the spines of the strongest men.

The other heroes were shocked, just like Tyson. "He's still alive!!" Nebula yelled. "But...how? His energy signal disappeared..."

Blazer: "Somehow I have a bad feeling about this."

Adel also had a bad feeling; and this might be the moment she was dreading from the beginning.

Tyson could not believe it. He was sure that victory was his. How is Gusher still alive? Was he able to hide his energy signal?

"This is spectacular! Your power is magnificent! This is the exciting fight I have been seeking my whole life!" Gusher continued to power up, but now, his body was releasing much more energy than before. His aura was brighter and more vibrant. "You are the worthy opponent I have been seeking. Yes, I have been waiting for this day for a **long** time! The day when I open my eyes."

Which is more surprising, the fact that Gusher actually spoke a complete sentence, or that he is about to reveal something horrible that no one should see?

"This is the day I have been waiting for. Yes...now is the time for me to show my true power!"

Adel: "True power?"

Nebula: "Whatever it is, it doesn't matter. Nothing can compare to the Phoenix...nothing!"

Gusher stretched out his arms and released an energy wave unlike any other. Froom! His power up was ten times bigger than any other normal fighter. It was tough for his average sized body to handle all this power, and veins popped out from his forehead and face, and his arms and legs as well. "Hyaaaaaaaaaaaaah!"

Everyone covered their eyes from the brightness. Even Tyson had to cover his eyes. The same goes for Faith and Zelfire.

Gusher looked up at the sky and laughed as he continued his power up. His eyes finally opened for the first time in God knows how long, and at first, beams of light appeared from his eyes. To finally be able to open his eyes is an indescribable feeling. His desire to see has been kept in check for most of his life. And now all that hatred and anger is coming out all at once.

A vertical beam of energy was produced with Gusher at its center. Around the beam were waves and waves of electricity, and it sparked and flared everywhere. Rock chunks floated up from the ground.

The heroes did not know what to make of this phenomenon, they just watched in complete shock. That spot they were standing on was not safe. All the energy and electricity and wind made the entire area a danger zone.

Froom! A vertical beam of light appeared, and it went all the way up to the sky. No one could believe that it is produced by a single person, but indeed it is.

Orbital dodged some energy beams while airborne. Most of them missed, but the ones that were on target were disintegrated by Orbital's light shield. Bammm. He landed on the ground in a crouch.

Jerrell gathered energy for another big attack, and he stopped all of a sudden when he sensed an energy signal from far away. Despite the distance, he felt the force as if it was here, and it was so strong that he was in shock.

Orbital felt it. Behind him was a vertical beam of light coming from the city. His first response was surprise. (He's using this power so early?) Then he was overcome by joy. The kind of joy when a sinister commander of an empire is about to destroy a city, and even the planet. A big grin came across his face. "He must have found a worthy opponent. It is all over for the earthlings."

"What do you mean?" Jerrell asked clueless.

"Use your sixth sense! You can feel it, can't you? This is the true power of Gusher...the warrior of destruction. No one in the world even comes close to him...and now that he is at full power, there is no stopping him. He will not stop until he destroys everything. This city will eventually be destroyed. I will give it half a day at most."

"The city is going to be destroyed? You're responsible for this!!" yelled Jerrell. "You've created a monster, Orbital. You're an abomination!"

"Created? I did not create Gusher...I found him. Unlike other fighters...he was born naturally strong. I do not know his origins, but he is my trump card."

"Tyson Spade will stop him! Yes, that's right. If there is anyone who can do it, it's Tyson."

"Ha! Not even Tyson Spade can defeat Gusher. You might as well prepare his funeral."

"Ughhh!" screamed Nebula as he winced from the light show.

"This is...unbelievable!" Blazer exclaimed. He is not easily impressed by anything, but this is certainly the exception to the rule.

As for Adel, she was just plain shocked. This is what she had been afraid of all along, that Gusher will open both his eyes and unleash his full power. She sensed a little of his power during their confrontation, but this is nothing like what she expected. This is indeed the worst case scenario.

"AAAAAH!!!" The mighty Gusher continued to power up, and there's no telling how long it can take. Tyson watched wordlessly as his opponent is getting stronger and stronger by the second. Gusher's energy was expanding, and it went to Tyson's area. Tyson had to make a shield to prevent himself from being disintegrated. Bam!! Now the area was split into two halves, one half was Tyson's area, which was burning red with the Phoenix's energy, and the other was Gusher's area, which was white.

Even Zelfire and Faith, who stood at a rooftop, were not safe. Zelfire grabbed Faith's hand and flew away. Zap! An electric current just hit the spot they were standing on two seconds. Zap!

"This is insane!" said Zelfire. "I've never felt anything like this in my life!" Zelfire Lang has fought many battles over his years, and he has seen just about everything. But like he said, this is beyond expectations. "It's not safe here." he said to Faith. "We have to leave."

"No!" Faith replied. "We can't just leave Tyson here."

"He'll be fine!"

Zzzzzzt! Even the electric currents were dangerous, as they destroyed various lampposts and other objects. The vertical beam of light was shining bright and everything within its radius became a danger zone. And Gusher was at the center of all the chaos, mayhem, and destruction. All the strain were causing veins to pop up his muscles - there were veins on his forehead, biceps, shoulders, legs, chest, and pretty much everywhere else. He was still screaming like a madman, and he kept on releasing

the energy as if his body was made of it. It is a rare occasion that he opens his eyes, so he is going to make this worth it.

Never in their lives have they felt anything this powerful. It is truly the end of the world?

Midas and the children felt its presence, and Tina was scared out of her mind. Junior hugged her and assured her that everything will be alright, even though he himself was scared. Even the heroes from the other side of the city felt Gusher's fearful presence. Amanda, Lisa, and Erika stopped what they were doing as they felt it.

"What in the world is that?" Lisa asked.

"It's coming from there." Erika said, pointing at the light in the sky. Everyone looked in that direction in awe.

Lisa also felt Tyson's presence in that area. Her fights, however hard they were, is nothing compared to what Tyson is about to face. And secretly, she bid good luck to her childhood friend.

The Phoenix had to keep up his shield against Gusher's immense power. He had to struggle just to stay alive, and Gusher hasn't even started fighting yet. Zzzzzt! The beam of light was blowing up everything near it. Windows cracked. Cars were blown away. Rock chunks floated up from the ground. The observers were having a hard time, as they were in the front row of the show of their lives.

Finally, the power up was in its final stages. Gusher's screaming grew lower, and the veins disappeared from his body. The electric currents calmed and eventually died down. The beam of light became thinner and thinner, and soon vanished. The rock chunks stopped floating and fell down.

Now, there was nothing left but Gusher himself. Everything was quiet. His eyes were finally open, and revealed for the first time. They were just normal eyes, like everyone else's, but his eyeballs seem to be glowing a special color. There was a sinister smile on his lips. He has never been this excited by a fighter before. There were some who came close, but still, he became victorious. He's always won fights with very little effort, but now, it could be the most exciting of his life, the one that he's been waiting for all along.

The four observers on ground level were still shocked from what they experienced. They watched to see what has changed in the new Gusher. How much has his power increase since he opened his eyes?

Faith: "Tyson has to fight that monster?"

Zelfire did not know what to say. He looked at her, and then looked at the fighters.

Blazer was so shocked that he looked constipated. "This is impossible!"

Nebula: "This is Gusher's true power? He had that much power hidden in his eyes?"

Subzero: "How can any single person be this powerful...it is as if he is a God-warrior."

Blazer: "He truly **is** the exception."

All attention was on the center of the battlefield. Gusher took a look around in astonishment, as he hasn't seen anything but pitch darkness for most of his life.

"Yes...yesssss!!!" he exclaimed. "I can see at last..." He lifted his head up and felt the air around. "The air, the foul smell of death, the buildings, the shining sun in the sky...I can see everything!" Then he looked at Tyson. "Including my opponent."

He was delighted to be able to see his opponent so clearly now – the embodiment

of fire, the rings of fire around his limbs, and his face, of course. The warrior that stands before him is indeed the baby that Margarita was holding. And that baby is the strongest fighter in the universe, second to him, of course.

"You don't know how it feels to finally open be able to open my eyes." Gusher said. And he flashes back. "Ever since the day I was born, others noticed that I was different. I was but an orphan in a desert, a barren wasteland with little food or vegetation."

Gusher, as a kid, was walking through the desert. The only person he had was himself, he had no friends or family, and he was a true lone wolf. He never relied on anybody in his life. He has been walking this desert for as far as he can remember. He did not know his origins. The desert became his natural domain.

While he was walking, a sandworm popped out of the ground and roared, its ugly face glaring at Gusher. The kid did not show even one ounce of fear. He opened his palm and fired a beam through the creature's mouth, and it went through to the other side of its head, killing it instantly. The giant worm fell and bled on the sand.

"On planet Murai, it is truly survival of the fittest. As I grew, so did my skills. You can say I had a natural gift for fighting. My sixth sense is higher than that of normal fighters...significantly higher."

A younger Gusher was facing off with three enemies. They were all top class assassins, armed with glowing auras. They charged forward, and Gusher opened his palm and released a shockwave that tore the ground. Crrrrr - Kaboom! The three warriors were hit by the shockwave, and they, along with the ground, were blown into smithereens. They did not even stand a chance.

"No one even came close to defeating me! I defeated fighter after fighter with my own skills and abilities. People don't remember how many times they wake up or brush their teeth, it is the same for me when it comes to killing. I have killed so much that it became second nature to me, it is what I do naturally, just like breathing. After defeating warrior after warrior, I became tired of winning, it became a chore for me. I decided that no one was worthy my sight..."

Gusher decided one day to close his eyes...for good...and lived in a world of darkness.

"I could still fight without my vision. I fought on my sixth sense alone. I've fought and killed mercilessly, seeking the worthy opponent that will one day make me open my eyes again. No one came close...except for one other. Dark Spectre."

Adel listened with all ears. She's heard this story before, but only briefly.

Dark Spectre went to challenge the strongest fighter on Murai. This was when he was still "normal", before needed the suit to help him breathe. They waited for the right moment to strike, and suddenly, charged into each other. Wham!

"As a result of that fight, he was scarred for life...but that only made him stronger. He came back a second time, and his energy signal was phenomenal. It was the most pleasant energy I've ever felt."

Gusher powered up to the extreme and opened his eyes in the process. A vertical beam of light was produced, and all the observers winced and cowered. The new Spectre and Gusher fought once more, and it was an exhausting battle. At the very end, both were exhausted, and had no energy left. They both fell, but Gusher was the first to fall, so he admits defeat.

"That was the only time I opened my eyes. I followed Dark Spectre, knowing that through his empire, I will satisfy my thirst for blood. If I follow him, I knew that one day I will find a truly worthy opponent just like he was. But I have been disappointed for so long. There were so many worthy fighters, yet they were all worthless." Then his eyeballs rolled to the corner of his eye, looking at Adel. And she

knew he was talking about her. "They were afraid to confront me. I am surrounded by cowards! But today is different. After years of searching, I have finally found a worthy opponent! Every single fight I have fought was always predictable. I want a fight that is exciting and worthwhile! A fight where the outcome is unknown and unpredictable! That is what I long for!"

Nebula: (I've never felt a power force like this before! Tyson...you can't lose to him. You have to win!)

"I am tired of beating weaklings." Gusher continued. "If I did not find a worthy fighter here, then I will destroy this worthless planet along with every single person on it!"

"Enough!!" Tyson suddenly yelled out, surprising everybody.

[Split screen - 3] [Blazer, Adel, Nebula].

He remained quiet during the whole transformation sequence and while Gusher was telling his life's story. He was too scared by all this and just stood there like a deer in headlights, and fear leads to anger. "I've heard enough from you! Who do you think you are? Some kind of God? How dare you judge others! Just because you are stronger than other people, that doesn't give you the right to kill them! You are way beyond hope, Gusher. You were born a freak of nature. I am going to correct the wrongs of nature by eliminating you!"

Gusher was not intimidated, but rather, amused by his statement. "Oh, is that so? What are you going to show me?"

Tyson sprang forward like a fireball, and he put all the strength he had into his fist, and he was determined to teach his opponent a thing or two about pain. Gusher did not dodge, he took the punch. KAPOW! He felt the fist and the burning sensation from the fire. His feet scraped the ground as he was pushed back by the force of the punch, but that was about it.

Tyson was surprised that he did not fall. Gusher pushed Tyson's fist away and gave him a punch of his own. Wham! Tyson was knocked all the way back, and his body hit the pavement and rolled a few times before coming to a stop.

All the heroes were shocked. "No!!!" Faith yelled.

That one hit already determines the difference in their strength. The new Gusher is something to be reckoned with. The Phoenix has a tough battle ahead of him.

Nebula: "Tyson's punch didn't work on him!?"

The Phoenix stood up and wiped the blood off his mouth. He was surprised by the pain on his cheek. He could've sworn the bone in his cheek broke when he was hit.

"I want this fight to be the best one in my life!" shouted Gusher. "Don't disappoint me!" He opened his palm and gathered energy.

The hero expected the worst. A thick beam came from Gusher's palm, and it was heading his way. Tyson quickly jumped over it, and it blew up the ground. Kabam! While in the air, Tyson threw the Wrath Beam down. Gusher blurred. Kaboom! He appeared in the air. The Phoenix shot a bunch of fireballs at his enemy, Gusher dodged them all while moving forward and hit Tyson's face. Pow! He followed up with a punch to the chest. Wham! Tyson was being tossed back, and in the middle, he regained control of himself and stopped.

The silent warrior had a grin on his face. Once he starts fighting, he can't stop. Nothing can stop him.

Both warriors blurred and hit each other randomly in the air. Bam! Bam! They flew around in circles and hit without even thinking about it.

"Faith, you have to leave this area. It is too dangerous." said Zelfire.

"But..."

"There's nothing you can do for him now. He is on his own."

"If things get out of hand, you have to help him," she replied.

"Of course. I promise."

Faith flew away without turning back. Even though her husband was risking his life, she still had to suck it up and leave, for the sake of her own safety.

The two continued going at it. Bam. Bam. Tyson made a hard punch forward, and Gusher blurred, and appeared behind him and hit him in the back. Wham. As Tyson was falling, Gusher flew to him and hit him again, and then he went below him and hit him once more. Whack! Gusher was flying circles around Tyson and hitting him non-stop, and Tyson was helpless in the process. Wham. Wham. Wham. Gusher gave him one last hit, and it sent him spiraling down to the street pavement. Crash!

A cloud of dust covered the area from the impact. The heroes knew that Spade would not be defeated that easily. A hit like that may be devastating, but he's been through worst. Sure enough, when the dust cleared away, Tyson was still standing firm. He was injured, but he did not show any signs of it.

The tyrant laughed while gathering energy. Tyson once again did not know what to expect, since from the beginning he is full of surprises. Gusher's body became filled with electricity, and as he released it there seemed to be an earthquake. Brrrrrrr. He fired a shockwave and it was almost as tall as a building. It went in a straight path. Tyson quickly jumped out of harm's way. Kaboom-boom-boom-boom. The shockwave tore everything in its path, and destroyed things near it. It exploded all the way down, until it reached a few miles, and exploded one last time.

Tyson was bewildered by such a display of power. He could easily wipe out this city if he wanted to. Again, he turned his fear into anger. No one is going to ruin the planet earth, which is his home, not if he can help it.

A space pod landed in the forest. When the pod door opened, out came Angela Lianz. The first thing she did was use her sixth sense to track down the person she was looking for. She flew up and landed on ground level. She was shocked to see a group of dead bodies lying around. Could Jerrell have done this? Without further hesitation, she tracked Jerrell's direction and headed that way.

"Hyah!" Wham! Jerrell kicked Orbital in the chest, knocking him back a few feet. Orbital propelled energy from his back to prevent himself from falling, and landed on his feet.

The vertical beam of light in the sky was gone, but that is no indication that the fight is over. Jerrell and Orbital, two of the most important leaders of the war, are having a showdown where there is only one survivor.

And just outside Murai's orbit, the Alliance spaceships are getting ready for one final battle.

Lily was ready for battle, sitting in her mobile suit. Jamell once again gave a motivational speech before sending the soldiers off. "Remember that we not fighting just for ourselves, but for the suffering of the previous generation, and the freedom of future generations to come! For peace and freedom!"

All mobile suit and X-Fighter units launched at once. This time, the Alliance is not holding anything back. Fighting with everything on the line, these battles will change the course of history forever.

“AAAAAH!!!!” The mighty Gusher continued to power up, and there’s no telling how long it can take. Tyson watched wordlessly as his opponent is getting stronger and stronger by the second. Gusher’s energy was expanding, and it went to Tyson’s area. Tyson had to make a shield to prevent himself from being disintegrated. Bam!! Now the area was split into two halves, one half was Tyson’s area, which was burning red with the Phoenix’s energy, and the other was Gusher’s area, which was white.

The Phoenix had to keep up his shield against Gusher’s immense power. He had to struggle just to stay alive, and Gusher hasn’t even started fighting yet. Zzzzzt! The beam of light was blowing up everything near it. Windows cracked. Cars were blown away. Rock chunks floated up from the ground. The observers were having a hard time, as they were in the front row of the show of their lives.

Finally, the power up was in its final stages. Gusher’s screaming grew lower, and the veins disappeared from his body. The electric currents calmed and eventually died down. The beam of light became thinner and thinner, and soon vanished. The rock chunks stopped floating and fell down.

Now, there was nothing left but Gusher himself. Everything was quiet. His eyes were finally open, and revealed for the first time. They were just normal eyes, like everyone else’s, but his eyeballs seem to be glowing a special color. There was a sinister smile on his lips. He has never been this excited by a fighter before. There were some who came close, but still, he became victorious. He’s always won fights with very little effort, but now, it could be the most exciting of his life, the one that he’s been waiting for all along.

The city was already damaged from the battle, but now with the battle between Gusher and the Phoenix, it will be even worse. The shockwave that Gusher released tore the ground apart. A ruined and abandoned city...is the perfect stage for the fight for the universe.

Tyson was floating about in the air, mulling over what his next move would be. At first he had the advantage, but that advantage has gone to his opponent. He must make his moves wisely; otherwise, it can cost him his life.

The Phoenix fired the Eternal Flames, and Gusher went straight into it, just like last time. But this time, he pushed through the fire and headed straight to his target. Tyson quickly got out of the way of Gusher’s deadly fist.

Gusher continued to advance and attack while Tyson went on the defensive. They disappeared and appeared all over the place.

“Things don’t look good for Tyson.” said Nebula. “If we don’t do something soon, he’ll...”

“Then what should we do? We should not just stand around and wait.”

Nebula: “He’s going to come after us after he’s done with Tyson. I know it. We have to stop him before that happens.”

Subzero: “I see. We must attack him before he attacks us.”

Adel: “No...our only choice is to escape.”

Nebula: “Are you suggesting that we run away like cowards? And leave Tyson behind?”

“Attacking Gusher at this stage is suicide!”

Subzero: "I'm afraid I have to agree with Nebula on this one. No matter where we run to, Gusher will find us eventually. It is better we attack him now."

Nebula: "We have to wait for him to let his guard down...then strike him."

Tyson was becoming frustrated as his situation became worse. This fight has turned around completely in Gusher's favor, whether he'd like to admit it or not. His movements were so different than before.

Flash! Gusher vanished and appeared and punched Tyson in the face. Kapow! He moved so quick not even the Phoenix's eyes could catch up with him. The Phoenix was slammed against the building's wall. Gusher came straight at him, and he quickly got out of the way, and Gusher's fist destroyed the concrete. Bam!

Even though the hero is supposedly an invincible creature of legend, and his whole body was filled with fire, he was not winning. Gusher clearly showed his superiority from the beginning and he did not hold back one bit. He was so much different than before, it is hard to fathom that the new Gusher and the old one are the same person.

At first, he was just a cold blooded, illogical killer with no purpose other than to fight for the sake of fighting. But now that his eyes are open, many other things about him have opened. His fighting ability is unlike any other Tyson has ever seen. He can't even imagine a worse opponent in his dreams. Gusher is truly a nightmare come true, the warrior from hell who is searching for his next victim. And to top it off, Gusher's talents are natural; it is as if he was meant to be a God-warrior.

Kapow! Tyson was hit in the face, and he was being tossed around like a baseball in the air. After getting hit a few times, he got fed up and flew to a safe distance. As Gusher charged at him, Tyson fired the Eternal Flames at him. Froom! Gusher pushed himself through the flames and hit him. Wham! Tyson blocked, but he was still moving from the momentum of the hit, and Gusher appeared from the side and kicked him away. Whack!

"Don't tell me that is all you have?" said the open eyed warrior. "I have waited for this day for a long time, so don't disappoint me!"

The Phoenix screamed and shot a bunch of fireballs at his opponent. This is the Flames of Fury technique, and the idea is to throw so many fireballs in one direction that at least a few will hit. Gusher dodged them left and right. They kept on coming at him, and each one could have incinerated him. **Froom! Froom!**

Tyson became frustrated and he kept on firing. Gusher continued to dodge at his pace, and then he flew forward, going straight to his target. Tyson gasped. Gusher gathered dark energy into his fist and threw a punch, and Tyson quickly blurred and appeared a few feet away. That was a close one, as he avoided a fatal hit. With the new Gusher, every hit is a fatal one.

"I know you can do better than this, Tyson Spade!!" he taunted.

This pissed off the hero even more. He is not fighting to impress anyone, and he hates it when someone thinks he is better than him.

Gusher charged and let out a series of punches, and Tyson blocked by crossing his arms over his face. Whack whack whack! He was taking a real beating. But he blocked and dodged and waited for the right opportunity. The second he saw an opening, he punched Gusher in the chest. Thud! Tyson followed up with a punch to the chin, and a burning fist to his face. Pow! Sssst! Gusher felt this one for sure.

While he was being thrown back, Tyson followed up with a flying kick. Wham! The villain fell all the way to the street and landed with a crashing sound, and a puff of dust was made.

Tyson landed and felt good about his mini-victory. That will show him who's boss. "How was that?" But much to his dismay, Gusher just wiped the blood off his mouth like it was no big deal. He was still smiling and it's clear he's enjoying the fight.

Gusher's eyes glowed for a split second, and he vanished. Tyson gasped and he quickly jumped out of harm's way. He just avoided a devastating energy punch from Gusher. His fist was already charged up, and even the wind of his movements blew the papers away.

Gusher looked up at him, and suddenly flew up. Tyson fired the Eternal Flames, and Gusher blocked it with his shield and pushed it using sheer force. Then he flew around the beam and hit Tyson upwards. Wham! Then Gusher appeared where Tyson would end up. The hero gasped in surprise. He never thought his opponent would be this fast and it is difficult to even keep up with him. Sweat drops dripped down his head.

"You **are** a disappointment." Gusher whispered. And promptly blasted him on the back. Zzzzzzzt!

"AAAAAAH!!!" screamed the Phoenix as he was hit at point blank. Pieces of his clothes fell off his back as he hit the ground with a splat.

"Tyson! This is not good." said Nebula, clenching his fist tightly. "I can't just wait here any longer. I have to do something."

Adel: "No! Now that Gusher's eyes are open, it is like he has eyes on the back of his head. He can see everything within a half a mile radius."

"I don't care." Nebula replied. "This guy is a monster! He must be stopped!"

"The best option for us is to run away." replied Adel.

"Run away? I am not going to abandon my brother!"

"Don't you see that we're no match for him!"

Nebula, being hot-headed again, grabbed Adel by the collar and got in her face. "I didn't know you were such a coward, Adel. I thought you were the Phantom, the one who is supposedly feared by everyone! But deep down inside you are just a useless person!"

"Enough." Blazer said, grabbing Nebula's arm. "We should not be fighting **each other**. For the time being, we are all on the same side."

Nebula promptly let go. "Tch."

Adel retained her usual attitude. "Hmph. If you guys have a death wish, then so be it. I am not going to stay around and waste my life."

Kaboom! Tyson did back flips to avoid the incoming energy beams. Kaboom! Boom! If he was even a split second slower, he'd be blown to shreds. Boom! Floating in the air, Gusher kept on firing and laughing like a maniac. "Ha ha ha ha! Ha ha ha!" And unlike other six sense fighters, he is not going to run out of energy any time soon.

Unfortunately, the same does not apply to Tyson. His power is limited by the power of the Enchron Crystal, and he cannot keep up this form forever. He knows this, but knowing it will not help his situation.

Gusher continued to fire beams at the same intensity, and Tyson ran away from them. Kaboom! Dust covered the area. Tyson ran behind the building. The beams blew up the building like it's nothing. Kaboom!

The observers covered themselves from the dust.

Tyson stood in the middle of the battleground and he could not see a thing. There was nothing but clouds of dust and smoke. Gusher walked through the smoke slowly. Even though the area was hardly visible, he can still "see" his opponent.

"What happened to that power of yours?" he taunted.

"You want a fight that badly? Then I will give you a fight!" Tyson shouted.

Without a second thought, they smashed into each other's fists and began the hitting fest again. Each time they hit a shockwave was produced. That is how strong their energy was. Bam! Bam!

"I have never seen Tyson Spade have so much trouble with one person before...when he is in the form of the Phoenix." said Subzero. "We have to accept the reality of the situation."

"Are you saying he's going to lose?" Nebula asked.

"All evidence suggests that." Subzero replied in his calm and calculated manner. "And do not forget that he can only remain in this form for a short period of time. Spade's power is limited by the power of the Enchron Crystal."

"He is still fighting." Blazer added. "As long as he is not dead, he still has a chance."

"Tyson has one hell of an opponent." said Zelfire. "In all my years of fighting, I have never felt anything that even came close to Gusher's power." And he is ashamed to admit it, because he hates being helpless.

"Isn't the Phoenix supposed to be an invincible creature of legend?" Blazer asked.

"Yes, but I'm afraid it is still not enough." said Subzero.

Zelfire: "At this rate, he is going to lose. Isn't there anything we can do, Adel?"

Nebula: "Don't ask her. She'll just tell us to abandon him."

"I'm sorry, but I don't have all the answers." Adel replied. "Even though I was a member of the elite Council, many things were hidden from me. Gusher was always praised as a valuable fighter on Murai. I have never fought him before, and I have no idea thing would turn out like this..."

Zelfire: "It is hard to believe...he had that much power hidden within his eyes. The second he opened them, all hell broke loose. He is a rare fighter indeed, you don't find too many of those."

Blazer: "Guys like him come once in several generations."

Zelfire: "I have heard that some fighters with the sixth sense are exceptional beyond measure. They defy the boundaries of power and they're in a class of their own. He could have the gift called the seventh sense."

Nebula: "Seventh sense?"

"Yes." Zelfire replied. "Only a select few in the entire universe have that rare gift. Those who have even the highest K-factors can train their whole lives but never reach this level of being. Their K-factor is unlike any other...and once they train their sixth sense enough, they reach a whole new level of power...a level known as the seventh sense."

Subzero: "Are you saying that Tyson is fighting someone who has the seventh sense?"

"I don't even know if there is such a thing. But if there is, Gusher would be a prime candidate."

Froom! Gusher just dodged a fiery beam. His glowing eyes can see almost everything that is happening. Even when his opponent is behind him, he can sense his movements and exact location with much accuracy. He was able to fight with his eyes closed, and with his eyes open, he is nothing but a powerhouse of destruction.

Froom! Froom! Tyson fired like crazy, but none of them hit. Gusher flew in between the beams and punched Tyson from point blank. Pow! He had the wind knocked out of him for a second. While be thrown back, he regained control of himself

in mid-air. He was tired of getting hit and being tossed around like some kind of ball. He is not going to lose, especially not as the Phoenix, because many lives besides his own are on the line.

Gusher rushed forward with his fist eager to break something. Whoosh! Tyson blurred and appeared a few meters away. Gusher fired a bunch of energy balls, straying in all directions. Tyson dodged them and flew past them, and hit Gusher in the face. Kapow! His fiery fist gave Gusher a burning sensation on his cheek, and this time, he felt it for sure. He followed up with a knee to the chest.

"Ugh! Agh!"

Tyson shot a beam of fire straight at him, and while Gusher tried to block it, it burned him and pushed him to the ground. He fell like a comet. Kaboom!

The Phoenix landed. Gusher stood up with an expressionless face. Then he smiled. The scars on his face and arms were healing by themselves. Tyson gasped. (It can't be!)

Within seconds, all scratches and bruises disappeared from his skin. Tyson thought that self-healing would be his one advantage, but apparently, Gusher has some secrets of his own.

The silent warrior opened his palm and fired a beam. Tyson quickly jumped out of harm's way. The beam destroyed the bottom half of a nearby building. Gusher appeared directly in front of him, and he gasped. Gusher had his arms crossed, and he was staring at Tyson with his threatening presence.

"I thought I told you I don't want to be disappointed. Don't tell me that this is the best you can do?"

Tyson got mad and kicked Gusher in the chin. Whack. He let out punches like crazy. Pow-pow-pow. Gusher could not do anything but receive the hits. Pow-pow-pow! He continued his combo with an uppercut to the chin. Whack! But he did not stop there. Tyson kicked Gusher in the chest, hard enough to send him flying into the next building. Kabam!

Predictably, Gusher got up and his wounds started to heal themselves. Suddenly, a lightning bolt struck Tyson's heart. The Enchron Crystal was beating, and that means he's running out of energy. It is only a matter of time before he is no longer the Phoenix. Can the hero defeat his adversary with the given conditions?

[B] Contents

Bam! Bam! The two fighters on the grass plains were still going at it. They have fought for a while, and they showed no signs of slowing down at all. Bam! Bam!

Jerrell and Orbital exchanged fists of anger and hatred. Pow! They flew away to a safe distance and Jerrell threw a bunch of energy balls. Orbital blocked with his shield and blurred from place to place. Flash. Flash.

Jerrell fired a white beam and Orbital blocked with his light shield. Bam! He countered with an energy wave that pushed Jerrell's beam all the way back. Jerrell quickly got out of harm's way as the energy wave went past him. Orbital appeared above him and punched him. Whack!

Both landed on the ground and did the stare. Orbital raised his arms and produced an orb in the air.

Jerrell: "That again?"

Orbital: "Even you don't have enough energy for a second attack. Let's see you blow up this one!" He swings his arms forward, and the orb flew towards Jerrell. But it wasn't just one of them, there was there of them. They hovered around over him and zapped.

"Electric Storm!" Jerrell used his famed technique, releasing a current of electricity within his area of influence. Zzzzzzt! The orbs shattered and energy sparkles were released into the air.

"Oh, pitiful Jerrell. You still have not learned anything, have you? Things would have been better off you had minded your own business."

"It's you who should mind your own business. You're the one who started this crazy war!"

"This war is merely a continuation of the Great War, can't you understand that? You are lucky to have survived the war in Arlia. You're nothing but a damaged and defective product from the past!"

"I'll show you who's defective." Jerrell positioned his body sideways and gathered energy for a big attack.

Orbital raised his arms up and gathered energy for a big ball. Jerrell gasped. He wonders if he can make his attack in time. If he releases it now, the beam will be weak. But if he waits longer, his opponent might hit him before he gets a chance to use it. It was a hard decision indeed for our hero, who was running out of time.

The first one to fire was Orbital. Bammm! The energy ball came at lightning fast speed. Jerrell released his beam and the two forces collided and struggled.

Somewhere in the vicinity of the fight, Angela was searching for Jerrell using her sixth sense. Because of the battle, Jerrell's location was hazy, but as she closed her eyes and focused, she was able to use her sixth sense without any distractions. And she saw him in her mind, or rather, she saw his life force, and was able to pinpoint his exact location.

Zzzzzzt! The valiant struggle of the energies continued. Orbital's ball overpowered the other beam and it went all the way to Jerrell and hit him. Bam! Even a tough one like Jerrell took this one hard. He was knocked into the air, and he fell backwards. Splat.

Orbital laughed. "Don't you know you can't defeat me? I have been personally trained by Dark Spectre himself!"

Jerrell panted for breath. Orbital opened his palm and was about to fire.

Suddenly, Angela showed up and took out her gun. "Hold it!"

Orbital quickly turned to the right as Angela pulled the trigger. Bang! Orbital turned around and fired a beam at the bullet.

"Angela?" said Jerrell in surprise.

Angela kept firing bullets and they hit Orbital's shield and bounced away. Orbital fired a beam in her direction.

Angela jumped away from the blast, and she was knocked down. Kaboom!

"Noooo!" Jerrell rammed into Orbital and hit him angrily. He let out punches in a fit of rage. Whoosh whoosh.

Orbital was hit on the face as he tried to dodge. Pow! Kapow! Jerrell punched the daylights out of him, and followed up with a kick. Orbital jumped out of the way and did some twists and turns in the air and landed. The tyrant wiped his mouth and stared at the blood on his hand. He can't even remember the last time he saw his own blood. This made him angry.

"You've done enough." said the sayan. "You are going to get it!" Jerrell charged himself up with energy and flew forward like jet. Froom!

Orbital was ready to block it, putting his arms over his head. Whack! Jerrell kicked him and he fell. He was ticked as he got back up. Things were not going his way, and if they don't go his way, he doesn't like it.

But Jerrell wasn't done yet. No way hosay, Orbital deserved much more punishment for hurting Angela. He gathered energy into his fist and continued his

relentless assault. Orbital waited for him to come, when he got close enough, he dodged Jerrell's fist. In slow motion, Orbital bent his upper body back and Jerrell barely missed him by an inch. Then Orbital kneed Jerrell in the stomach. Thud! It knocked the wind out of him. In the same motion, Orbital kicked Jerrell in the chin, knocking him away. Whack!

Angela crawled on the ground. "Jerrell..." she cried out. But she did not have the strength to stand up or do anything.

The hero received a hard hit, but like the sayan way, those who fall must stand back up.

Orbital checked his wrist device. (It has sustained some damage. It can only last a couple of more hits at most.)

The super sayan caught his breath and tried to ignore the pain in his stomach. At first it was paralyzing, but now it is just a numbing pain. No matter what, Florencia can't be defeated. For he doesn't fight just for himself, but he represents the entire Galactic Police, the organization that he created with his sweat, blood and tears...and I meant it literally...the sweat of those who trained hard their whole lives, the blood of those who were slain, and the tears of the family members of those who were slain.

Orbital once again released an orb in the air, and it set its sight on its target. Jerrell quickly jumped away from its zapping ray. The orb continued to chase him. Jerrell flew to the air and the orb followed him.

Orbital smirked as he watched Jerrell and the orb fly around. He fired a beam up. Jerrell was taken by surprise, and the beam knocked him down. He fell to the ground and the orb zapped him. Zzzzzt.

"Aaaaaah!" he screamed as his energy was being sucked from him. But he would not fall down, instead, he walked forward towards Orbital.

The old man was startled that he can still walk while being drained like that. Jerrell's determination was astounding, and he grew worried. "Stay back..."

Jerrell kept on walking forward, step by step. He grunted in pain, but walked on he did.

"Stay back!" Orbital shouted. He shot energy balls and hit him.

Jerrell took those hits like they were nothing. He walked forward with his arms in front of him and he grabbed Orbital, and the orb sucked on both of them. They both grunted and screamed at the top of their lungs. This kind of pain was unbearable, and no one, not even these two, can last long.

Orbital pushed Jerrell away, and he fell down. But Orbital was still being drained by his own orb, and he was paralyzed. The orb was draining his energy and at the same time, transferring that energy to him that came from him. His device overloaded and cracked, and his body grew weak from this process. "Ughhhh! Aaaaah!!"

Jerrell stood up and just watched his foe being given a taste of his own medicine. He's sucked many other people's energy, and now the very weapon which he values is sucking on him. How ironic and fitting for someone like him.

"Aaaaaaaah!! Nooooo!"

Jerrell gathered energy for his finishing attack; this will be his farewell present to Dark Orbital. Choom. The Wrath Beam came at him and in Orbital's eyes, everything turned white. He saw nothing but the light, the light of his own demise.

He remembers a conversation that he had a long time ago. It was more like a one way conversation though. In the Supreme House, Dark Spectre, sitting on his floating chair, hovered over to Orbital, who was kneeling.

"Dark Orbital, you are my one successor, and one day you shall take my place in the throne of the Empire. Not a soul in this world can stop you."

And the next memory was a recent one. "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."

Indeed, he was right, no one can match his ambitions. No one comes even close. But those ambitions...or his destiny, as he calls it, can only be realized if he stays alive.

Choooom! The beam disintegrated his body piece by piece. Orbital did not even have time to fathom that his very own technique caused his downfall. In that flash of a moment, he regretted not being to accomplish his life's dream, the dream that Dark Spectre passed onto him.

"No...no! I can't die! Nooooo!"

Kaboom! Orbital's body exploded, and so did the orb. Energy sparkles drifted everywhere.

Finally, Jerrell can take a breath of relief. He just let himself go, and his hair turned back to its original color, and he went back to his normal state. Keeping himself in the second stage was a lot of work, but in the end, the effort was worth it. He fell to his knees and he couldn't believe how exhausted he was.

Angela came over to him and a look of surprise came over his face.

Osborne crawled on the ground. He looked up and saw Sorell offering a hand. He gladly took it. It has been a long time since the three of them – Mai, Sorell, and Osborne, stood together like this. The energy sparkles drifted towards them, and they knew this was a sign that the fight is over.

"Are you alright, Osborne?" Sorell asked.

"I'll live." he replied. "This is just like the old times."

"Yeah." Mai replied.

Angela helped Jerrell stand up by putting his arm around her shoulder. He was tired from the fight and he felt happy that someone was there for him. "Angela...about before...I'm sorry..."

"Forget it about it." Angela replied. She did not want to hear an apology. "Let's just get you to a hospital."

Flying wasn't an option because of his condition, so they walked. And for Jerrell Florencia, this day was a victory in more ways than one.

52: Cry of the Phoenix, Tears of the Phantom.

Contents

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Within seconds, all scratches and bruises disappeared from his skin. Tyson thought that self-healing would be his one advantage, but apparently, Gusher has some secrets of his own.

As the war for the earth is nearing its end, the battle of the century continues. In a city ruined by war, two of the strongest fighters in the world are fighting for superiority and fighting for their own survival.

The silent warrior known as Gusher surprised everyone when he transformed by opening his eyes, and it was literally an eye-opener for everyone who felt his presence. Even though Tyson was the Phoenix, he had trouble with his new adversary. With his time running out, can he turn the situation around?

The two fighters were going at it in the air, hitting spontaneously. Bam! Bam! They've been going at it for a while. The observers were still there, wondering what their next course of action should be.

A few blocks away. Faith came back to her group. "Daughter, what is happening? What is this frightening energy I sense?" Midas asked.

"There is no time to explain." Faith told everyone. "You guys must leave here now!"

Junior: "Leave? But we came all the way here."

Faith: "You have to trust me. This place is dangerous. You have to go now."

"But what about you mother?"

"I have to stay behind...in case they need a healer. They need me."

Tina: "No, don't leave us behind!"

Faith bent down to look at her cute daughter. "I'll be fine. You have to trust me, okay?"

Tina was only a child, and she did not understand the adult world. All she wants is for her family to be together like they used to.

Rocket: "Is uncle Zelfire over there?"

"Yes." Faith replied. "He will come back for you, and all of us will." Then she looked at Midas. "I leave them in your hands, father."

Without saying another word, Midas took the children to another area. After she watched them leave, Faith stared in the direction of the battle, and she was worried about the safety of her husband.

Bam!! Tyson fired the Eternal Flames and Gusher countered with a dark energy beam. The black and red beams collided and created a vortex at the center. Everything was being blown away from it, except for the two fighters, who were pumping energy into their beams. Zzzzzzzt!

It took a lot to just even produce the beams, but ultimately, the stronger beam will overtake the weaker one. The dark energy beam pushed the flames away and headed for Tyson. He screamed like hell as the dark energy hit him. "AAAAAH!!!"

Tyson landed on the ground and fell on his knees and panted for breath. Gusher floated in the air, and by the look on his face, he was planning something. Gusher fired the giant energy wave, and Tyson flew out of harm's way. Kaboom! This time, the wave

went in four different directions. Everything in the four lines of destruction was destroyed.

Again, his actions have wowed everybody. He laughed like maniac. "AHA HA HA HA HA! HA HA HA HA!!" The magnitude of his laughter matched his destructive nature. His evil laughter seemed to echo throughout the city.

Tyson just looked at the wreckage he created and he knew that he had to stop this menace before he destroys even more. He clenched his fist tightly.

"Ha ha ha ha! Ha ha ha ha ha!" Gusher just laughed with his eyes wide open. For some reason, he found it funny that he can destroy so much with so little effort.

The Phoenix shot a fiery beam at his target, and Gusher stopped laughing and quickly blocked it with his hand. Bam! The energy disintegrated before it even touched him.

Tyson powered up furiously and flew up high, higher than all the buildings. He flew up to the sky and shot fireballs down. Gusher dodged them swiftly. The hero fired non-stop, and he was sure with enough luck, he can make a hit. But he groaned in pain as the Enchron Crystal was beating inside of him. It means his time is running out. But he did not care, he continued to push himself. He released a storm of fireballs.

Gusher dodged and blocked the ones he could not dodge. Froom! Froom! Froom! The rest of the fireballs blew things up on the ground. Bam, bam, bam. Gusher continued his seemingly random movements, which were actually calculated and precise movements. Froom! Froom!

Eventually, Tyson became tired out. It was a valiant effort, but nonetheless, it was still not enough to faze his enemy. And worst yet, his reckless use of energy shortened the time in which he can remain in the Phoenix stage. The hero panted for breath as he watched Gusher closely, wondering what his next move will be. Tyson is running out of ideas...and running out of time.

"So that is what the Phoenix is capable of." said Dark Gusher. "But ultimately you are still a disappointment. I opened my eyes for you. I know you have more!! Show me that pleasant energy of yours...or I will have to beat it out of you!"

After he said that, how can Tyson not attack out of anger? The two fighters rammed into each other at full speed. Bam! They pushed each other using their bodies and the energies propelling them. Gusher managed to push Tyson back a little, and eventually, Gusher was able to push him further and further until they crashed into a building. Crash!

Once they were inside, the others could not see anything. All they heard was sounds of screaming and fists being thrown.

Inside, Gusher was giving Tyson a pounding. Pow! He constantly hit him in the face until Tyson has had it. He powered up and screamed like a madman. Gusher hit him in the face, and Tyson took it and gave Gusher a fiery punch. Kapow!

He was knocked away, but before he hit anything he regained control of himself and landed on his feet. His feet scraped the ground and got burned, but he was still standing firm.

"Your days of killing are over!" Tyson said, and he meant it. He was not about to lose and let the Phoenix's abilities go to waste. Eyes open or not, he's going to crush the empire one by one, starting from the person standing right in front of him.

That thought alone was more than enough to help him fight on. Tyson Spade charged forward like a rocket and put his fist forward. His fist was already on fire, but he was moving so fast that it caught more fire.

This was a critical moment for Gusher as well. He could have jumped over him, but instead he waited for his opponent to come. "Yaaaaaaah!!!" He blocked the deadly fist and was being pushed back. His feet scraped the ground and went deep into it.

Tyson put everything he had into this one, as he just let the momentum from the flight be his strength. But eventually, Gusher was able to stop him completely. Tyson gasped. Gusher pulled Tyson into him and kned him in the stomach. Thud! That wasn't the end. While still holding his arm, Gusher threw him onto the ground. Wham! Then he kicked him, and the force of the kick knocked Tyson all the way to the wall. Wham!!

The hero has withstood a lot of punishment, but alas, his body has physical limits that not even he can push. The fire around his body slowly faded away and his hair was back to its golden white color. The Phoenix has apparently been deactivated.

[Split screen - 4] [Nebula, Subzero, Blazer, Adel].

Tyson got back up a little dazed. He was still in disbelief that he was back to fourth stage. The Phoenix's presence is gone, and the Enchron Crystal inside of him was not responding.

Nebula: "He's not the Phoenix anymore..."

Blazer: "So he finally ran out of energy."

"We have to do something..."

Gusher charged at him at full speed, and the hero quickly jumped out of the way. Now is not the time to be worrying, for he still has to fight. And this fight just became ten times harder. Whoosh, whoosh. Gusher punched non-stop, while Tyson dodged and moved backwards.

Whack! Tyson put his arms over his face to protect himself. Pow! Pow! Gusher hit low and landed one on his stomach. Thud! The silent warrior followed up with another one, and Tyson jumped away. In his mind, he knew he could not win, the name of the game is to see how long he can last before finally giving out.

Tyson fired beams at him, and Gusher knocked them away like they were mere flies. He knocked them away while running forward. Before he knew it, Gusher was right in front of him. He punched Tyson in the face. Kapow!! Like every hit from Gusher, it was painful, and he hit the pavement and rolled a few times.

The silent warrior purposely waited for his opponent to get up before continuing. Tyson got up and wiped the blood off his mouth. Gusher charged forward with a charged up fist, and the energy was shaped like an arrow. Froom! Tyson jumped out of harm's way.

Gusher hit the wall and it exploded. Kaboom! Dust covered the place.

Nebula was watching uncomfortably with his fist tightly clenched. "He won't last long at this rate...we have to step in now!" He took a step forward, and Adel got in front of him.

"No, it's a bad idea. If you do that then Gusher will come after you."

"If you want to live then run away like the coward you are." Nebula pushed her aside.

Subzero: "Hold it! We have to wait for the right moment."

"When is the right moment?! When Tyson is dead and we're collecting his corpse?"

Everyone felt the same way, but out of all of them, Nebula is probably the most impatient. Being rash is one thing, but that is his brother out there getting beat up.

Gusher came out from the smoke with that same smirk on his face. His eyes were certainly different from other people's eyes. His eyes have a deadly glow to them. They were the eyes of a killer, one who has killed his whole life. His hands were stained with the blood of countless innocent people over his decades of fighting. His life is fighting, and fighting is his life, and Tyson might become another one of his casualties.

But still, the hero denied that possibility. He just cannot believe it. He grunted and yelled and fired a bunch of energy discs. Gusher ran through them, covering himself. Slish, slish. Some of them scratched him, but he's not afraid of small wounds. Slish, slish. Gusher kicked Tyson, and once again, the hero was sent to the pavement. Wham!

Tyson stood up limply and he was facing the floor. At this point, victory was nearly impossible. His opponent is much more powerful than he was, and he's no longer the Phoenix.

To Gusher's surprise, Tyson let out a burst of laughter. A laugh of disbelief and desperation. "So this is how it is, huh? Not even the Phoenix can match your power. It looks like fate put me in this situation. Someone like you has all this power...someone like you, who doesn't know right from wrong, someone who doesn't even know how to care about others...someone who has nothing to protect and nothing to live for..."

"I must have hit your head too hard. You're no longer a worthy opponent, and thus you are useless to me!"

Tyson charged forward and did a sidekick. Wham! Gusher blocked it and returned the favor with a punch to his stomach. **Thud!** This one was more devastating than the others, and it threw Tyson all the way to the wall. Wham! Tyson's hair turned to black, and he collapsed on the ground.

He did his best, but his best was not enough. Now he is at the mercy of his opponent.

Nebula suddenly ran forward and blurred out of sight. Blazer and Subzero blurred as well. Only Adel remained there, and she just watched in awe.

As Dark walked closer to his victim, a beam came in front of him and he jumped away. Nebula appeared in front of him. Then Subzero and Blazer appeared, and Gusher realized that he was surrounded. But he was not worried.

"Oh, you the cowards have decided to play. Then let's play."

All three of the heroes powered up and shot their beams. "Hyaaaah!" "Hyuuuh!" "Hyaaaah!" They released it at the same time. Kaboom! Gusher took all of them with no problem. The energies surrounded him, but his energy field expanded and blew them all away. Bammm!

Adel covered herself from the dust.

Gusher took flight and soared all the way above the buildings. He started to unload a frenzy of beams at the ground, and consequently things were exploding everywhere. The tyrant did not care what he was hitting, he was in a psychopathic state of pure destruction. "Ha ha ha ha! Ha ha ha ha!" He felt like he was at the top of the world, and for all we know, he **is** at the top when it comes to power.

Nebula appeared behind him, and he knew without even looking or giving any effort. Gusher turned around. "It is useless to sneak behind me. My eyes can see everything."

"Maybe your eyes can see yourself getting your ass kicked!" Nebula fired a beam.

Gusher blocked it. Bam. It was nothing, considering that it was a surprise attack and the beam was weak. Gusher blurred and appeared in front of Nebula, which caught him by surprise. Pow! The tyrant punched him in the stomach and hit him non-stop. Pow-pow-pow-pow. His hands moved so fast it looked like he had four of them. Pow-pow-pow-pow. He finished his combo with an uppercut, and Nebula was sent pummeling down.

Aaaaaa...before halfway to ground level, Nebula opened his eyes and flew back up in a parabola. He had no time to rest, as he saw an onslaught of incoming beams. Froom, froom. He formed a shield and dodged them. Froom. Froom.

Tyson crawled on the street painfully. He was too weak to even stand up, but he had to know what was going on.

Zelfire went to his fallen comrade and lifted him up by the chest. "Tyson, can you walk?"

"I'm fine Mr. Lang...I guess I just am not strong enough."

Zelfire looked at him and saw the disappointment in his eyes.

"How can I match up to someone this powerful? What have I been doing this time?"

Tyson has always been full of spirit, but right now, he's not talking like his usual self. "This is no time to beat yourself up. We have to leave this place now."

"No...they are still fighting." Tyson replied. "You have to help them."

"They know the risks." said Zelfire, once again trying to speak logically. "We have to worry about ourselves."

"Every one of us counts...I don't want them to die."

Zelfire put Tyson on the floor and continued to watch the fight. He was having an inner conflict...he can escape or help his allies. What should he do?

Gusher himself came down and did a flying kick, Nebula blocked it and they both landed on the ground. It's time to get to business. Nebula Spade powered up and released the power of the Rainbow Crystal on his chest. It lit up as brightly as the sun and gave him an extra boost of energy. "Huuuuuuuuah!"

Dark Gusher always enjoys a challenge. "Interesting."

Nebula raised his right arm and gathered dark-blue energy. The core was floating a few feet from his hand, and the core grew bigger and bigger, until it became the Nebulon Blast.

This move has helped him countless times and always wowed his enemies. And this time, it will be no exception. Nebula threw the ball forward. "Nebulon Blast!!" The ball scraped the ground and came like a comet.

Gusher released his destructive wave, the one that blew up many buildings, and the two forces cancelled out. **KABOOM!** The energy was so intense that everything became white. Nebula and Gusher quickly jumped away, knowing if they don't they will be destroyed instantly.

Zelfire covered his eyes. Adel did the same.

In midst of the chaos, Gusher navigated through the blinding light, because his eyes can see even when others cannot. Pow! Nebula didn't know what hit him.

When the light faded away, and the smoke cleared, Nebula found himself beaten up. Obviously, his attack failed, and it probably was the cause to his loss.

Dark walked over to the fallen hero. "Well, where is your tough talk now?"

Blazer appeared and he powered up to the extreme. "Yaaaah!" He turned second stage and immediately pushed himself to fourth stage. He's not the type to fool around; he gets straight to the point.

Blazer rocketed forward head first and did a hard punch, Gusher dodged to the side. Blazer punched again and Gusher dodged to the opposite side. Blazer did an aerial kick and the tyrant blocked, preventing his foot from hitting his face. Whack! Without wasting a second, Blazer jumped up and somersaulted and did a flying kick. Gusher blocked it with both arms. Wham!

Blazer ran forward and punched, Gusher grabbed his fist and pushed it away, and kicked Blazer in the stomach. It knocked him into the wall. Crash.

Suddenly, an ice beam came his way, and he blurred. Subzero turned his right arm into a sword-shaped icicle and charged forward and slashed. Whoosh. Whoosh. Gusher dodged systematically until he found an opening.

Subzero continued to slash and Gusher blocked with his bare arm, and the ice sword cracked into pieces. **Pow!** Subzero was hit in the stomach and he fell.

[B] Contents

The ice warrior got back up. "This is absurd...I can't believe I am losing."

Gusher ran forward like locomotive. Subzero quickly fired a mini-version of the Ice Beam. Froom! Gusher's arm was frozen, but he did not lose speed and he punched Subzero's face with his frozen arm. Pow!

Then he raised his right arm and used his energy to break the ice. "What kind of meaningless trick is this?"

Suddenly, a beam hit him on the back and it hurt like hell. "Ughhh!!" Dark turned around and saw that it was Zelfire who fired it.

"Heh, it's not over yet. I don't care whether you are a God-warrior or not, but even Gods have fallen."

Dark was irritated because he was hit by surprise. And he was not able to sense the surprise attack. What's worst is that this weakling (in his view) was the one who injured him. As his back was healing itself, Gusher ran forward.

Zelfire blurred and did an aerial kick. Whack! He blocked it. Zelfire landed behind him and did a roundhouse kick. Whack! Zelfire did not know why, but for some reason he thought that he had a chance to win. Tyson's words spoke true to him...even if it is a slim chance, it is better than zero.

Zelfire ran forward and raised his leg high and kicked. Whack! It hit Gusher's face and his head tilted to the side. Gusher already had a fistful of energy, and he punched, and Zell quickly dodged to the side. The tyrant fired a shockwave at the ground, and it went straight at him. Zell was hit and he was thrown to the air. Gusher appeared in front of him and kicked him in the stomach. Wham!

At least that nuisance won't cause him any more trouble. Seconds later, Gusher's sixth sense picked up Adel's presence behind him. He turned around to face her.

Tyson was surprised that she decided to fight. So was everyone else.

"So, you finally decided to stop hiding?"

"Who's hiding?" Adel replied.

"I thought you were going to back away from a challenge just like last time because you were afraid."

"Afraid? Of you? You're overestimating yourself, Gusher!" Adel powered up and screamed like crazy. Her body became an energy cell of electricity and rocks floated up from the ground. Even the rocks were charged with electricity. Everything floated up and the rocks went all over the place.

Some rock chunks hit Gusher's shield and turned into sparks.

Once Adel was done with her display of power, she fired the psi beam. Bam! Gusher dodged to the side. Whoosh. She fired another one, and he evaded it. And she fired one more. Bam! And he jumped over it.

Adel used her telekinesis and lifted up all kinds of objects from the ground. She did not care what they are - garbage cans, bats, pipes, wheels, or even pieces of the street itself, she threw them at him.

Gusher punched and dodged his way through the incoming objects. Whoosh whoosh. Both of them knew that this is merely a diversion, nothing more than an annoyance. But here comes the big one. Adel grunted hard and lifted up a big piece of concrete from the street and lifted it up, and sent it at Gusher at ninety miles per hour.

Gusher gathered energy for a dark energy ball and threw it. Bam! It blew up the concrete and the ball went towards Adel. Bam! Predictably, she dodged it and appeared in the air.

“Laser Storm!” This is one of her strongest moves and she used it often back when she was the Phantom. A barrage of lasers headed diagonally towards Gusher.

He made a shield to defend himself, but some of the lasers went through and pierced his skin. Slish. One of them hit his arm. More and more went through his shield. Some of them hit his leg and his chest and his stomach. Slish slish! Eventually, he could not hold on and he fell as the lasers continued to hit him.

He fell to the pavement and landed hard. A cloud of dust appeared where he fell. Adel stared at the spot, expecting to see him lying there. But he was not there. He appeared in the air and his scars slowly faded away.

Adel grew worried. At first, she thought she had him, but apparently it is not so. Even Tyson was defeated by this maniac, and her worst fears just might come true.

Gusher gathered energy into his fists. Adel turned sideways and gathered energy. Then she fired a red beam. Gusher threw his energy in the shape of a curve, and it cancelled out Adel’s beam. Then he threw an energy whip with his second fist, and Adel jumped over it. It hit the building behind her. Bam!

Adel flew away, and Gusher flew parallel to her. She was surprised that he was able to catch up. They flew into each other and hit. Wham! They continued to hit randomly while flying around in circles. Wham! Wham!

Tyson stood up while leaning against the wall. His vision was blurry, but his sixth sense was still active and it tells him that Adel is in danger. He wanted to help, but there was nothing he can do in his condition. “No...get out of here...while y-you can.”

Adel opened her palms and fired a bunch of red beams forward. Kabam-bam-bam. Gusher blocked them with little effort. Adel got frustrated and charged forward and let out a fury of punches. Pik-pak-pik-pak! He was flying backwards while blocking with his arms over his face. Pik-pak-pik-pak. They flew all over the place as Adel went on the offensive, letting out everything she had. She finished up with a punch to the face. Pow.

Then she blurred and appeared above him and made her follow up attack. But he blurred out of sight and she was surprised. He appeared behind her and blasted her away. Bammm! As she was being sent in one direction, Gusher appeared in front of her and hit her, sending her in the opposite direction. Then he appeared from above and elbowed her, knocking her to the ground.

Although it was painful, she wasn’t done yet. Her pride would not allow her to lose, especially not to this person.

Gusher landed with his arms crossed, in his usual high and mighty manner. This fight is starting to look one-sided, but Adel denied it. All the evidence points out that she is supposed to lose, but she never accepts things the way they are. To hell with his seventh sense and to hell with his God like power. She is the Phantom and she is not going to lose, not if she can help it.

Now is not the time to show weakness. Adel powered up and this time, she was charged with blue electric energy. It was all the energy she had left from absorbing the entity known as Zenulox, and it will serve as her final attempt.

Gusher raised both arms high and formed a red ball surrounded by dark energy. Then he threw it. Adel raised a pillar from the concrete and it blocked the ball. Kabam!

Both leaped into the air and punched. Gusher ducked and Adel's fist missed, and he hit her in the stomach and knocked her away. Doosh! She skidded on the ground.

This time it was even harder for her to get up. She made herself get on her hands, and pushed herself up until she was on her feet. Blood was coming out of her mouth, but she did not care.

"Hmmp. You and I are in a different class! Even if you train a hundred years you are still no match for me!"

Adel did not accept that statement. There is no way she will. She powered up and fired a beam. Gusher evaded to the side and appeared closer to her, and he ran forward. Adel used her psychic barrier to stop him from getting closer, and Gusher ran into an invisible wall. But her push did not push him, back, for he was strong enough to resist the force.

It was her mental strength against his physical strength. He kept on charging while she held him in place. Suddenly, he broke through and hit her in the chest. Pow!

Adel was on the floor and this time she could not get up. The possibility of defeat never crossed her mind, or rather, she denied it. But now, reality has hit her hard... literally. Most people would be crying in pain in her condition, but no, not she. She was still thinking about how to win.

"Adel!!" shouted Tyson. He tried to walk over there but his legs gave out and he fell. Splat. "No..."

Dark walked over to the fallen Adel and grabbed her by the neck and lifted her up. She was too weak to offer any resistance and gasped for breath as he strangled her single handedly.

"No..." Tyson said. "Don't..."

Adel continued to struggle as Gusher watched her with disgust. "You don't deserve to live...so die!" He punched her stomach with a fistful of energy and a beam went through her body. Chuueen!!

"Noooo!!!" Tyson shouted.

No words could describe the horrible pain she felt at that moment. Blood dripped out of her wounds and she couldn't even utter a word. Gusher tossed her on the floor and everything happened in slow motion.

"What a waste of my time. You belong with the rest of the trash."

Nebula charged and he was angry. "You...! You're despicable!" He drew his sword and slashed, and Gusher jumped away. Nebula continued his sequence of slashes. Blazer came and attacked, and Gusher handled both of them at the same time. Pik! Pak!

Tyson walked limply to his fallen ally. He bent down and picked her up by the head. "Adel! Speak to me."

She opened her eyes to look at him. She seemed different than before, and it's not just because there was blood coming out of her mouth. She coughed.

"Adel..."

"Tyson Spade..."

"Don't speak! Save your strength! You'll be fine." Tyson said. But they both knew that was a lie. He can see all the blood. Her hands and clothes were soaked with blood, and her wound was a fatal one. She can only last a few minutes at most.

"I'm not going to make it..." she said.

"No...you'll be fine! I'll get Faith to heal you! You'll be good as new!"

"My whole life was a mistake..." she mumbled. "Everything I've done up to now...h-has been in vain."

In an alien world, Julian was running away from the rampage. Things were exploding and people were screaming. She hid behind a wall and watched in cowardice as the feared Magnificent Seven destroyed the city. The city's mayor decided not to follow the Empire's wishes, and thus, they sent the Magnificent Seven to erase them from existence.

As Julian watched from where she was, she noticed that they can do whatever they want because they have power. And she thought to herself, if only she had that kind of power, if only...

"Not long after that day, I joined the Magnificent Seven. I had to make sure that no one knew I existed, because if they do they will surely kill me. I vowed never to be in another person's mercy again. And later on, I met you again on earth. I knew I had to challenge you to a match. I wanted to destroy everything that reminded me of my past life. But then..."

The super sayan blasted Adel into the darkness of the abyss. She screamed as she fell into pitch darkness. They all thought she died, but they were wrong. For the next few days, she remained in the darkness with two broken legs and no way out. Nebulax rescued her and brought her to the Supreme Commander of Murai.

"I hated you because you ruined my life...I vowed to kill you no matter what it took...but when you were fighting Dark Providence...I don't know why I helped you."

Tyson charged forward and everything happened in slow motion. Providence blasted him against the wall.

Prov: "Which limb should I blow up first?" He fired a beam, and it got intercepted. Kabam. "What?"

Adel came out of the smoke. Both Tyson and Prov were surprised.

Prov: "Lady Adel? What is the meaning of this?"

"I've had enough of this." she replied. "I can no longer sit back and watch this eyesore happen." She threw the Enchron Crystal to Tyke. "Take it."

Prov: "So you reveal your true colors, Adel? I'll kill you along with this sayan." He opened his palm, but Adel used psychic push before he could do anything. Wham! He was thrown on the ground.

"It was Lisa...who convinced me to do it. I don't know why I did it, but I did...and ever since that day I became a traitor." And as she said that, her eyes became filled with tears.

Tyson was dumbfounded. He never thought he'd see the day that Adel would cry again. These were tears of sadness and frustration and helplessness. Poor Adel, Tyson thought, she must have held it in all these years.

"I did everything I could to become powerful. I wanted to be the strongest."

A certain warrior attacked, the Phantom blasted him to the ground. He was injured and dying. " *Cough cough* W-Who are you? What are you?"

Adel removed her mask.

The man was shocked. "You're the Phantom?"

"What did you expect? A monster?"

"Why are you doing this?"

Adel had a wicked smile. "Because I can. You are weak and I am strong and the strong dominate the weak. That is the way the world works." She opened her palm, the man gasped, and she fired. Blam! Another life taken.

Those were the very words that she lived by. But obviously she wasted her life in trying to gain this unattainable power. She had all the power she needed, but she always wanted more.

"Orbital promised me that he'd give me a new set of legs...and for those artificial legs I gave up my freedom. I became a slave of the empire." Then she coughed blood.

"Kuff kuff!"

"Adel..."

"I just wanted you to know..." she mumbled. It became increasingly hard to hear her and he lowered his head to her mouth. "Deep down inside there was always a part of me that was Julian. But I never let that part of me come out. You've become strong, Tyson...I'm proud of you."

"Adel...no!!"

"Get r-revenge for me..." Her eyes closed and her head turned to the side. A cold and harsh breeze blew at him.

"Adel!! Julian! Julian! Don't die!!" he screamed. "Don't die!" Tyson shook her body, but there was no response, and there never will be. The inevitable has happened, and there is no way to turn back the clock.

While fighting, a lightning bolt struck Lisa's heart. Even though they were far away, she sensed her elder sister's untimely death. Erika and Amanda did not sense it, but Lisa sensed it well. "Sister..."

Erika walked over to her. "Lisa? What's wrong?" She gasped as she saw tears coming out of Lisa's eyes.

Eventually he stopped shaking her and just stared down at her corpse. Zelfire came with Faith. "Hurry, this way!" Zelfire said.

Faith sat on her knees and gave Adel the healing treatment. Five seconds later, she stopped. "Tyson...I'm sorry...she's dead."

There can be no colder words of truth. He just stared down silently and let his anger sink in.

Blazer and Nebula were still going at it with Gusher, and their sounds of fighting became merely background noises to Tyson. Pak! Pik! Pak! Nebula slashed furiously with his sword. Even though he did not trust Adel, he cannot forgive such an atrocious act. Slish! Slash. Gusher flew to the air. Blazer came at him and punched non-stop. Whoosh, whoosh.

Tyson stood up wordlessly and walked forward.

"Tyson?" Faith said.

He completely ignored her. He powered up with whatever energy he had left and clenched his fist tightly.

Kapow! Gusher knocked Blazer away. Nebula came in from the side. Bam! He was knocked away as well.

"Gusher!!!" Tyson yelled. He ran forward and drew his fist back all the way and punched like he's never punched before. He made sure to give this son of a bitch all the hatred and anger he had.

Gusher was caught by surprise and his head turned to the side. But he showed little sign of pain, and he returned the favor by punching Tyson in the stomach. Doosh! The hero was knocked back and crashed into a building and came out the other end. Wham! He kept on flying backwards until his back hit the wall. Thud! He slid down and remained in that position, sitting with his head lowered, and his arms on his sides.

Tyson felt like he hit rock bottom. He was completely and utterly defeated, and he lost a good friend. There can be nothing worst than this. His entire body was battered and bruised, and by now he can barely lift a finger. Can this really be the end of him and his friends?

Blazer was still giving Gusher the super sayan treatment. He fired beam after beam and Dark dodged each one.

Faith went over to Subzero and he opened his eyes. "It's you...Faith."

"You'll be fine in a second." she said and proceeded to heal him.

Then Dark saw them. "So...you are the one who healed them. You have such a special ability...I must eliminate you first."

Faith gasped. He approached them. Faith used the Energy Shot and it hit his shoulder and he acted like he did not even feel it. His shoulder began to heal by itself. Dark fired a beam and Faith shrieked. Subzero blocked it for her. "Run away now! You're not safe here!"

Dark smiled. "So I take it you want some more?"

Subzero gathered energy into his right hand and prepare for combat.

As for the fallen Tyson, he could no longer stay conscious. His body lay there in that position as his mind went to a place called the spirit world. He found himself in a barren wasteland. In front of him was a canyon, a big gap of darkness. From the darkness arose a giant, life-sized crystal. Tyson recognized it immediately.

"The Enchron Crystal..."

It was entirely red, and it was so shiny that he can see his own reflection on all its surfaces.

"You are Enchron Crystal, the spirit of the Phoenix, aren't you? I need your power."

"Tyson Spade. Why do you seek this power of mine?"

"Isn't it obvious?!" the hero shouted, losing his temper. "My friends are dying out there! And Faith is there too! I can't lose her! I've already lost one person I care about. I wasn't able to save her." As he said this, he felt shameful and looked down and clenched his fist.

Bam. Bam. Gusher back flipped over some ice beams. Subzero fired as accurately as he could. He tried his best to make each one count and not waste his energy like the others. To win means to play it smart. And he can't afford any mistakes. Suddenly, he noticed that Gusher was gone. He appeared in the air and fired a downwards beam. Bam!

Nebula came in immediately and slashed about. Gusher dodged and punched him in the stomach. Thud! Nebula felt the wind knocked out of him. Gusher elbowed him on the back and he fell to the ground.

"Hmph. You're nothing but nuisances."

Suddenly, an ice beam came from the side and hit him, and Gusher became partially frozen.

"What?!" the warrior exclaimed in surprise.

Subzero: "Now!"

Nebula gathered energy for the Nebulon Blast. Dark knew what was going to happen and he released heat from his body to melt the ice. Crk crk crk. The icicles were shattering piece by piece.

"No you don't!" said Subzero. He fired a continuously beam at Gusher, who blocked it the best he can. It was shooting water from a hose, except that the water is ice.

More and more of Gusher became frozen. He made a shield to block off the rest of the Ice Beam and he fired a dark energy ball. Zap! Subzero was hit on the shoulder and he fell.

Now it was a suspenseful race between the two. Gusher cracked the ice on his body desperately while Nebula finished up his ball as quickly as he could. The last time he used his special move, Gusher was able to counter it. This time, he will not be able to move. But it only works if he remains frozen.

Gusher has no intentions of being finished off like this. Not if he can help it. Crk crk crk. Nebula threw the Nebulon Blast forward. Gusher's arms were free and he extended them and used his ki to stop the big blue ball in its place. Nebula kept on pushing it one way while Gusher pushed it in the opposite direction, and it remained fixated in place, and it could move in any direction.

The ball of energy could no longer remain in this form and exploded. Kaboom!

"I can't do it alone...I need your help, spirit of the Phoenix." said Tyson.

"I cannot do that because you are not ready."

"Not ready?" he repeated, getting angry again. "What do you mean not ready? I need this power now, don't you see that! You chose me to be your master, didn't you? Now answer me!"

"You have already transformed once," said the crystal in its majestic voice, "And doing so again will cause permanent damage to your body."

"To hell with it! At least I did not turn into a beast like him..."

Areus's transformation into the Phoenix was nothing short of brutal and grotesque. A normal body cannot possibly handle the Enchron Crystal's power, but he transformed nonetheless. His muscles grew bigger to almost twice its size, and his skin became blue. Veins popped out of his muscles and his face into that of a beast. He became surrounded by flames.

"I am able to maintain your power because I can turn into the fourth stage. When I'm in the fourth stage I am able to harness this power because it requires a strong body. If the body is weak then the Phoenix will take over its host. If I had not reached the fourth stage, I might have ended up just like Areus."

Tyson heard sounds of Nebula and Subzero screaming in pain. Even though he was in the spirit world, their voices echoed loudly in this world.

"They're in trouble! I am running out of time. Help me now!"

"Alas, you are still not ready."

"I've already been defeated once. I don't want anyone else to die...I can't do it without your help. Please, I'm beggin you." said Tyson. He felt stupid for begging a giant crystal, but what can one do? Desperate times call for desperate measures.

"Tyson Spade," said the Enchron Crystal, "You must recognize one fact...you are in every way capable of helping your loved ones. You have won many battles before you met myself. It is not I who grants you this power."

Tyson looked up in awe.

"My power cannot be harnessed by just anyone. The true power of the Phoenix comes from within...it is the fire inside of you that fuels me. It is your desire to fight, your desire to win, and your desire to evolve. You have the answer within you the entire time. You must recognize this fact, Tyson Spade!"

The hero was startled to hear this. What this spirit says is absolutely true. He can't believe he did not realize it all these years. In fact, he felt kind of stupid for doubting his own abilities. "Yes...I can do it. I **can** save my friends!"

"Indeed, this is exactly the state of mind I need you to be in. But before I grant you the power of the Phoenix, you must know that your body is exhausted. Doing so will put you at risk...your body might burn to ashes, or become paralyzed permanently."

"I am willing to take that risk. I will do anything to save the others!"

"Very well then." The crystal shot out a stream of flames and went into Tyson's chest, who received it and embraced it all.

Kapow! Nebula was punched and he fell down next to Subzero. He got back up. "What do we do now? We've tried everything."

"There is one thing we haven't tried." said Nebula.

"You don't mean **that**?" said Subzero.

"The Death Star is our only option."

"It could consume your body."

"At this rate we are going to be killed!"

Gusher fired a beam and the heroes jumped away. The beam went right in between them and exploded. The silent killer gathered energy and like usual, the entire area shuddered. He released a silver energy ball into the air and it exploded, releasing tons of beams. It became a shower of energy beams.

Nebula and Subzero dodged for their lives. Bom! Bom! The tyrant laughed maniacally at the destruction.

Choom. The stream of fire went into Tyson's body through his chest. But the fire was too much and it became overwhelming. Tyson's body was on fire and he was burning on the outside and inside. He screamed in agony as he continued to let the energy come in. "AAAAGH! Uuuugh!" But the thought of Faith and his kids allowed him to bear it a little longer. He turned to second stage and then fourth stage.

"Hyyyyyaaaaah!!" He embraced the fire and let everything into his system.

At some point he reached his threshold and released all his power at once, and everything became white.

Tyson was back at the battleground, lying down against the wall. His finger moved a little bit.

The onslaught of beams kept on coming. Nebula dodged left and right. Bom! Bom! Gusher suddenly sensed something and he dodged Zelfire's kick. "Not this time, human!"

Zelfire leaped at him with a fist aiming at his face, and Gusher formed a black ball and shoved it into Zelfire's stomach, and it knocked him away. Bammm! It hurt more than it looked, to be hit from point blank.

Nebula saw what happened, and he just stayed there frozen. Gusher turned around and shot up like a rocket and he was about to punch. Nebula gasped.

Suddenly, Tyson grabbed Gusher's fist. "Not so fast."

"You...can still move?" said the tyrant in shock.

"Tyson..." said Nebula.

Gusher grunted and used his free hand to throw an energy wave at them, and knocked Tyson into Nebula, and both of them slammed against the wall. Nebula got up. "Tyson, are you okay?"

"Get out of here. I'll take care of him."

Nebula noticed that Tyke was speaking differently. He was confident and sounded he was sure he'd win. And on top of that, how did he get up without Faith's heal?

The silent killer walked towards the heroes in his usual threatening manner. But now Spade is unafraid, for he has a secret weapon, which he is about to reveal. Spade tightened his fists and flexed his arms and powered up. The energy came all the way from below, starting from his feet, going up to his core, which is the stomach, and it went all the way up to his head. Froom!

His hair turned to a golden color, and behold, he was in second stage. And he continued to grunt and release more energy, and then became a glowing body. Flash! His hair was golden-white and his body full of electricity. Now he is on the fourth stage. And the final transformation in his sequence is now...His energy became flames, his arms surrounded by rings of fire, his legs and all his limbs, and his body as a whole became an embodiment of fire. But it did not stop there.

A symbol appeared on Tyson's forehead – the symbol of the Ko-Rashm. In fact, the symbol also appeared on his palms. Everyone was shocked to see this.

Zelfire: "The Ko-Rashm symbol?!"

Nebula: "But...what does this mean?"

"Hyyyyyaaaah!" After this one final scream, his transformation was complete. At long last, he has shown that even the greatest of defeats can sprout a comeback, for now he is the true Phoenix.

Dark frowned and cocked his eyebrow.

Tyson took a good look at Adel's body a few meters away. "Adel...no Julian...even you, being the cold blooded killer that you are, can shed tears. At least you were able to let out your true emotions at the end. If she can cry, then there is hope for everyone else who wants to repent." Then he looked at Dark. "But the only way that you can repent is through death. You have killed too much; your hands stained with the blood of those you slain. It is time to put an end to this destruction."

"Oh?" said Dark, "A philosopher, aren't you?"

"I am ready for round two." The Phoenix got into fighting position.

Blazer watched in awe, still wondering what this all means. Nebula and Zelfire were just as clueless, but at least they have someone to cheer for now. What could the meaning be of Tyson's newest transformation? Is it the same Phoenix, or something completely different and more powerful than before? Will it be enough to counter the all mighty God-warrior?

53: The Last Stand.

Contents

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"Let us see if you can back up your tough talk." Dark Gusher raised his arms and formed a dark energy ball, and he threw it forward like a baseball. Froom. Even though its size was small, its power is great.

Tyson jumped over it, and it blew up. Boom! Dark punched him and Tyson groaned in pain. It seemed like he landed a hit on his stomach, but in fact, Tyson grabbed his wrist before his fist touched his stomach. The hero pulled Gusher closer to him and kneed him in the stomach. Thud! Holding his arm, Tyson threw him down. Gusher hit the side of the building before hitting the floor. Splat. Splat.

The Phoenix threw the Eternal Flames downwards and the villain made a shield to protect himself. Froom! Some of the flames went through and burned him, but he kept the shield up. He released a wave in the form of a curve. Tyson countered the wave with his own. The two waves hit and collided. Bam!

The two warriors faced each other on ground level. One would think that Dark would be mad that he lost his advantage, but he laughed excitedly. "Ha ha ha ha. Finally, a worthy opponent. I have been waiting for this exciting fight my whole life." He proceeded to power up. The energy released was massive, just like when he opened his eyes. The ground was shaking and rock chunks floated up.

The Phoenix was not intimidated. Everyone else, however, decided that they need to escape. Nebula and Zelfire flew away, as well as Blazer and Subzero.

Both warriors charged forward with their fists forward and hit on their fists. Bam! It wasn't just contest of strength, but of endurance and ki. Their energies were focused on their fists; Gusher's white energy against Tyson's fiery red energy. Froom! This contest could go either way.

Meanwhile, the space battle ensued. It was the Muraian forces versus the Alliance, made up of GP forces and the Macedoinons. Under the leadership of Jamell Lance and General Soroku, the army has withstood many tough battles. This time, they are closer than ever to entering planet Murai, the heart of the empire.

"Remember that we not fighting just for ourselves, but for the suffering of the previous generation, and the freedom of future generations to come! For peace and freedom!"

After hearing that brilliant piece, all the soldiers became motivated, for they are fighting for a higher cause. For the previous generation as well as this one. After the death of several friends, Lieutenant Lily was grief stricken and she lost the motivation to fight. But she became motivated after hearing Jamell's speech.

Her mobile suit catapulted into the front lines, and alongside her was her companion Wendel, who seemed to be always with her. "Lily, I know you are angry, I am too. But we must not let our emotions control us."

"I know." she replied. But she just did not want to hear it.

Enemy mobile suits appeared on her screen. She locked on them and fired missiles. Bam! The enemy dispersed into several directions, and she fired at the closest one. Some of them were shot down by other GP units.

Jamell watched the battle from the command room. All he saw was a holographic representation of the battle - triangles were units and squares were battleships. But he knows how tough it is in actual combat, and he wishes his soldiers luck. Soroku was on the computer screen.

"I hope you are right about this, Soroku." said Jamell.

"I hope so too. We cannot assume anything. But if I know anything about war, an enemy whose strength is offense usually is bad a defense. These crystal starships are a menace, but if we can get past them, the rest should be easy." said Soroku.

"Once we get past this line, we can attack the planet directly...something no one has ever done before."

"It has never been done, but that does not make it impossible."

"True." Jamell said, smiling. He was impressed with Soroku's brilliance as a general, and he's glad Soroku is on his side.

Inside the battleship Liberator...

Operator: "Sir, our forces are struggling against the enemy. We have lost twenty percent of our front lines."

Soroku: "Send in the second wave!" (*Damn it, at this rate my plan will fail.*)

"Alright men, we have a change of plans. The Liberator will go directly into the battlefield."

All the operators were shocked. "But sir, doing so will put your life at jeopardy."

"Isn't that a soldier's duty?" Soroku replied. "I may be a general, but I am no different than anyone else who is risking their lives for our sake right now. The Liberator was built to battle, not to sit around and look good. Engines full throttle!"

The operators saluted. "Yes sir!"

The Liberator moved away from its line of other heavy class ships.

Jamell noticed on the hologram that the Liberator was moving forward. "Soroku, what are you doing?"

Soroku: "Don't worry, it is all part of my plan." He said this with confidence, but in the back of his mind he was doubtful. It is a risky strategy, and one that can cost him many lives if it backfires.

Back in the ruined city, things have escalated between the Phoenix and Gusher. The sounds of them hitting can be heard from miles away. Nebula and the others landed a few blocks away from the fight. They can hear the echo of the hitting sounds and they can even see the shockwaves behind the buildings. Bam! Bam!

Nebula: "Man, those two are still going at it."

Zelfire: "No one can interfere with them now. These two have reached a level of power that exceeds our understanding."

Nebula: "All my life I was trying to be the older brother. But Tyson was always ahead of me...in just about everything. And now he's fighting for his life and I can't even do anything to help him."

Subzero: "Nebula, now is not the time to be contemplating your role as an older brother. We need to find a place to rest and recharge. We might be needed again."

The hits of anger ensued. Bam! Bam! Tyson punched Gusher in the stomach, and now that he has Gusher right where he wants him, he let out a series of lightning fast punches. Pow-pow-pow-pow. "This one is for Adel!" Tyson gave him a fierce one to the cheek. Pow!

Gusher merely wiped the blood off his mouth. The bruise on his face faded away as he spoke. "All this anger over a dead person?"

"That dead person happened to be someone important in my life!"

"A little emotional, aren't we?"

"I'll show you emotional!" Tyson charged forward like a fireball with a fist of rage. Gusher opened his palms and fired a shockwave, knocking Tyson away. Wham! His blue shirt was blown to bits as he hit the wall. Slam!

"Adel has been a nuisance from day one. She was your enemy too. I did you a favor by killing her."

The Phoenix came out of the wall and powered up. The Ko-Rashm symbol on his forehead and hands glowed. Choom! Dark did not know what to make of this. Tyson himself has never experienced this kind of power before. It is the same as being the regular Phoenix, but different. He can't put his finger on it, but one thing is for sure, feels much different being in this state. Even though he's never been in this form before, he knows how to harness this power.

The fighters charged into each other and hit randomly in the air, like a good old fashioned high level fight. But this fight is clearly different from others; no it is very much different; for it is a fight of the highest caliber. Possibly the biggest one on one battle the earth has ever seen. Bam! Bam!

Both did not hold back, and spared no break to their opponent. Bam! Both fighters charged into one another again, this time determined to beat the living shit out of each other. Gusher punched Tyson's shoulder, and Tyson's fist landed on Gusher's face. Pow! Momentarily distracted by the pain, Gusher left himself open, allowing the Phoenix to hit him continuously. Pow pow pow pow. And the Phoenix gave him one hard punch, also in the face, and Gusher was sent flying to the ground, and hit a car. Crash!

Of course, the car became more damaged than he was. Gusher got up and the blood off his mouth. He grunted like a barbarian. "Hyyyyaaah!" He grabbed the car and threw it. Tyson blurred, and the car hit the pavement. Crash!

Dark threw an energy wave that cut the ground as it went to its target. The Phoenix countered with a beam. Boom!

Indeed, this fight was unlike any other. The Phoenix and Dark Gusher's sixth sense was much higher than those of other people, and maybe they even have an undiscovered seventh sense. Tyson's red aura was as big as a small apartment, but his body was able to handle it. Gusher's energy was roughly the same size, except that his color was white.

The enemies charged into each other and grabbed each other's hands and played the game of mercy. They grunted as they tried to twist the other's arms while preventing the same from happening to themselves. This was not just a contest of physical strength. As they contested with each other, the environment around them was being destroyed without them even thinking about it. Rock chunks floated up. Glass windows cracked. Their auras clashed and became one, and their electricity was also at battle. Zzzzzt!

Gusher managed to push Tyson down, and his dominance became more apparent each second. Tyson was forced on his knees and he felt like his wrists were about to be torn off.

"What's the matter, Phoenix? In the end you are still the weaker one."

Tyson grunted and let out other cries, but they were in vain as his arms grew weaker. He pushed his opponent with all his might, but Gusher pushed harder.

Suddenly, the thought of Tina made gave him a bit of strength. He pushed back harder and got off his knee. The Ko-Rashm symbol on his forehead glowed. And the thought of Junior gave him more strength. Then he thought about Faith. He pushed Gusher back and he was able to stand up again.

Gusher was surprised that he was able to recover. Tyson twisted his arms and slammed his head into Gusher's face. Wham! "Ugh!"

Tyson punched him in the face. Kapow! He fell and got back up with a hand over his injured eye.

"Why...you...how this is possible?"

"I have this power because I have people that I care about. I fight not only for my sake, but for their sake as well. Their lives are just as important as mine, if not more important."

"Don't kid me! Caring about others...and worrying about them? That is your weakness."

"No, it is my strength! Someone like you can't possibly understand...what it is like to have a son or a daughter, or love someone. You care only about yourself. The world that you come from is different than mine."

Still covering his eye, Gusher replied, "That's right...I **am** different from you. I can't understand you, but how can you possibly understand what I've been through? I, who have lived in the darkness of the abyss, I, who have been hunted my whole life. I had no allies nor friends, the only means of survival was to be stronger than your enemies."

Tyson was startled at his speech. He thought he might provoke him, but instead, Gusher replied with his own view of the world. Frankly, his views are frightening.

"You have never spent a day on Murai, so how would you know what it's like? You have spent your whole life on earth and you know nothing of war. You should consider yourself lucky. How can people care about others on a planet scarred by war and hatred?"

"What about Planet Arlia? They faced decades of war, but look at them now! Rebels and loyalists and being reunited under King Neflite's new movement! It is not impossible."

Gusher let out a hysterical laugh. "They're going to fail miserably. Without the Dark Empire's guidance, sayans are nothing but bloodthirsty creatures who massacre each other. It is in their nature. Once we win the war, we will turn earth into a war zone!"

"What?"

"It will be a place without order...without rules, and there will be nothing but chaos." Fires were all over the town. People grabbed their guns and fired randomly, not caring about who they hit. It is every man and woman for himself. Not even women and children are spared. This is the horrific vision that Gusher has for the world. "There will be endless fighting and endless bloodshed. Everyone will be out to get each other and there will be no end. And I will be part of that chaos, killing and destroying whoever I feel like it! Ha ha ha ha!"

"That is not going to happen." replied the Phoenix.

"I am going to create that world...with my first step as your death!" Gusher fired a bunch of beams, and Tyson dodged. Kabam-bam.

The hero jumped over the beams and kept himself distanced. Bam! (His accuracy is off...that's because I knocked out one of his eyes. But his power has decreased also. His eyes are the source of his power...and if my theory is correct...) He evaded another beam. (Then this is my golden chance to take him out.) When the beams stopped, Tyson gathered energy for his next attack.

Gusher then released a beam into the air. Tyson recognized this move – he used it earlier to fight Nebula and Zelfire. Immediately, Tyson fired his beam to the air, hopefully to destroy it before it explodes. But it was too late, the energy ball exploded, and Tyson's beam was disintegrated from the onslaught of beams. It was a meteor shower, but instead of meteors, they were beams of death. Kabam-bam!

[B] Contents

The Liberator fired its lasers and gun turrets non-stop. Other battleships began to move forward, following Soroku's example.

The captain of the Muraian forces smiled in amusement. "So, the leader of the Alliance thinks he can take us head on, does he? Let's see if he can handle our battle strategy."

Doors opened on the crystal starship and mobile suits in standby launched into action.

Operator: "There is another wave of enemies coming at us!"

Soroku: "They had that much reinforcements?"

Operator: "No, they came from the enemy's main ships."

Soroku: "Those starships can carry more mobile suits than I thought. But we are not going to back down. The first one to show fear loses!"

Alliance mobile suits were being shot down by the dozens. Kaboom! The enemy continued their relentless assault. Some of the stronger pilots fought valiantly, but the enemy's numbers were overwhelming, and eventually they were shot down as well.

More Alliance mobile suits joined the battle, and this is the last wave they had. If they lose this battle, then the Alliance will lose every single unit they have in space, and that is why Soroku is betting big on this one.

Kaboom! Lily shot down another enemy. Being the ace pilot of the GP forces, almost no one comes near her in terms of skill. But at times, she can be emotional and out of control.

Bam! Bam! Her unit fired missiles mercilessly, not giving the enemy a single chance to escape. Kaboom! She was too focused into fighting to notice that her side was losing.

Wendel was tired. "Damn it...things don't look good for us. Why doesn't Soroku issue a retreat?"

The crystal starship opened its center and fired the mega-cannon. Boom-boom-boom! An entire line of mobile suits were destroyed from both sides. The Alliance lost even more units, and now they were in a pinch.

Operator A: "Sir, our front lines have collapsed. They are all scattered!"

Soroku became worried. He had everything in this battle planned out, but nothing is going according to plan. At this rate, he might lose everything. "It can't be..."

Enemy mobile suits launched their missiles on the Liberator. Kaboom! Kaboom! Everyone inside felt the shock and they shrieked and yelled.

Kaboom! "Ughhh!" groaned Soroku. He remained still in his seat, as did the other pilots. "Retreat at full speed! Fire all weapons! Destroy them at all costs!"

Operator B: "There's too many of them! We are not going to make it in time!"

Soroku pounded his fist on his armrest. "Damn it! Is there nothing we can do?" Kaboom!

Enemy forces were all circling the Liberator and shooting it. The battleship had gun turrets defending itself, but that alone was not enough to handle this massive force. One can see that the ship's outer shell is badly damaged and it will not last long. Lily and other GP officers were nearby, doing their best to defend the mother ship.

Lily shot down enemies one by one. Bam. Bam. "I won't let you destroy the Liberator!" she shouted. Her mobile suit rocketed forward and fired rapidly, but also with deadly accuracy.

There was a shudder every few seconds. It is nothing unexpected by now. "Three out of five engines are badly damaged." said operator A.

Operator B: "The outer shield is only fifty three percent effective." Kaboom! "At this rate it will be destroyed, leaving us with only the inner shield."

Operator C: "Gun turrets 34 and 35 are down!"

Soroku felt like he was in the twilight zone. Everything was going wrong, and everything is spiraling down to a doomed path called death. But in the midst of all this chaos, the general has made his decision. "So...this is how it is, huh?" he said to nobody." Then he stood up. "Everyone listen. My orders are as follows...this ship will run full speed ahead towards the enemy."

A: "But general...you don't mean..."

Soroku: "Yes. We will crash this ship into the enemy's crystal starship. This will be our final attack. Some of us may die on this mission, but if we succeed, then the Alliance will have their victory."

All the operators were speechless. But their loyalty to Soroku and to the Alliance is stronger than their fear of death. They know their commander well.

"I understand if you do not want to go through with this. If you want to leave, doing so will not be dishonorable. Let me have the controls."

B: "No, commander. We will stick this to the end."

All the operators stood up and saluted, and Soroku stood up and saluted. "For peace and freedom!"

Everyone sat down and resumed their jobs.

Soroku: "Engine thrusters at full speed! Fire all lasers and gun turrets to the front!"

The three rockets released its fire and propelled the ship forward. The ship fired all its weapons in one direction – the front – and destroyed every little flying thing in its path.

Wendel: "What's going on?"

[Split screen - 2] [Wendel, Lily].

Lily: "Why is the Liberator moving towards the enemy?"

Jamell: "What are they doing? No, don't tell me...Soroku, you're not going to do that?"

The captain inside the crystal starship was bewildered. "What do they think they're doing? Have they gone mad?"

Troop A: "Sir, they are on a collision course for us! They will hit us in less than a minute!"

A sweat drop dripped down the captain's neck. "Those fools..." Then he snapped out of it. "Fire the mega-cannon!"

Troop A: "Firing mega-cannon. Begin charging sequence."

The starship opened its center and began to glow.

Troop A: "Sir, they are moving at full speed. Our cannon will not fire in time."

The captain became nervous. He was not about to let himself be killed here. "Fire it now!"

A: "But the cannon isn't fully charged, it's effectiveness will be reduced by half."

The captain grabbed the trooper by the collar and he got in his face. "Listen you imbecile, fire that damn thing now...or I swear I will kill you before we all die."

The trooper adjusted his collar. "Yes...sir." He pulled the lever and the cannon fired without finishing its charge.

Ka-Choom! The deadly laser scratched the Liberator's surface, and of course, everyone aboard felt it.

"Don't slow down!" ordered Soroku. "Keep going!"

Lily was shocked. "No, he's not planning to..."

Soroku was never so sure of any single action in his entire life other than this one. Even though it was reckless, it was the best choice he could take. To sacrifice boldly charge forward and crash his ship into the enemy's, penetrating their defenses, and sacrificing his life for the sake of the Alliance.

The captain feared for his life. He had only a few seconds to regret his whole life.

Troop A: "Prepare for collision in five...four..."

Soroku's operators counted as well. "Three..."

Jamell watched the screen without blinking. One of his operators continued the countdown. "Two..."

"No!" Wendel shouted.

CRASH! The Liberator crashed into the crystal starship. The main control room of the starship exploded, killing everyone in it instantly.

Inside the main room of the Liberator, Soroku was unconscious. He woke up and noticed that his crew was not moving. All the lights were broken and it was dark. He got up and grabbed his arm in pain.

One of the crew members woke up, and the rest of them woke up as well. "Is everybody alright?"

"We are fine, sir."

Soroku: "It looks like Lady Luck is smiling upon us today. We cannot die yet. We must evacuate before this place explodes."

Everybody nodded and ran to the escape pods. A bunch of bright balls came out from the Liberator just before it exploded along with the starship. The explosion destroyed two of the crystal starships nearby. Kaboom!

All the allies saw what happened, and they were in shock. They were talking amongst each other, wondering if Soroku was really in the ship.

Jamell felt grief stricken. "Soroku...you idiot..." Then he snapped himself out of it. This is no time for weak feelings; he's in the middle of a war. "All units attack the enemy's remaining forces."

The Galactic Police force, led by Lily, charged into the fangs of the enemy straight on. They fired missiles and beams non-stop, while the enemy was still in disarray over what just happened. They have lost a significant portion of their forces, and only one crystal starship remained.

Taisoku, Soroku's father in law, witnessed the whole thing in his base on Planet Ruskus. "General Soroku...I never thought he'd do such a thing. He's the bravest man I've ever met."

Jamell: "Find out if Soroku is still alive."

Operator: "It will be difficult while the battle is happening, sir. There is no way to tell."

Jamell banged his fist on the table in anger. "Damn it!"

Then his screen turned on and Soroku's face appeared. "Jamell Lance."

Jamell was overjoyed to see his comrade. "Soroku, you're alive."

"Indeed. I am in space pod going towards your ship. I might be attacked on the way here."

"I'll send a mobile suit to retrieve you right away."

Thanks to his brave act, the Alliance forces broke through the front lines. The enemy had only one crystal starship left, and they fought hard, but it was a losing battle for the Murai forces. While the Muraians suffered a blow in their morale, the Alliance members gained a boost in morale and fought harder than ever.

The meteor of beams were still coming, and Tyson dodged to the best of his abilities. Kabam-bam! It was too chaotic to even do anything other than to survive. Bam! He hid behind the building to avoid the incoming beams. (Gusher has the ability to self heal, just like myself. His eye should heal soon. I can't miss this chance.)

When the chaos was over, things were quiet. Much of the street has been destroyed. Tyson sensed his opponent flying up. He flew up and saw Gusher from the other side of the building. They went to the same altitude and hit. Wham!

Both of Gusher's eyes were open, and Tyson realized that he could no longer take advantage of his opponent's weakness. They fought on, hitting violently while airborne. They flew higher and higher in altitude as the fight went on.

Nebula and the others can now see them in the sky. "There they are. If this keeps up they're going to destroy the city in no time."

Zelfire: "It certainly is a miracle that Tyson can fight again, but he is still struggling."

Bam! Bam! The fighters hit each other time and time again, and even though they are both tired of it, they must fight on. Fighting is also about endurance and outlasting one's enemy, and in this fight, the Phoenix will need every ounce of fire he has left.

Pow! Tyson hit Gusher in the stomach. But as usual, one hit isn't enough. He let out a combo of punches and they were so quick he looked like he had four arms. Pow-pow-pow. Tyson punched Gusher one final time in the chest with a fist full of fire, and burned Gusher's chest. Ssssst!

The tyrant was taken aback from the hit, and he wiped the blood off his mouth. He noticed a crystal starship nearby and he smiled.

Inside the ship itself, the captain observed the city through his screen. "What is this? Gusher still has not destroyed the city?" said the captain.

Troop: "Our scouts indicate high levels of energy. Most likely he is still fighting."

Captain; "Usually he finishes them off quickly. Something must be wrong. We will finish this ourselves." He pressed a button to turn on the intercom. "Men, you are going to search the city and kill all the survivors. But stay out of Gusher's area, understood?"

The troops flew out of the starship. Froom froom!

The heroes sensed them immediately. "There are fighters with the sixth sense coming this way." said Zelfire. "Lots of them!"

Subzero: "Judging by their energy levels, they must be soldiers."

Blazer: "But why are they coming back?"

Zelfire: "The real question is, who are they coming back for?"

Without wasting any more time, the heroes powered up and flew off. Froom!

The two super powers flew around and fired beams at each other constantly. Choom! Choom! The sky itself turned into a war zone, full of explosions. From far away, the explosions looked like bright circles.

Pow! Nebula punched a troop in the face, effectively knocking him down. Three troops rushed at Subzero, and he used the Ice Beam and froze them all. "Aaaaah!!!" they screamed before they became frozen forever.

Kaboom! The explosions continued. Gusher suddenly stopped and Tyson wondered what he was up to. Energy from the crystal starship left and went to Gusher's body.

Tyson: (What? He is receiving energy from the starship?)

Gusher's body was glowing purple and he grinned as he embraced the energy. Tyson was not about to let him get his way. He flew forward and punched Gusher in the face. Pow! The tyrant took the hit and he actually enjoyed the pain. Gusher charged and punched non-stop while Tyson blocked. Pak-pak-pak!

Bam! Blazer just punched another guy, knocking him out. The heroes were done with the troops. Then they notice what was happening.

Nebula: "Look. What does that mean?"

Zelfire: "Gusher's power level is increasing. He is drawing energy from the crystal starship."

Blazer: "Then we should blow it up. It is the one thing we can do to help Spade." The heroes fired constant beams at the ship. Frooom!

Gusher punched the Phoenix in the chest. Thud! Then he kicked him, knocking him away. Before Tyson could do anything else, Gusher appeared from above and kicked him. Whack! Tyson ended up falling and he looked like a descending fireball in the sky. He recovered and flew back up in a parabola.

Gusher blurred and appeared in front of him, and gave him a power packed punch in the stomach, knocking Tyson into the corporate building. He went through the glass and smashed into a few tables. It was painful, but this pain was nothing new. He got up and shot fireballs through the window. Kaboom! Gusher dodged them and he flew up one story above where Tyson was and went into it.

The heroes were still firing at the starship, but their energy was running low. They were still tired from the constant fighting. "We have to keep it up!" shouted Nebula, giving his team some motivation.

Their sixth sense reacted strangely. There people showed up – Amanda, Erika, and Lisa. The group was delighted to see them.

Nebula: "Guys! You made it!"

Erika: "We sensed your presence here...and we sensed Tyson's fight, and we grew worried so we came."

Amanda: "It looks like you need some help."

Zelfire: "We sure do."

Everybody opened their palms and fired their beams at the ship. With three new people helping, the job became much easier.

The Phoenix stopped firing to see where his opponent went. Suddenly, Gusher came through the ceiling and knocked Tyson down, and they went through the floor. In fact, Gusher pushed him so hard they went through many floors. Wham! Wham! Wham! Tyson was helpless as he was being pushed all the way down to ground level.

Wham! Wham! Gusher stopped and then flew back up, while Tyson fell to the parking lot.

The tyrant flew out of the building and went up. He soared until he thought he was high enough. He gathered energy and fired a beam at the building. Kaboom! The building snapped at the target point and crumbled, with the Phoenix under it.

The starship could not handle all the attacks, and it started to explode. The control room blew up, killing everyone inside instantly. The giant ship fell to the ground. Crash!

Gusher saw the ship fall, and felt the loss of the energy transfer. "Hmmp. It doesn't matter now, I have all the energy I need."

The Phoenix stood up and screamed angrily. Rock chunks flew away from him as he powered up to the extreme. The symbols on his head and hands glowed. "AAAAAAAH!!!" The flames on his body became the shape of a Phoenix, a fiery bird with giant wings. It roared, proclaiming its existence to the world, and disappeared just as it came.

The Phoenix's fiery eyes stared at Gusher, who was floating up with his arms crossed. The Phoenix flew up with his opponent at the same speed. Froom!

Enough is enough, thought Tyson. This has been the longest and toughest fight in his entire life. In fact, maybe his whole life was leading up to this fight...the fight of his life. He gathered all the energy he had from his body, and formed a giant red sphere of pure energy, with him at the center. Gusher did likewise, making a sphere of energy, as big as his opponent's.

The heroes could feel the power with their sixth sense. This can possibly be the final moment of the fight between the two titanic forces. Many thoughts went through Tyson's head as he geared up for the most important moment in his life.

He has been through many battles throughout his life – when he was a child, he met Vegeta, the enemy of his parents. He also dealt with Dark Destiny, and later on Vega, the dangerous Magnificent Seven, Prince Diamond, and most recently, the Dark Empire itself.

How can he forget how he first met Faith, the princess from an unknown land who he fell in love with while they were training? Her kingdom was being terrorized by a tyrant named Vega, who sucks people's energies and becomes stronger each time. After they defeated Vega, she decided to stay with him and start a new life.

"Tyson, can you make me a promise?" Faith asked.

"Yes, anything."

"Promise me...promise me you'll stay by my side forever."

"I promise."

And he has kept that promise to this very day. Fifteen years later, they are married with two beautiful children.

Another important event in Tyson Spade's life was the first time he became a super sayan, also known as the second stage. Chaos shot his father with a beam, and Tyson thought he was dead for sure. He was so angry that everything around him was destroyed. He ascended to a new level of power, one that would change his life forever.

Later on, he will learn how to control this power called the second stage. Years later, while fighting the nameless warrior, he ascended once again into the fourth stage. And ultimately, he became one with the Enchron Crystal, turning into the being known as the Phoenix.

By now, both fighters are at the same altitude and took a look at each other one last time. They charged into each other and everything became white. All Tyson could think about at this point was Adel's face just before she died.

"Deep down inside there was always a part of me that was Julian. But I never let that part of me come out. You've become strong, Tyson...I'm proud of you."

And most importantly, she was able to cry again. She held in everything for the past twenty years, and let it all out in that moment before her death. And this is the man who took her life. He's going to pay dearly for this. The moment of truth is now...

KABOOM!! The resulting collision could be seen by the heroes, and not just those in the city. It could be seen from miles away. Everything became bright, and Tyson saw nothing but his enemy, the source of his hatred. If he kills this man, then everything will be okay. The war will end and Adel's death will be avenged.

"Get r-revenge for me..."

Those were her last words. And she entrusted Tyson to carry out her last wish, and by God, he will carry that will even if it kills him.

Both warriors screamed at the top of their lungs as they gave everything they had. The next thing Tyson remembered was falling...both him and Gusher were falling after the collision.

Julian took the little kid to the park and bought two cones of ice cream, one for herself and the other one for Tyke. Tyke licked it like it was the only ice cream in the world. Somehow, it tastes better when Julian buys it. Even though he's a kid and she's a teenager, they get along pretty well, and he thinks of her as his best friend.

One day, while they were sitting on the bench...

"Big sister, you think one day I will be as strong as my dad?" Tyke asked.

"Of course you will." she replied. "You'll be the strongest fighter anyone has ever known."

"Really? You think I can do it?"

"I know you can. Because you're Tyson Spade." she replied.

And he took those words to heart. Ever since that day, he has been motivated and training until he had no strength left.

And that prophecy has been fulfilled. As the Phoenix, he is virtually unbeatable, with Gusher being the exception. He has all the power he needs, and no one can even challenge him. But what good is all this power if he can't even save his friend?

With that thought, he fell to the ground with a splat.

Blazer: "What happened?"

Zelfire: "They just fell somewhere...and both their life force has disappeared."

Nebula: "No, you don't mean..." Without speaking further, he ran to the site where his brother fell to, and the others followed him.

Spade woke up after being unconscious for an unknown amount of time. He felt exhausted and drained. He used up most of his energy in that last attack, and it supposedly his last ditch effort. Gusher was lying face down, presumably dead. Spade hoped that he's dead for good this time, but every time he thought he won he became disappointed. So this time, he is not going to jump to conclusions. He walked closer to the body, taking each step cautiously.

Gusher's fingers moved, and then he woke up and stood up. Tyson was shocked, but at the same time he kind of expected it to happen. Is this guy unkillable or something? What does it take to get rid of him?

This time, however, the tyrant was displeased, and angry for the first time since he opened his eyes. "You...are going to die!" He gathered energy into his fist and ran forward, and Tyson did the same.

They ran into each other and Tyson ducked to avoid Gusher's fist. Whoosh. Tyson hit Gusher's stomach and blasted through him. Froom! A small flame shot out of Gusher's back. They both remained in their positions as the tyrant was shocked. His eyes were wide-open and he could not believe what happened.

Gusher took a few steps back and stared at his opponent angrily. The wound in his stomach will eventually heal, but right now it was extremely painful, and blood was still leaking out, and blood was coming out of his mouth. Suddenly, he did not care about the exciting fight that he always wanted. Forget about having a worthy challenge...he wanted no challengers, none at all.

"You die...you die!!" He charged energy into his fists, turning them into balls of electricity. Zzzzzt! The ground started to fall apart and pieces of it floated up.

Tyson opened his palms and fired an enhanced version of the Wrath Beam. It was much thicker and stronger than its original version, and it hit Gusher like a tidal wave. Choook!oom!

As he was hit, everything around him became white. The last vision he saw was same vision he saw when he first met Tyson...the one where he was confronting Margarita and the baby on the cliff. The baby was crying at the time, and that crying echoed over and over in Gusher's mind. "Waaah! Waaaah!" His cries became loud and annoying, and he kept on hearing it.

Gusher wanted to take the baby away from Margarita, and he knew not the reason. But now, he finally understood why...after all these years. The baby was emitting energy while he was crying...an energy that Gusher had never felt before. An energy unlike any other...a sign that when this baby grows up into an adult, he will become the strongest sixth sense fighter ever to exist in history...and at the moment that he felt the baby's presence...Gusher felt fear...for the first and only time in his life.

KABOOM!!

The beam turned into a bubble, and everything inside of it disintegrated. Gusher's life force disappeared, and so has his physical body, a signal that this fight is over for good. Smoke was coming out of Tyson's hands, and he went back to normal state - his hair became black, and the symbols disappeared from his body - and he fell on his knees. The hero can finally take a breath of relief...he just overcame the biggest obstacle in his life.

The others came just in time. Without him telling them, they already knew he won. Nebula ran to him and grabbed him. "You did it! I knew you could do it!" And he gave Tyson a good old fashioned noogie.

Subzero: "I must say, I was impressed. The odds were against you but you pulled through."

Blazer: "The important thing is that Gusher is dead. He can no longer harm us."

Then Tyson walked over to Lisa. "Sorry about your sister..."

Lisa: "I just have to ask one thing...was she at peace when she died?"

"Yes...she let out everything."

"Good...I'm glad." replied Lisa.

Thanks to Soroku's efforts, the scattering of the Muraian forces spells victory for the Allies. The mobile suit units finished the remainder of the scattered army. They all grouped together to being their direct attack on Murai.

Inside the Macedonion ship were Jamell and Soroku, who had a cast on his arm, giving orders from the control room. This could be the final battle between the Empire and the Alliance. Everybody was excited because if they pull through, they could end a hundred years of war on this very day.

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Tyson opened his palms and fired a thick Wrath Beam. It was much thicker and stronger than its original version, and it hit Gusher like a tidal wave. Choooom!

“AAAAAAHHHH!!!!” screamed the tyrant as his body was being burned. As death approached him, he came to the realization that his desire to fight caused him his own downfall. This is not the exciting fight that he was waiting for, and if he dies, he can no longer fight.

KABOOM!!

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Subzero: “I must say, I was impressed. The odds were against you but you pulled through.”

Blazer: “The important thing is that Gusher is dead. He can no longer harm us.”

Then Tyson walked over to Lisa. “Sorry about your sister...”

Lisa: “I just have to ask one thing...was she at peace when she died?”

“Yes...she let out everything in the end.”

“Good...I’m glad.” replied Lisa. And she started to cry.

“I’m sorry. I couldn’t save her.”

Nebula touched Tyson’s shoulder. “It’s not your fault. Don’t be too hard on yourself. Lisa, your sister is proud of you. She wouldn’t want you to be sad. She’s probably watching over you from heaven.”

Lisa wiped her tears. “Yeah. Today should be a day of celebration.”

Just now, Faith and the others showed up. Tyson saw his family and the look in his eyes was an indescribable one. He just went through hell, and what he needs is them right now. Tina was the first one to run forward.

“Daddy!” She ran into Tyson’s arms and he picked her up.

“Here’s my little girl.”

Junior was the next one. “Father!”

Then Faith joined them. “Tyson...you made it through. You had me worried.”

“I always make it through.” he said.

She gave him a big hug, with Tina and Junior in between them. This family hug was a long awaited one.

Nebula watched them and couldn’t help but smile. Erika stood next to him and wrapped her arms around his, and Amanda stood next to him.

Rocket: "Uncle Zelfire!"

Zelfire: "Rocket!"

The kid ran into his uncle's arms and they embraced. "You haven't been causing Mr. Midas trouble, have you?"

Midas laughed. "No, he was no trouble at all."

Everyone had their loved ones, and to them, family is the most precious thing in the world. They are more important than any empire, or any conquest of the world.

Boom, boom! EMF mobile suits flew towards a crystal starship and fired missiles and rockets. Boom! Tanks on the ground fired their cannons. The starship retaliated at full force, but there is only so much they can handle.

The captain was panicking. "Damn it. Where are our reinforcements? And why isn't Lord Orbital answering my distress calls?" Kaboom! The room shuddered. "Can he really be dead?"

Troop: "Sir, I have contacted every council member, and none of them are replying."

Captain: "What are they doing over there?"

The EMF units continued their relentless assault until the starship collapsed to the ground. The whole city heard the collision.

The troops in the area rejoiced and celebrated their victory. They have not been this happy since the war began, and finally, they have some hope that this war will end in their favor.

Meanwhile, just outside of Murai's orbit...Allies were gathering for their surprise attack. The first wave of troops entered the atmosphere and just like earth, their units burned up as they passed through the sky. Luckily their mobile suits were built to withstand such heat. They looked like comets in the sky.

The Muraians saw them and quickly got into their posts. Gun turrets and missile launches fired without sparing any ammunition. The mobile suit squadron, led by Lieutenant Lily, blasted the gun turrets and towers, and flew past them. Froom! Base after base fell to the GP and Macedonian forces.

Jamell: "Our forces are taking over their bases. Your theory was right, Soroku. The Muraians have strong offenses, but their defenses are weak."

Soroku: "And to think we have been fooled all these years. We knew nothing of their planet, and we fear the unknown, so we never actually attacked the planet directly. They must have spent a lot of resources to build those giant starships, leaving them very little resources for defense."

Jamell: "Orbital was a brilliant leader, but it is too bad because we have some brilliant leaders as well."

"They lost the battle because they underestimated our ability to unite."

Thut-thut-thut! A mobile suit fired its machine guns at the tower, destroying it. People on the floor ran for their lives as things exploded everywhere.

Lily fired the machine while in the air. "Destroy all their weapons. Surround the base! No one escapes!"

Kaboom! The tower just came crumbling down. Needless to say, the base was taken over quickly.

GP officers rounded up the prisoners and tied them with ropes. The prisoners were put into a line as they were being deported to a cargo ship.

Wendel: "We have successfully taken over area Alpha-five."

Jerrell and Angela, back at GP headquarters, were listening to a universal message broadcast from the new Liberator. The message was full of static and jumpy, but the Jamell's words were clearly audible. "My fellow comrades...we have fought long and hard...Murai has officially surrendered to us, and so did the other planets of the Dark Empire. We have won the war."

Jerrell and Angela jumped out of their seats and they gave each other a warm, tight hug. "We did!!"

"Yeah! We did it, Jerrell!"

In their moment of joy, all the past struggles they had meant nothing. All the bitter arguments and misunderstands meant nothing. The only thing important to them is each other. It is not just the end of a hundred years of, but it is the fact that they have each other during times like these that makes it so special.

When the good news spread throughout the galaxy, everyone celebrated like they had never celebrated before. Those who lost their loved ones shed tears of joy, knowing that their loved ones can now rest in peace. Their death was not in vain, but they died so that their children can have this moment.

The earth soldiers roamed the streets of the ruined cities, partying like it's New Year. It didn't matter if their cities are destroyed, they can be rebuilt. Soldiers threw their hats in the air and danced with each other.

President Eisenhower was relieved. All his stress was gone and now he can focus on rebuilding the damaged planet. "All our efforts were not in vain. This is truly the earth's most glorious day."

Osborne: "My duties here are over. I must return to headquarters."

Eisenhower and Osborne shook hands. "It was a pleasure working with you."

"Same here." Osborne replied.

"It is going to take a while to recover from this war."

"It is the same on our part. The Galactic Police have a lot to work on."

"This war that we call the Second Great War," said Eisenhower, "it will be remembered in history for generations and generations to come. Hopefully, it will be the last one of its kind."

"We will make sure of that." replied Osborne. "The Galactic Police will be made into the official police force of this galaxy, and we will prevent any one group from becoming too powerful."

[B] Contents

In the deserted wastelands of Arlia, Margarita stood alone on the top of a cliff, admiring the scenery. She never liked her home before, but today it looked a lot better in her eyes. This planet called Arlia has seen a lot of war, in fact, this planet has seen war as long as there was life on it. A long time ago, there was a three way struggle between Arlians, who dominated the planet, the Siths, and the sayans.

Mason came over to see her. "Margarita. You okay?"

"Terry, are we going to see true peace? From the day I was born, I have known war. I have never known what true peace was."

"That's not true. We were able to go to earth and raise our kids in peace." Mason replied. "We gave them something that everyone deserves."

"But in the end, we still put them in danger...because of our past mistakes."

"It was not our mistake." Mason replied. "The mistake is the Empire, and it has already been corrected."

"Do you think the unification will work?"

"Well, are you in good terms with Sephia?"

"More or less." Margarita replied.

"If you can do it, then everyone else can. A little bit at a time. I'm really proud of Tyson. I've heard so many stories about his heroic fights and it makes me want to go back home. Do you want to go home with me and see our kids and our grandkids?"

"Fine." she replied.

Mason put his arm around her and she leaned on him and together, they watched the sun set onto the horizon.

Malin was watching them from below. "I'm glad they're on good terms again."

"It must be nice to have a family." said Longinus. "What meaning is there in fighting if there is no one waiting for you return?"

"Family is everything, isn't it?"

"That is everyone's ultimate goal. That is why we were born...every single one of us."

"Why are you looking at me like that?"

Longinus turned away in embarrassment. "No reason. Malin...I need your help with the unification. I can't do it alone. Neither can King Neflite. You're on the rebel's side, so they'll listen to you."

"What side?"

"Oh sorry. There is no such thing as rebels."

"That's better." Malin said. "Let's work together for a better future. For peace and freedom."

Neflite and Sephia remembered the conversation they had in one of the rooms of the palace. The room was dark, and the window provided illumination. And this pretty much sums up the situation of their race – it is grim, but still there is a small light of hope.

"This unification process is going to be hard." said Neflite. "Are you sure you want to go through with this?"

"I don't mind." Sephia replied. "I believe in you. If you say that we should unite, then I will do whatever I can to make that possible. I too want the fighting to end."

Indeed, she is a person of her words. One of the very first orders Sephia gave after the war was over was to have her men rebuild the damaged buildings. Even Sephia herself helped with some of the projects. The people, seeing the princess herself become involved, believed in their cause. Together, they gave shelter to the homeless, food to the hungry, water to the thirsty, and hope to the hopeless.

Even Mika helped them out. She was born a rebel, and like others, she lost her parents to the First Great War, yet she is helping the princess rebuild Ethiopia. Her only wish is that her friend Sarus can be with her. Sarus fought like a brave soldier, and he died in honor, as far as she is concerned. May his soul rest in peace along with the others.

The GP mobile suit went into the glass tube of the station, along with other mobile suits. The pilot opened the cockpit and came out and gently floated onto the ground. Lily and Angela looked at each other and walked over.

"You did well, Lieutenant." said Angela.

"That's because I have a great teacher."

"You certainly are my best student."

Lily did not know what else to say, and she just grabbed Angela and hugged. Her embrace startled Angela at first, but she figured this would've happened sooner or later, and she returned the embrace. These two do not have just a commander-subordinate relationship, but they are friends and have been friends for a long time.

Jerrell Florencia went to personally congratulate every single GP member he came across, something that he never did before. They were all surprised and honored by his praise.

The time for the ceremony began, and everyone inside the station stood in a single file, facing the window.

Jerrell was also there, standing in front of everyone, along with his commanders, Angela, Osborne, and Cuzzy. Everybody saluted at the same time.

The Fortran station has the ability to travel because of its propulsion rockets. It is slow, but it gets to its destination eventually, which happens to be the site where Boaz exploded. There was nothing but space debris.

Mobile suits guarded the area to make sure nothing interrupts the ceremony. A door on Fortran opened, and out came a million paper cranes, all folded by GP officers. They came out in a stream, and then each one drifted away to its own path. There were so many that the audience had an eyeful. A million paper cranes in such a short time. That is the power they have.

No one is to speak during this moment of silence. They remained in saluting position and just watched the paper cranes disburse. Some of them were proud to be in the GP forces. Some of them cried silently. Those who passed away at Boaz will never be forgotten.

Neflite finished paying his respects to the dead. There is a cemetery here where many of the deceased from the previous war was buried. It was the same place where Tyson confronted his mother, Margarita, about their differences. It certainly is a humbling experience to be here, to know that there are so many great people like Neflite who are not in this world anymore.

King Neflite has a huge responsibility to himself and his country, and sometimes it can be overwhelming. Since the rebuilding era began, he has been doing nothing but work and barely has any time for himself. Today he decided to take off and spend some time reflecting on the past, looking at the graves of those that he knew in the past.

Walking along the dry land, he saw the once nameless warrior, now named Messiah. Like usual, his cape was waving from the breeze. These two have a lot to say to each other, but they did nothing but stare.

Messiah walked towards him, and Neflite was a little bit afraid, but his face showed not one ounce of fear. A leader like him cannot afford to show fear. Messiah walked right past him without saying a word. He could have said a lot of things, but he decided to say nothing, and that nothing is more impact than a thousand powerful words.

On a particularly windy day, Tyson Spade went to visit a grave. The following was inscribed on it: Julian Powers. It did not have the name Adel on it because the person that is buried under this grave was born as Julian and died as Julian.

Tyson put the flowers next to the tombstone and just stared blankly. His sixth sense told him to turn around, and he saw Lisa standing there.

"Lisa, you're here too?"

"I just came back from visiting Spencer's grave, and just before that, Bianca's grave." Lisa came over to look at her sister's tombstone. "A lot of people died in this war."

"I have lived my whole peacefully...my parents fought hard so that I did not have to go through what they did. Even though we won the first war, those bastards were not happy with it, and they had to do it again, thirty years later. They haven't learned that they can't force people to succumb to them against their will. Using violence and suppressing people doesn't work. It will ultimately lead to their demise." Tyson replied.

"But it is over for good now, right?" Lisa asked.

"There will always be people like Orbital...who want everything for themselves and will do anything to get it. But it is up to us to stop them from becoming too influential."

"Just like how there will always be a Tyson Spade in this world. Maybe a hundred years ago there was someone like you...and hundred years later there will be another." said Lisa.

"Hopefully he won't have to go through what I went through." With that said, he walked away.

Tyson Spade has been through a lot of fighting in his lifetime. Many of them were life-threatening, and somehow he made it through all of them and he's still in one piece. Thinking back, he can't believe his luck.

Each time he goes through a "nightmare" situation, he always fights not with his power, but with hope and justice as his weapons. Justice is his shield, and hope is his sword that slices through the darkness.

Whenever there is evil, there is good. No matter how powerful evil is, there is always an equally powerful counter-force that is good, a force of light, the light that overcomes the darkness. The darkness is jealous of the light. And the light is afraid of the darkness. The darkness wants to engulf the light, but the light shall shine over the darkness. But remember, the light must be bright enough to over shine the darkness.

Finished 09/24/2008

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