

THE POWER FORCE

Gladiators

“...We the Gladiators are a group of warriors who seek competition. That is the core of our existence...We live to fight. We fight to live...”

-Hurricane

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1: A Strange Place. Get me Out of Here!

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"Weaklings!" the warrior said in disgust and disappointment. He had just blasted someone in the arena, who was one of his competitors. He turned around to not look at the deformed body. The mere sight of that unworthy fighter was an insult to him. "Is there no warrior who can challenge my power?"

"You've killed all of them sir." said his assistant, **Hurricane**. It seems that not a single one was a match for you."

Chromium put his cape back on. "Hmmp. Find me a warrior worthy of my power, Hurricane. I don't care how, but do it! That goes for all of you too."

"But sir, you've killed the all the ones we found within this galaxy...all in a short time."

"I don't care if you have to start looking in another galaxy. If you don't find me competition, I will get bored, and I might start anyone killing people at random."

Hurricane, along with the other gladiators were shocked at what he said. Fear overcame them. They knew Chromium would do it. "Yes sir!" Hurricane said.

Tyson and Faith stood outside on the fields, under the shade of a tree. Tyson had his arms around Faith, and she was leaning against him.

"It sure is a nice day, isn't it, Tyson?"

"Yeah. The blue sky, and the white, puffy clouds. I was mesmerized by them since I was a kid. I always wanted to fly up there to see what they are like. But my parents never let me fly too high, since they worried about my safety."

"People always take nature for granted. In the city, we can never see a clear sky like this."

"Yeah. In the age of technology and an ever changing world, nature is still as beautiful as ever."

They put their arms around each other's necks and kissed. They had a long kiss, and it was a good one. When Junior was out of the house, they had privacy and can do whatever they want. When that kid's around, he'd just get in the way, and mom and dad can't get intimate.

"Ahh, what do we have here?" Hurricane asked the operator.

Noric was typing into the computer terminal. "Luckily for us, the population of earth is considerably high. I am sure we will find some worthy competition for Chromium here."

A picture showed up on the screen. "Hmmm? What's this?"

"That will be our target." Noric replied. "His name is Tyson Spade."

"He doesn't look tough to me."

"Looks can be deceiving, sir. He's a sayan."

"Ahh...but Chromium specifically told us he did not want any sayans. He never explains why."

"But this one is the best one I can find."

"True. I don't know what a sayan is doing on earth, but as long as Chromium has a worthy competitor, and he doesn't know it's a sayan, it doesn't matter, right? Prepare to use the teleporter."

"Yes sir." Noric replied.

The **Coliseum** was the **Gladiators'** main headquarters. In fact, it looks like a real coliseum on the inside. On the outside, it was a cylinder-looking ship with rocket engines and weapons. Just as a regular heavy-class spaceship, it has living quarters and other necessary facilities to make it a self-sufficient ship. There are also built in weapons. This grand ship was just outside of earth's orbit, allowing Hurricane and Noric to monitor its activities.

Tyson and Faith embraced under the tree. He had his hands on her hips, and her arms were around his neck. They kissed.

"There they are." Hurricane said. "Prepare to use the teleporter." He instructed from the computer.

"Yes sir." said Noric, taking out a bazooka-like thing. Sneaking behind a bush, he aimed the teleporter the couple.

The couple just finished kissing, and Tyson's sixth sense was tingling. There was a glowing circle where they were standing.

Tyke: "Faith, I think someone's watching us!"

Hurricane: "Now!"

The servant pressed the button. Zap!

Tyson and Faith noticed that their bodies were feeling a little light, and they saw each other glowing and disappearing!! "Tyson?!" Faith said in shock.

"Wha-what's going on?!"

Zap! They vanished into thin air.

They reappeared in an unfamiliar environment. "What the hell happened?" Tyson said.

"Is this a dream?"

Tyson pinched himself. "Ouch. It's too real to be a dream. It must be an illusion."

The floor was neat and shiny, and the walls were clean and organized. It was like they were in a palace.

"This is really weird."

"Welcome to the Coliseum." Hurricane said as he approached with four of his henchmen.

The couple cast their eyes on him. Faith stood behind Tyke and watched nervously.

Tyke: "Who are you? You brought us here, didn't you?!"

Hurricane: "My apologies. I did not properly introduce myself. My name is Hurricane. I am the champion of the Gladiators and the current commander of this fortress."

Tyke: "Hurricane? I've never heard of you before."

"Ahh, but I've heard of you, Tyson Spade."

Faith: "How do you know Tyson?"

Tyke: "Well, I must be pretty famous in the universe."

"Indeed you are." Hurricane said with a smile. "There's not a single important person that does not know of your name, sayan."

"Enough crap. Did you bring us here?"

"Ahh, I owe you an explanation don't I?"

Tyson listened, ignoring his sarcastic tone of voice.

"You see, we are the Gladiators. You might not have heard of us, but we are known in the **eastern section of the galaxy**. We the Gladiators are a group of warriors who seek competition. That is the core of our existence." Images of Gladiators fighting, holding various weapons. One warrior stands in the arena, and there were several bodies on the floor. He raises his right arm up in victory, and the crowd cheers for him. "We live to fight. We fight to live. We are trained and disciplined as warriors and do not tolerate failure."

"Great," Tyke said sarcastically, "what does this have to do with me?"

"You see, we have been searching for worthy competition. Our leader is Chromium, and he is the strongest out of all of us. He has been very dissatisfied lately because we could not find worthy competitors to fight. He's slain all his opponents quickly and easily so far." Images of Chromium finishing off his opponents. And that is why we've traveled galaxy after galaxy to find warriors like yourself. And we have made it here to the eastern-middle quadrant of the Milky Way. Rumors of a sayan warrior with great power were heard, so we came here and looked for you."

"So, let me get this straight, you want me to participate in your little killing game?"

"Yes."

"That is why you brought us here?" Faith said, enraged.

Tyke: "Look, I don't have time to play your silly games. Take us out of this place right now."

"Surely, you are not refusing our offer, are you? You are given the chance to fight against our greatest champions."

"Sorry, I decline." Tyke said rudely.

Hurricane smirked. "You do not understand, you have no choice."

The henchmen pointed their guns at the couple.

Tyke: "So, I see how it is."

Faith: "What do we do now?"

"Perhaps you need some convincing." Hurricane said. He snapped his fingers, and the henchmen backed away until they were behind him. Then they left the room.

The couple wondered what was happening. Why did they just leave? Tyson glanced at the ceiling. There were cameras, and they sure weren't recording, they shot lasers! Tyson ran for his life as he avoided the lasers. Zap! Zap! "Yipes!" Tyson was jumping up and down as he ran. He grabbed Faith's hand and they ran up the stairs. At the balcony, they stopped and turned around. Tyson threw fireballs and blew up the cameras. Faith threw a rose and blew it up. Bom.

"Phew. We did it." Faith declared.

Suddenly, the piece of the floor they stood on opened up. They got out of the way. Spikes popped up, and they got scared and ran for their lives. Unfortunately, every direction they went to was dangerous. They had to avoid spikes and fires. An axe hanging from the ceiling came swinging at them.

"Aaah!! Watch out!" They ducked. That was a close one.

Tyson stared in awe. A giant black ball came into sight. It had spikes all over it, and it was rolling towards them.

"Ty-Tyson!!"

"RUN!" he screamed. He grabbed her hand and they ran down the slope for their lives. The spike ball was rolling and rolling. Suddenly, Faith tripped and fell. "Oof!"

"Faith!"

"Tyson!"

Tyson ran back to her and carried her in his arms and ran. They were out of the slope and on the floor. The ball was getting closer and closer. Tyson ran out of its path, and the ball slammed against the wall.

Tyson let out a sigh of relief and put Faith down. They panted for breath.

Hurricane and four henchmen entered the room. "So, I see that you survived our obstacle course."

Tyson: "If that was a joke, it had to be the worst joke ever!!"

"Oh, it's no prank, I assure you. We use this to test our warriors. After all, we want only the best here. Not every one who enters this room makes it out alive. The fact that you survived proves that you are a worthy contender in the tournament!"

"Listen you, I don't want to take any part in your tournament, and I want nothing to do with the Gladiators."

"Like I said before, you have no choice."

The henchmen surrounded the couple and pointed their guns at them.

"Just surrender and nobody gets hurt."

"No way!!" Tyson powered up and the guards were blown away.

Hurricane: "Turn on the radiation shield!"

The ceiling was glowing a red color. Tyson's blue aura disappeared in an instant. He was confused and bewildered. "Huh?!"

The troops got up and attacked. Faith hit the guy behind her with her elbow. Wham! Tyson punched, pow! The troop fell. A troop behind him attacked. Tyson kicked him and he fell.

Hurricane charged and punched left and right, Tyson dodged. Hurricane punched, Tyson's arms were in front of himself, and he pushed Hurricane's arm away, leaving him open, and jabbed him. Hurricane stepped back, and was pissed that he was hit. He grunted and did a round kick. Tyson blocked with both hands but he was pushed back.

Faith's rose turned into a whip, and she threw the whip around the henchmen's wrist, and he dropped the gun, then she pulled him into her, and she punched him. One troop on the floor grabbed the gun, got up and shot Tyson in the back. Bang! Tyson collapsed face front. He crawled, but then lay still.

"No!" Faith screamed. She fought wildly and crazily. Hurricane was in front of her, and she threw a rose at him, and he appeared behind her and chopped her on the neck. Whack! She fell unconscious.

Two troops grabbed Tyson by the arms, lifting him to his feet. "Uuugh...you bastard..."

"How does it feel?" Hurricane asked with a sinister smile, showing his teeth.

"Screw you!" Tyke said.

Hurricane jabbed him in the stomach, and Tyke lost consciousness. He relaxed his knuckles. "Hmmp. What a trouble maker."

Chromium saw how the couple avoided the obstacles. His hands were folded under his chin, and he seemed impressed by the performance. "Hmmm, interesting. This might be an interesting tournament. I may finally be able to use my full power."

Back at earth, Rocket, Junior, and Amanda had noticed something wrong - Junior's parents were gone. They've searched the whole house and found nothing. They became worried.

Jr.: "Strange...where did they go?"

Rocket: "Maybe they went shopping or somewhere."

"But they don't go anywhere without telling me. Something's fishy here, I'm telling you.

Amanda: "Maybe it's an emergency."

Jr.: "Like what?"

Amanda: "I dunno...maybe a friend needs help. I'm sure they'll be back before sundown."

"I hope so..."

The kids seemed calm, but inside, they were actually concerned. It's already evening, and Junior's parents have disappeared without a trace. Will they come back?

Two guards held Tyson by the arms, dragging him into the dungeon. A third guard opened the cell bars. They threw him in, and then closed the bars. Clk-clk-clk-slam.

"You sons of bitches!" Tyson grabbed the bars, and it electrified him. "Aaaaaah!"

The guards laughed. "Stupid idiot."

Tyson grunted and grabbed the bars, and got shocked again, and fell on his butt.

Guard A: "Let me give you a hint, the same will happen every time you touch it. So if I were you, I would just sit quietly and behave." The guards left.

"You bastards! I'll get you for this!"

The cell was really dark, and it was hard to see anything. The only source of light was from the bars.

"Settle down, young man. You're going to be here for a while, so why not enjoy it?" said an unfamiliar voice.

"Who said that?" he asked. Tyke looked carefully into the darkness, and he saw a man was sitting there.

"So, they got you too, huh? That means you must be a pretty good warrior as well. Otherwise they wouldn't have bothered putting you here."

"You're the same as me?"

"Yes. They've taken me from my home planet and imprisoned me here." He was just an old man wearing some kind of armor. It was orange in color, and its color is dull, and it's worn out.

There was a pause.

"Forgive me, I did not properly introduce myself. My name is **Silver Nitrate**."

"My name is Tyson Spade."

They shook hands.

Chromium went to the dungeon, to the cell where Faith was. Her hands were chained against the wall, and her face was facing the floor.

"Ahhh, you must be the one named Faith. I've heard so much about you."

She didn't reply or move.

"Let me introduce myself, my name is Chromium. I am the leader of all the Gladiators." He waited for her to say something, but she didn't. "My apologies for how my men have treated you." He opened the bars and went in. The men behind him went towards her and un-cuffed the chains.

Tyson sat down on the floor across from Silver. He leaned his back against the wall, and figured he might as well relax while he's here.

"So, how long have you been here?"

"Long enough to know what's going on." Silver replied.

"Why do they do this? What's the point of keeping us here?"

"These people call themselves Gladiators. They live for one thing: competition. Their leader, named Chromium, is a warrior high skilled and expertly trained in martial arts and spirit fighting. But killing people is not enough for him. He wants competition, because he hates killing weaklings. He also likes to watch people kill each other, so he knows who's strong and who's not."

"Well, I can't afford to stay here. I've got a family waiting for me at home."

"I want to get out of here too. Sorry pal, we're in the middle of space. Escape is

impossible. You're pretty much stuck here until you die. So you might as well enjoy it."

"Escape is impossible?" Tyson crossed his arms and went into deep thought. How could they have gotten stuck in this place all of a sudden? No, he had to get out of here.

Chromium's men brought Faith into his bedroom, and he ordered them to leave. He and Faith were alone inside.

She was silent the whole time, but she spoke up. "What's your purpose. Why did you bring me and Tyson here?"

"Are you worried about Tyson? You can forget about him. Because I control everything here. Ha ha ha ha ha ha!!!"

2: Background of the Gladiators, A History of Cruelty.

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Time over time, it is proven that peace never lasts for the heroes, especially with Tyson's reputation in the universe. While he and Faith were having time alone, their happiness vanished instantly when they were teleported into the Coliseum. Now they are in foreign place, confused and frightened, with no means of escape. Who are the Gladiators? Who is Chromium? And what will they do to the heroes? Will Faith and Tyson survive this horrible predicament?

Tyson sat across Silver in the dark, quiet cell. Neither of them had spoken to each other in a while. Silver seemed to be more calm and patient out of the two. Of course, Silver had been here longer than Tyson, so he knows what to expect. He noticed that Silver was an old man, even old enough to be his grandfather.

His features were not by any means normal. Obviously he has come from space, right? There was nothing in the room to look at except for his cellmate. Wearing orange metallic armor, black boots, and black gloves, this man was of average height, although he didn't measure yet. But he could tell.

"So, how long have you been in this place?" Tyke finally asked.

"Heh, young man, you don't have to worry. You're still young and strong."

"Thanks for trying to make me feel better. But as you said, we can't escape."

"Oh it's not that bad. As long as you survive, you can live another day." Silver said.

Tyke: (I can't afford to stay here. I have to get to Faith somehow. I have people waiting for me on earth! And they're probably noticing that we're missing already. But why can't I use my spirit ki? It's the radiation field that they have here. I have to find a way to overcome that!) He crossed his arms and closed his eyes and went into deep thought.

Silver noticed that he was concentrating on something, and didn't disturb him.

Chromium slapped Faith and she fell on the bed. She touched her face and looked at him with fear and hatred.

"You can't do this to us! Who do you think you are?!" she yelled, and the tears in her eyes were about to come out.

"I'm the leader and owner of the Gladiators. There's nothing that I cannot do or am not allowed to do."

"You won't get away with this! You scumbag!"

"What did you say?" Chromium was angry.

"You are a scumbag!"

He grabbed her chin. "If I were you," he whispered. "I'd be more polite. Because I'm the boss here." He kissed her lips.

Tyson punched the wall, grunting through each one. Wham. Wham. The wall was starting to crack.

"Stop this foolishness." Silver Nitrate said.

"I can't stand this! I have to get out of here!" He kept on punching even when Silver grabbed him. "Let me go!"

"Stop you fool!"

Tyson clamed down and breathed hard. "Silver, you don't understand."

"Understand what? That you are acting irrationally?"

"Argh. Why can't I use my energy? This is frustrating."

"None of us can. They aren't stupid. They manage to turn the Coliseum into a dead zone."

"A dead zone?"

"You know what that is, right?"

"Yes..." Tyson replied. "It's a place where no one can use their spirit energy. But how did they create it in space?"

"Through technology."

"Whatever the case, I have to get out of this place."

Silver became silent.

"I have people waiting for my return! If I don't go back, they will miss me. And I miss them. There are people counting on me. I have a wife and kids. What will they do without a father?"

Both of them became silent.

"No need to be so gloom, lad."

"You know what, you're right. I should always have hope."

"Yes, that's the spirit."

They both sat down.

"Since we're gonna be here for a while, why don't I tell you about things you should know."

"Things that I should know?"

"Do you know anything about the Gladiators?"

"I know that they're the ones who brought me here for a stupid reason."

"How perspective." he said sarcastically. They both sat down. "You've been brought here for a reason. They want your strength."

"Why is that?"

"Like I said, they want worthy competition. Each of the prisoners here are well known – and respected – warriors of our region. The Gladiators have an impressive information network. It is not hard for them to find the whereabouts of a certain warrior, even if he hasn't been seen for years."

"I see..."

"Tyson Spade, that's your name, right? You said that you have a family. I used to have a family too. But I lost them years ago."

"I'm sorry." Tyson said.

"It's okay. It was a long time ago. Almost like another lifetime. Since then I'm always alone. Whether at peace or on the battlefield, I am alone. I've fought many battles and encountered many things. But one day, while walking in the desert, these guys suddenly showed up – the Gladiator members, and abducted me. They caught me by surprise so I couldn't escape. Since then I was stuck here."

"So every prisoner here has suffered the same fate, huh?"

"Believe me lad, I've tried to escape once, but it didn't work. Since then I never tried again. Those who caught trying to escape were put to death immediately. Some of the more reckless people decided to take a risk, thinking that it's better to risk their lives than stay here forever. And they took the gamble and lost. For me, I chose the smart way. Staying alive, no matter what hardships you face – is better than death."

"Yeah...I gotta help those innocent people."

"Help them? Ha. Good one." Silver looked to the side. "The first rule that you learn in here – also the most important rule – is that everyone here is an enemy. Every single person here. Even your cell mate could be..."

Tyson was shocked. He looked at Silver to see if he was joking, and apparently, he was not.

"Don't worry young lad. It might never come to that point if we are lucky. The prisoners are forced to fight in the tournament, and what is the tournament? Simple. It is a struggle for survival to us. That is all. To them, it is entertainment. To us, it is a fight to survive. They pit us against each other and fight to the death."

"What? Can't we choose our opponents?"

"Unfortunately, no. They randomly choose it. So now you understand why I say everyone is an enemy?"

"I...do..."

"We may never know if we may be pitted to fight against each other."

There was a silence in the room.

"But," Silver said, in a slightly more positive tone, "for the time being, we can be friends. I like you. You worry about other people before you worry about yourself. I was like that once. I guess you could say you remind me of me when I was younger."

"Hmmm. Really?"

"But I can't guarantee that we can be neutral forever. When the time comes that we do fight each other, I will not hold back, got it?" he asked.

"I got it loud and clear." Tyson said with a smile.

Chromium slapped Faith and she fell against the bed. Her head fell on the pillow. Chromium laughed as he got on the bed.

"No, please, no!!" Faith screamed. "Please!"

"You're mine!" He grabbed her and they struggled.

"Stop, please!"

He ripped her clothes and leaned close to her and stopped her struggling.

The phone rang. Ring, ring. Lisa came into the room, picked up the phone and sat on her bed. "Hello?"

"Ms. Powers, this is Junior."

"Junior? Hey what's up kiddo?"

"My parents still haven't come home yet." the boy said with concern.

"Still? It's late already."

"I don't know where they are. They haven't called back. I was hoping that you'd know."

"Look, stay right where you are, alright? I'm coming here."

Both hung up at the same time.

Junior sighed. "They're not with Ms. Powers either."

Rocket was more relaxed about this than usual. "Chill out. They probably just want a night out alone."

Amanda: "No, something is definitely wrong. I certainly hope they are not playing a prank."

"Why would my parents play this kind of prank?"

"True. It's not like them at all. Something must've come up."

In the arena of death, two warriors were fighting each other desperately as others watched. Gladiator members watched from the above. The arena was basically just a circle surrounded by a round wall. The ground level was the fighting area, and that's where warriors enter and leave. The place was dark, so there were torches placed at random locations. This was to keep a gloomy and dark atmosphere, perfect for murder and bloodshed.

At the top level, the Gladiators stood and watched the fight. Chromium sat on his special seat, a black chair with skulls on it. Hurricane stood beside the commander. He had his arms crossed.

The fight was almost finished. One warrior out powered the other and slashed him with the sword. Chop! The other fighter dropped his axe and fell. Then the Gladiators chanted. "Kill him, kill him, kill him..."

The warrior raised his sword, took a deep breath, and stabbed his enemy. Blood splashed all over the place. It was over.

Chromium finished his champagne.

"Quiet impressive, was it not, commander?" asked Hurricane.

"Not bad, but it could've been better."

"I am sorry to hear that, sir."

"Lieutenant, give me a report on planet Raptor."

"Yes, sire."

Faith woke up....finding herself on Chromium's bed. She pulled the blanket close to her chest. She had a headache. She couldn't believe what just happened...and started sobbing...

Silver: "So, it looks like the competition has started already.

Tyke: "How do you know?"

"I just have this feeling. It might us next."

3: Faith's Anger. The Black Rose.

Contents

Hurricane got on one knee and bowed, then raised his head. "Sire, I have something I'd like to speak to you about privately."

"Oh, what is the matter, Hurricane?"

"It is concerning that woman named Faith."

"Yes and what about her?"

"Forgive me for being nosy, but I think she could become a threat to us. It is better not to keep her alive."

"She's my prisoner. I decide if she lives or dies. Hurricane, you are the Champion of the Gladiators. You should focus more on your training."

"Yes sir." He bowed.

"Now, I want you to make me a new formula."

"A new formula?"

"Yes. One that will multiply one's jealousy and hatred a thousand times..."

In the dungeon, the security guards opened the cells. The guards took the prisoners, directing them towards the stairs.

Tyson and Silver watched without touching the bars. All the prisoners were curious.

"What's going on?" Tyson asked.

"The fight is starting." Silver answered.

"You mean...we have to fight?"

"If we are unlucky, yes."

Eventually, the guards opened the bars in their cell. With their wrists chained together, there was not much the prisoners could do. Tyson looked around the area as he walking, hoping to discover something useful. Certainly, he had a mindset of escaping. But he didn't forget that the Coliseum was in outer space. Escape was difficult, if not impossible. He had to plan carefully...but he didn't have a plan yet. He counted at least forty prisoners. Most of them were in ragged clothes. Maybe they were captured like that, or their clothes had worn out over time. In any case, it was not a pretty site. The faces were unfriendly. That's right; Tyson remembered what Silver had said: everyone is an enemy. All these people sharing a similar background. Each one after his own survival. Each one a potential enemy.

The prisoners came out from the bottom level of the arena. There were two entrances/exits, both opposite from each other. The two groups of prisoners crowded at the two doorways. Tyson looked around. On the top level, the Gladiators watched, some standing near the edge. In the middle was Chromium, sitting on his chair with skulls at the handles. He was sitting with his legs crossed, and one hand holding a wine glass.

Tyke: "So, I take it that's Chromium."

Silver: "Yes. He's a very dangerous man. And I know that you're reckless, young lad. Don't do anything foolish here."

"Is the fight about to begin?"

The guards unchained two prisoners, and they stepped to the center.

Guard: "Choose your weapons and prepare yourselves."

The weapons were attached to the brick wall for easy access.

One picked up an axe; his opponent took a sword. They went to the center again and stood still.

Silver: "It is starting."

There was chatting amongst the crowds. Prisoners talked about who they think would win.

Hurricane poured Chromium some wine, and he sipped it. "Sire, I am sure this will be a promising fight."

"It certainly looks promising. Let's see how it turns out."

The guard raised his hand, and in an instant, the fight started. The warriors got into stance and circled each other.

"Rumors say that they were good friends." one of the prisoners said.

"Really?"

"Yeah. It's such a shame that now they have to kill each other."

"I know...If I was in the same shoes, I would probably do the same."

Tyson overheard their conversation. He wondered if Nitrate heard it. The warriors clashed! Twang! Fighter A slashed his axe and Fighter B blocked with the sword. They hit and made loud sounds.

Silver: "Watch carefully. You may learn something."

Tyson watched. But his focus wasn't 100% on the fight. He focused on Chromium and the guy next to him, Hurricane. He despised them. It's their fault he's

in this mess. Look at them, watching like this is some kind of entertainment, while he's stuck down here at the lower level.

The fight continued. Clang! Cling! Wham! Fighter A dropped his axe and fell on his butt. His chest was slashed and he was bleeding heavily. Fighter B approached, his shadow covering A.

The Gladiators chanted. "**Kill him, kill him, kill him, kill him...**"

Chromium watched what he would do.

B raised the sword high, and then chopped his opponent. Slash! Blood splattered on the floor. It was over.

Tyson was shocked, and his mouth and eyes were wide open. "No!!"

Silver: "It's alright, young lad. This is supposed to happen. All of us warriors here have seen blood. You have to get used to it."

"Those barbarians...how could they do this?"

"These people live and die for competition. That is what the Gladiators are."

Chromium drank the last of his champagne. "Hmmp, what a boring fight. I am disappointed."

Hurricane got nervous. "Sire, I assure you the next one will be better."

The prisoners were sent back to their cells. What Tyson was shocking, to say the least. As he sat in the cell, he stared at his own knees, and his eyes had that intense look. Silver could guess what he was thinking.

"You're not used to seeing blood, are you?" Silver said.

"You don't know me at all."

"Don't worry about what happened. We will all die one day."

"You're one hell of an optimist."

They both laughed.

Silver: "Look at me. I am not young anymore, as you can see. Eventually, I am going to disappear from this world."

Tyson listened empathetically.

Chromium went to his personal chamber and went towards the bed. Faith was sleeping, tucked under a blanket. Chromium took out a needle and pushed the button up. A drop of liquid splashed out. He injected the liquid into Faith's arm, and she moaned, and then relaxed.

"Once this is complete, you will be a completely different person."

Hurricane was behind him. "Sire, is this wise?"

"My judgment is always correct. This woman may appear harmless and innocent, but she actually holds great power inside. Even she herself does not know it. I can sense the hidden power inside of her, waiting to yearning to be released."

"Yes, I've felt it too."

"All I need to do is instill the feeling of hatred, jealousy, and apathy into her. The formula should multiply those negative emotions a thousand times. So no matter how forgiving she may be, it will work. She will surely be powerful."

"But sire, do not forget that she is the enemy. She wishes only for your demise."
"That is why I want you to make a new formula." Chromium said, turning around.

"A new formula?"

"Yes. A formula that will make her obey me, and only me."

"Sire, there is no such thing."

"Then go and make it!"

Hurricane bowed down. "Yes, my lord."

"One more thing. Is she from earth? She must know people down there."

"Yes sire."

"Capture them."

"Yes sire."

Junior was sitting on the tree branch, leaning against the bark. His hands were around his knees and his face was in between them. Junior and Rocket were on the ground, worried and not moving.

They've been waiting for hours, and finally, a jeep arrives. Lisa stepped out. She was quite surprised that the children were still there. Amanda and Rocket ran to her.

"Kids...Junior's parents' still haven't come back?"

Amanda: "No. They haven't. They didn't call."

Rocket: "We're really worried, Ms. Powers."

"Where is Junior?"

"Over there." Amanda pointed at the tree.

Lisa looked at Junior sitting on the branch. She went under the tree. "Hey kid, come down from there."

Junior: "Why is this happening? They won't go anywhere without telling me..."

Lisa: "I know. Just come down and we'll think of something."

The kid jumped down and landed.

Erika was yelling at them as she just arrived. She stopped, put her hands on her knees and panted for breath. "Guys...I just heard what happened. Everybody okay?"

Lisa: "Junior's parents are missing. I'm really worried."

Erika: "We have to worry about the kids. Can Junior stay with you?"

Lisa: "Me? But my apartment can't fit another person. How about Zelfire?"

Rocket: "Yeah. My uncle can have room. He's got a basement that isn't used."

"Really? Thanks a lot." Junior said happily. It was as if the gloominess from moments ago had mostly disappeared.

Amanda went back with Erika, and Lisa drove the jeep, with Junior and Rocket inside, to Zelfire's house. Zelfire heard a honk from the vehicle and stepped outside.

"Hey guys?" He waved friendly.

Lisa came out with the two kids. "Junior's parents are missing. Nobody knows where they went."

"Yes, I heard."

"I was hoping you'd have a place for him to stay."

"Of course. Me and Tyson are good friends. His son is like my son. Come over here, Junior."

The two kids went over to him.

Lisa: "Thanks, man. I'll leave him to you."

"No problem."

Lisa was relieved, and finally, she can rest without worries. She waved goodbye and went into the jeep, turned the ignition on, and drove away. Just as she left them, she heard them saying loudly that Junior is going to have a wonderful time there, and they laughed and cheered.

The jeep went deeper into the forest. Vroom. Suddenly, a man dropped on the road in front of the car. Lisa panicked and stepped on the brakes and steered to the side. Screeeech! The jeep stopped sideways and flipped over to its side. Guys dropped down from trees around the vehicle. Lisa crawled out, getting ready to yell at someone, until she realized that it was an ambush. They had been waiting to attack her.

They laughed evilly.

"Who are you people?!" she said.

They certainly were not ordinary bandits, judging by the way they dressed. The men were dressed to kill, literally. They had black suits, tight black pants, boots, and a row of spikes on their shoulder pads. They had rings with spikes on their wrists and variations of it.

Xenon: "We are members of the Gladiators." He approached. "You might not have heard of us, but we have orders to capture you. I suggest you cooperate and come with us."

"In your dreams, pal!" She reached into her purse and drew the handgun.

Argon caught her arm before she could fire. She dropped the gun.

"Nice try."

"Let go!" She struggled. Argon twisted her arm, got behind her, and chopped her on the neck. She fell unconscious.

Xenon: "Let's go."

Argon grabbed the girl and they flew away.

The car was damaged, and a fluid was dripping out. Eventually, the car exploded.

Zelfire heard a bang sound from the woods. Something had happened. Maybe Lisa? "Listen kids, I need you to stay inside the house. Don't go anywhere, alright?"

Rocket: "Sure thing."

Zell flew to the explosion site. "Not good..." He looked towards the direction where the Gladiators went. Though he couldn't see them, he could sense them far away. "Damn it! Where did they take Lisa?"

"First phase of the plan is complete." said the voice over the telecom.

"Excellent." Chromium replied. "Proceed with the plan." He pressed the button to turn off communication. "It will be done soon enough."

Lisa found herself tied up from the ceiling. Below her were a bunch of crates, about a few columns of them. She was hanging from the ceiling by a long rope. The building was an abandoned one-room warehouse.

On the crates was Xenon. He removed the tape on Lisa's mouth. "So, how are you feeling?"

"Just when I get my hands on you, you lousy son of a bitch no good bastard! I know many strong people, and they're dangerous. You're gonna pay for this!"

"Shut up!" Xenon shouted.

"They're gonna make you pay! You're gonna pay!"

Xenon shoved the tape back on her mouth, and she moaned.

"Mmmmmph! Mmmmph!"

He pointed a sword at her neck, and she stopped all movements. "Now, are you going to behave?"

She nodded.

"Good." He removed the tape.

"What do you want?" she asked in fear.

"I want...information...on Tyson Spade."

"Tyson?!"

Faith woke up with a strange headache. Her head really hurt, and it was a different feeling than before when she had headaches. She felt...irrationally angry and irritated. She moaned, got off the bed, with one hand over her forehead. She walked forward, stumbling with each step.

Chromium entered the room and walked in front of her. "How are we feeling today?"

"You..." she said. "Why must you keep me here? What do you want from me?"

"Ah, I see that you're feeling well." he said. (Is the formula working?)

"You can't keep me here for long! Tyson will come and get me out."

He laughed. "Tyson? Buahaha! You're counting on him to save you? Then you've got a long wait."

"What do you mean?"

"Hmph, he has betrayed you, don't you see?"

"You don't know what you're talking about. He loves me."

"Oh, is that so? If he still does, what keeps him from saving you, eh? If he's as strong as you say he is, why isn't he here now?"

"You...what are you trying to say?"

"Go and find out for yourself." He stepped to the side, and she walked out the door.

The entire area was built with stone bricks, and everywhere it was dark, because the only lights were torches. The Gladiators wanted to keep the Coliseum's inner and outer appearance like a real one, preserving a castle-like atmosphere.

At the end of the hall, she saw Tyson and Lisa standing across each other from the room. Strange, she thought. What was Lisa doing here? She hid quietly behind the wall.

Tyson and Lisa walked towards each other, and they were about one person apart.

"Is it safe to meet here?" Lisa asked.

"Certainly it is. No one is here but us." Tyson answered.

Faith had no clue what they're talking about. She listened in shock.

"What if Faith finds out we're meeting like this?" Lisa said nervously.

"Oh don't worry about her. She's still a prisoner."

"I think she's still waiting for you."

"Forget about her. The only one I love is you. You know that."

"Oh Tyson!"

They embraced.

Faith was completely overwhelmed by what they said. She felt as if she was in another world. This was too much a shock.

"Faith is an idiot. She will not interfere with our happiness. She's such a trouble maker. Once we escape, I don't have to see her again."

"Nooo!" Faith screamed. She stepped out. "This is not true!!!"

Tyson and Lisa were shocked to see her, and somewhat embarrassed.

"Faith...you're not supposed to be here."

"It's not true? Is it? Tell me. What I heard were lies?"

Lisa: "You heard everything? Oh well, there's no use denying it now."

Tyke: "I'm afraid you're out of the picture, for good."

"Noooo!" Faith fainted.

Chromium came out of the darkness. "Good job, guys. I'm sure she could never forget such a shocking moment."

"Indeed." Tyson said in a different voice. He removed his mask. It was actually Hurricane disguised as Tyson.

Lisa removed her mask, and she was actually a female Gladiator.

Chromium: "Everything has worked out so far. Hmm hmm hmm."

He brought her back to bed, and laid her gently down. He took out a needle, with the obedience serum that was just developed. He injected it into her arm. (When you finally awake your dormant powers, you will be under my control. There is no power better than controlled power. You will be one of my greatest weapons ever.)

Meanwhile, Tyson was meditating while Silver sat still and did nothing. He was concentrating really hard, and energy focused into the center of his force. A bright, radiating ball sparked in front of his chest area. But suddenly the ball vanished.

Tyson grunted. "I just can't concentrate!"

Silver: "Young lad, why don't you save your energy for the fight?"

"This is how I train, Silver. Fighting is not just a physical sport, it is mental as well."

"I agree. But at this rate you'll stress yourself out. Just relax."

"Yeah. You're right. I worry too much for my own good." He laughed. But the laugh was forced. How could he relax when everybody's counting on him? Not only did he have to worry about his own fate, but the fate of Faith and his children as well.

On the bed, Faith moaned unconsciously. She woke up, trembling in sweat. She no longer had a headache, but rather, a single feeling was in constant motion. The feeling of revenge, hatred, and apathy. She felt an instinct to kill Tyson. It became a natural feeling, so natural as if she was supposed to do it. It was her destiny to do it.

"Tyson...Tyson must die!" She powered up and electric sparks were produced.

Chromium and Hurricane entered the room, startled to see her full of energy.

"Ahhh, so the formula has finally worked." Chromium said, satisfied at the results.

Hurricane, on the other hand, was not as happy. First of all, she's the enemy, and she's just a woman. Why does Chromium see so much in her? But the real reason, Hurricane will never admit to any one, is that she could possibly replace him. Though he knew he will not lose to anyone, he did not like any possibility of a threat.

Faith charged up and screamed. The bed crashed into smoke. The surging power raged through her body. The red rose lay on the floor, and it withered away. Its petals fell off, its thorns were worn out, and the redness turned to blackness and ugliness. The spirit of the rose was gone.

4: The Competition For Survival! Everybody Is An Enemy!

Contents

Faith charged up and screamed. The bed crashed into smoke. The surging power raged through her body.

Chromium: "This is what I am talking about. Her hidden powers have finally been released!" He walked towards her.

Faith looked like she was going to attack, but she hesitated.

"You want to attack me, don't you?"

She didn't answer; she just stared at him with ambiguity.

"You can't, can you? You have to obey me. I am your superior."

She powered down, and got on one knee and bowed.

"Very good."

Hurricane was surprised to see her so obedient. The formula he developed had worked better than he expected. He started to regret making the formula.

He signaled her to stand up, and she obeyed. "Tyson must die...I must kill him!"

"Don't worry about it. I will give you a chance to kill him. Just obey me and you will get what you want."

"Yes...my master."

Chromium gave Faith new clothes to put on, since she was going to become part of his elite army. She came out of the bedroom, and she looked like a completely different person than before.

She wore a black suit, with a black cape, and attached to her waist was a patch to hold the sword. Her eyes had lost all light. They were dark, uncaring and indifferent.

Chromium liked her new look. "Ah, much better. Don't you think, Hurricane?"

Hurricane, on the other hand, thought she looked better with her original look. "I don't know sire, it doesn't fit her."

"Of course it does. She is going to be my newest champion. Isn't that right, Faith?"

She smirked.

While Tyson was still meditating and Silver was relaxing, the guard came by. They opened the bars, and signaled the two prisoners to come out. They, along with some other prisoners, were taken to the arena.

"Are we going to fight?" Tyson asked as they were walking.

Silver: "Looks like it. Today may be our unlucky day."

They reached the arena two minutes later. It was just like the other day. The top level was crowded, full of Gladiators watching. They were waiting for blood to be spilled.

Chromium and Hurricane came together, walking to the skull chair. Chromium sat down and Hurricane stood by the side.

The guards brought Silver forward.

Tyson: "Wait. Why is he going to fight?"

Guard: "Shut up brat. You should be lucky that it is not you."

Silver: "It's alright, young lad. I will be fine."

On the opposite side of the arena, two guards brought another prisoner forward. He was black-skinned, and had marks on his face and chest area. These marks suggest he was part of some nomadic tribes.

The guards un-cuffed the chains on the warriors' wrists. They walked forward. Silver and the nomadic warrior faced each other from five feet away. They were ready for this day since the first day they were captured.

"Good luck, Silver." Tyson said to himself.

There was a lot of chatter among the crowds. But then there was a quick silence. The guards gave both warriors a sword, and they faced each other.

Chromium raised his arm and swiped it down. "Begin!!" he shouted.

The warriors circled each other, waiting to attack, or waiting for the enemy to attack. The Gladiators shouted, cheered, and booed. They made a lot of noise.

Warrior A: "You're going to die, old man. It's either you or me."

"I resent people calling me old!"

Suddenly, Warrior A charged. Clang!

"Arrgh!" Silver blocked his attack. Norman jumped away and changed his tactic.

They stared at each other angrily. Suddenly, they charged. Clang! Cling! Followed by angry battle cries.

Tyson watched, horrified. He didn't know that his friend Silver was that skilled. So after each passing moment, he was more surprised at Silver's movements. He's not bad at all, he thought. So, that's why the Gladiators captured him. They capture only the strong warriors.

Warrior A swings his sword, Silver dodged left and right and blocked. "Die!!!" He ran forward and slashed – but Silver ducked, and hit the sword out of his hand. Clang. Silver kicked him in the stomach.

Warrior A fell on his butt. Silver approached him, holding the sword.

The audience chanted. **"Kill him, kill him, kill him..."**

"No..." Tyson murmured.

Fighter A waited for his doom. Will Silver do it? He didn't even cast a glance at the people chanting. He holds the blade up, and strikes down. Chop!

Tyson closed his eyes and turned his head in disgust. The audience cheered loudly and clapped. Chromium was pleased.

Blood was on Silver's face. He left the sword in the dead body, walking away from it. Tyson was overwhelmed. Silver walked back to the guards and prisoners.

"Good job." one of the guards said.

Silver ignored him. He went towards Tyson. He knew his friend was about to say something, and he knew what he was about to say, so he spoke up first. "I know what you're thinking. I had no choice. Understand?"

Tyson did not respond. Silver took that silence as a yes.

Chromium took another sip of his wine. "That warrior – what is his name?" he asked, indicating the one that just won.

Hurricane: "He is Silver Nitrate. Someone we found on a barren desert planet."

"He is pretty good."

"He and Tyson Spade share the same cell."

"Oh what a coincidence. So Hurricane, what do you think? Does he fit to be a challenge to you?"

"I don't know."

Back in the cell, Tyson expressed his discontent of what just happened. "I can't believe this...this is not right!!!"

Silver had an indifferent attitude. He had been a prisoner here long enough to get used to this kind of killing. To him, it was 'normal.' "Young lad, nobody said this is right. Nobody said this is fair."

"Why do the Gladiators do these kinds of things?"

"Simple. Because to them, it is entertaining. Believe me when I say this, I want to get those sick bastards as much as you do. They are complete psychos. But there is nothing we can do. Nothing! Now why don't you start accepting your fate instead of fighting back?"

"Accept my fate? If my fate is to die, then I will use every last ounce of my strength to defy that fate."

"Really? You sure talk the talk. Eventually you'll realize I am right. Thinking of escaping puts you at risk – that means you will shorten your life even more."

There was a silence.

"You have to face the reality of the situation, young lad. As long as we are prisoners, we are under their mercy."

"Then I would rather just die right now than become a device for their slaying."

Nebula, Zelfire, and Erika have gathered together after hearing the urgent news of Lisa's abduction.

Nebula: "So, why do these people want with her?"

Zell: "I have no idea. But now is not the time to discuss this. We have to get her out of there as soon as we can."

Erika: "Roger that. So you have a plan?"

Neb: "We don't need one. She's probably getting killed right now for all we know. Now let's go!"

The three warriors ran through the woods together. The road will eventually lead them to an abandoned warehouse. However, Gladiators were already stationed within the forest, waiting for them to arrive.

When the heroes arrived at the right spot, the warriors revealed themselves, surprising the heroes. Argon and two henchmen, Gladiator A and Gladiator B stood in their way.

Argon: "Hahahahaha! Going somewhere, earthlings?"

G-A and G-B chuckled evilly.

Erika: "Damn it! This is a trap!"

Zelfire: "Then we have no choice but to fight our way through!"

Everybody got into fighting stance; Nebula and Erika drew their weapons, and so did the Gladiators.

The two sides waited for the first strike. Nebula and Argon charged and slammed their blades together. Clang.

Hurricane busted the door open, slamming hard. Chromium and the other warriors stared at him. "Sire!!" he shouted. "There's a traitor among us. He just attacked the guards and is on the run."

"No matter." Chromium said without a worry. "I'll let Faith handle it." (This will be your first true test of your ability.)

"You know what to do." Chromium's voice projected from the intercom.

"Yes, I understand." Faith replied robotically. She turned off communication and left the room.

Clang!

Erika slashed the saber, and G-B blocked it with his dagger. They let go, then hit again. There were three separate fights going at the same place, and each person was occupied with his/her own enemy.

"Hyuah!" Nebula jumped and slashed, Argon dodged, Neb hit the ground.

Slam. He slashed to the side, Argon blocked. Cling.

Zelfire dodged an energy ball, and then fired the Energy Blast. G-A was hit and knocked down. After Nebula and Erika finished their opponents, they saw the factory.

"Alright, there it is."

Erika: "Careful guys. There might be more guards inside."

"I know."

Off they went.

Lisa mumbled and mumbled stuff while the tape was on her mouth. Xenon removed the tape, which hurt a little. "What do you want to say?"

"You lousy no good son of-"

He put the tape back on.

"Mmmmph! Mmmph!"

"Shut up, bitch. Once I receive confirmation from Chromium, I no longer need to keep you alive." He pointed the tip of the sword at her chin. Lisa stopped mumbling and became scared. "Got it?" Xenon smiled.

"Sire, the troops have been killed by the intruders." one henchmen reported.

"What!?"

Suddenly, the wooden door came down. Slam. Zelfire, Erika, and Nebula came in. They made quite an entrance.

Xenon: "Who the hell are you?"

Erika: "We're here to get Lisa back."

Lisa mumbled excitedly.

Nebula: "Release her now."

Xenon laughed. "Buahahaha. You cannot make demands here. Kill the intruders!"

The troops gathered around the front and attacked. The heroes separated and fought. Nebula jumped up the crates, facing Xenon alone. They slashed with their swords.

The others fought within the massive walls of crates. Slash! Crack. Erika dodged. She stabbed a troop, then one attacked from behind. She turned around and blocked. Clang.

Zelfire punched a guy into the crates. Crash. Boxes and boxes of stuff fell on him. Two guys attacked him together. Zelfire used his speed and quick reflexes to beat them. Pow. Thud.

"You die!" Xenon charged and stabbed forward.

Nebula jumped, spin in the air, and slashed Xenon's neck. Chop. He dropped his sword and collapsed. Nebula went to Lisa and cut the rope. "Are you alright?" he asked, untying her.

"Well it's about time you came!!" she yelled. "What took you?!"

Soon, Erika and Zelfire finished off their opponents.

Inside the Coliseum, the alarms rang everywhere. The traitor ran for his life. Troops searched for him, but didn't find him. He saw a dead end, with one door on the right. He opened the door and went inside, and realized it was a dead end. The room was empty. It had one window, a good view of outer space.

Faith came in the room and drew her sword. "Stay away from me!!" the traitor yelled out in panic. He drew his gun. Faith slashed his arm. "AAHHHHH!" The gun dropped. The man walked back. His back was pressed against the wall. Faith approached. "No, wait a minute, please!" She advanced. His words were nothing to her ears. "You've got to let me go. You don't want to work for someone like Chromium, do you?!"

SLASH!

"AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHH!"

It was over. The traitor collapsed. Blood was on the floor. Mission accomplished for Faith. She stared at the body, and then looked forward. There were sparkles in the air. "What are these? ... Are they my tears...."

5: Trouble on Planet R-10, Enzyme's Fury.

Contents

On a desert planet named R-10, lived a few million people. But this planet has many problems. Vegetation was one of those problems. It rained only about once or twice a month, and most of the planet's surface is dry, hot sand. The rest included mountainous areas, rocky hills, and some rain forests.

On this planet, peace prevailed. But peace existed only until a decade ago. Now there is a war between two sides. A decade ago, there was a political turmoil within the capital city. The details are unimportant, but what's important is that there was a small political war. A faction formed, called the Allied Forces, and their leader was **Enertia Enzyme**. Their beliefs were totalitarian and needless to say, the democratic peoples disagreed with their views. So they formed an army secretly, and when the time came, there was a coup d'etat in the government.

Now Enzyme is the totalitarian ruler. All the aspects of totalitarian society apply. Those who disobeyed were punished and often killed. There was no peace since he became ruler. The people rebelled silently. They formed a secret army called the Revolution, against the Allied Forces. However, they were losing in numbers due to

Enzyme's police enforcers. They were found and killed immediately. But, the rebels have a new leader, **Taurus**, leading them in a new direction, with a new hope and spirit to fight.

Now, Enzyme and his forces are actually losing. They are overwhelmed by the sudden change in situations. They are now desperate.

Enzyme currently managing a battle. On the battlefield, soldiers were all over the place. Rebels were on one side, and Allied Forces on the other. Between them was a death zone. Bombs exploded everywhere. It was a regular chaotic scene. Soldiers hid in trenches and fired pistols. **Bang bang!**

On the top of the hill, stood Taurus and his closest companions. "Alright guys, follow me!" he shouted. He slid down the hill, scraping against the dirt. His troops followed.

Genome, one of Enzyme's commanders, observed the activity with his binoculars. "There is Taurus!"

Taurus's group started shooting, while he gave directions, shouting against the war sounds.

Beep. The screen showed the battle from a perspective. Soldiers were shot and killed every second. Enzyme's commanders were reporting stats from other battles happening at the same time.

Protein: "Sire, our forces at the western front is being pushed back."

RN: "Sire, our forces on the eastern front are losing soldiers rapidly."

"One thousand troops have been killed. At this rate, we will lose!"

Genome was reporting via communication. "Troops are being pushed back. Taurus's forces are advancing."

Enzyme was overwhelmed. "No, no! This can't be!" It was a big nightmare. Things were a disaster.

"Sire," Hurricane reported. The control was empty except for himself and Chromium. Being the champion and the handler of most affairs, Hurricane worked most closely with Chromium. "The intruder has been killed. Faith has accomplished her task."

"Indeed she would. Just as I predicted."

"However, there is some bad news."

"What is it?"

"Our friend from planet R-10 has some trouble with his affairs." Hurricane answered.

"Oh?"

"The Revolutionary Forces now have a new leader, Taurus, and he brought a whole entire faction with him. Joined with the rebel forces, their strength and numbers have increased. Now they are posing a threat against Lord Enzyme. He has already lost seven stationary posts in key locations."

Chromium turned around. "That is most distressing. He needs my help?"
"Yes sire. As soon as possible."

Chromium turned around, facing the large computer screen. He pressed a button. Beep. Enzyme's face appeared.

["Chromium, am I glad to see you!"]

"Me too. I hear that things are pretty bad on R-10."

There was a lot of static on the screen. And the audio was barely audible. ["Yes, that's right. Every since this guy named Taurus appeared, things have been going crazy. The rebels have a new spirit and energy to fight back. It seems that I am losing the war. I need some help right away. Perhaps some of your Gladiators may be of assistance."]

"But of course. How can I not help a friend in need? I have the perfect warrior for you."

["Thank you, Chromium. I knew I could count on you."] The static became so bad his whole face was distorted. Then communication ended.

Chromium: "Enzyme?? We lost his signal."

"Sire, are you going to send me out?"

"No, not you. I am going to send Faith."

"Her?"

"Yes." He smiled. "I think she is ready for the job."

Hurricane and Faith walked past each other in the hallway. "Faith, you have a new order--"

"Yes, I know." Faith answered before he finished. "I am to be sent to planet R-10. Chromium notified me already."

"Remember, just because he's treating you good doesn't mean you can let it get to your head. I am still the Champion of the Gladiators."

"So what is it that you're implying? That I am trying to steal your position?"

"I just want you to know your place."

Faith walked away, without saying anything else. Hurricane was pissed off, but Faith did not care.

Genome walked into the control room. It was completely white and shiny, polished and cleaned daily. Enzyme sat on his electronic chair, his elbows rested on the chair's arms, and his fingers folded together in front of him. Genome bowed on his knees. "Sire."

"Yes, what is it?" Enzyme asked.

"The warrior that Chromium sent has arrived."

"Really?" he said excitedly. His chair turned around. "Bring her in right away. We do not want to keep our guest waiting."

The door opened. **Mito**, one of Enzyme's top warriors, walked in. He came, followed by Faith, followed by three Gladiators.

"Ahhh, Faith!! So glad to meet you." Enzyme said.

"Enzyme, I presume?" she said.

"Yes. Chromium and I have been friends for a long time. I knew he would not let me down."

"Apparently." Faith said with cockiness. "That is why he chose me. He made the right choice."

"Please, this way." He stepped aside, letting her and the warriors walk first. He went towards the control panel and pushed some buttons. "My army is losing the war. I am afraid that one day will come. If so, there will be dire consequences. It's because of this person." He pressed a button. Tweep.

A picture of a young man appeared on the screen. He had a scouter on one eye. His hair was black and spikey. His skin was tan.

"His name is Taurus. He's the newest leader of the rebels. I have no idea where he came from. They say they have secretly trained experts, waiting for their occasion to rise. Ever since Taurus came into the picture, my nation has been falling apart. I want him and his troops dead for good!"

"Hmmmph. Just leave it to me."

Taurus took a big bite out of the fried chicken on a stick. He and his close lieutenants were sitting by the campfire, eating dinner. That was their dinner. It wasn't a luxurious one, but grown men understood the hardships of war.

"Gentlemen, I want to congratulate all of us on a job well done. You all know as well as I know that our victories have not been possible without you and your cooperation."

"Surely." **Kiyo** said.

"But of course. But you know, our victories are only the beginning." **Orion** added. "Enzyme's empire is too big and complex."

Taurus: "True. Only time will tell what happens."

There were five men around the campfire. The other soldiers were scattered around the base. Some were inside tents. Some slept like babies. Some were on guard.

"A toast to our victory." Taurus said, raising his cup of wine. He stood up. The others stood up and they hit their cups together.

"Cheers." they said in unison. Then they drank the wine in one gulp.

Minutes later, one of Taurus's lieutenants pulled him aside, and whispered something. Taurus signaled two of his lieutenants and they went into the tent.

Inside, there was only a table. On it was a lit candle and a map. They planned their next attack. The lieutenant pointed out key locations. "Enzyme's fortress is over here...so we will stage a distraction over here...while our troops go over here..."

Taurus made some suggestions, and he took it into account. Half an hour later, their strategy had been all planned out.

"Alright, gentlemen. Let's look forward to our victory tomorrow."

"FOR THE REVOLUTION!" they screamed.

"No one will stand in my way." Faith said against the coldness of the wind. She drew her Soul Sword and slashed the air. Whoosh. To her, her weapon was invincible, backed by an invincible warrior.

Meanwhile, Tyson and Silver were sound asleep. Little did they know, something big is coming for them. Their next morning might be their last.

Morning came on planet R-10. By now, Taurus's army was in position to attack. Between Enzyme's main fortress and the attack force, was a huge crater. This would be the battlefield.

"For the revolution!" shouted the soldiers. They charged down the hill.

Then Enzyme's army charged down the hill. Within seconds, the war had started. Laser shots were seen. Zap. Zap.

On the top of the hill, Faith stood, with the warriors behind her. "Alright let's go!" she said, and they slid down. By now, soldiers were everywhere, killing each other randomly. Faith slashed her way through some soldiers. Chop. Chop. They fell and died.

Bombs were shot from far away. Troops had bazookas ready.

Genome: "Ready, fire!" Bang. They hit the people in trenches, blowing them away. Body parts flew.

A troop got his pistol and shot at Faith. She blocked with her sword. Twang! She charged, blocked another shot, then slashed his neck.

"Ugh!" He died.

Two more troops rammed forward. Faith threw a rose on the ground, and it grew vines, and the vines grabbed them, tying them up. Then she slashed them. Chop, chop.

Faith powered up. People were fighting all around. Soldiers used swords and knives and cut each other apart. Soldiers charged at Faith. She ran at them – duck, slash – slash - slash! The soldiers died instantly.

Enzyme: "Give me a battle analysis right away!"

"Yes sire." said the operator.

Operators were typing really fast, reading the stuff off the screens, giving instructions and receiving data on the battle. Enzyme was worried because he had a lot to lose.

Enzyme's top warriors were already on the battlefield, each one in a different area.

Zap! Soldiers shot lasers. Faith blocked with her sword. Twang! She threw three roses at them, and exploded. Boom! "Aaaaaah!" they screamed.

In the air, three jets appeared. The squadron shot missiles at Enzyme's base. Boom. Luckily, the shield protected it from damage, but the people inside could feel shaking.

"What was that?!" Enzyme asked in panic.

Operator: "We've been hit, sire!"

"Damage report!" he said.

"Our shields are up and running at 80% efficiency. However, we cannot take too many hits."

Computer lights blinked and flashed.

(Damn it...I can't afford to lose this battle...) Enzyme thought grimly.

A troop gave Taurus binoculars. He took it and put it in front of his eyes. He scanned the area below. Troops were shooting and stabbing each other on both sides. Moving towards the right, he saw Faith slashing some guys.

"Who's that?" he asked himself. "Is she Enzyme's newest warrior?"

The air squadron continued their assault. They shot missiles, hit the shield, and the jets flew away and then back. Zoom.

The shield bubble disappeared, then the gun turrets fired. Bang - bang - bang. The jets dodged. The turrets turned and aimed and kept firing. All the jets were shot down.

Enzyme was a little relieved.

People died every second. On the bottom of the crater, there was a bloody fight. Soldiers on both sides hid in trenches and shot at each other with pure luck. The medics tried their best, but they couldn't get everywhere at once. People on the top of the crater monitored the battle carefully, sending commands via telecommunication.

Taurus killed some soldiers as he ran past them. Then Faith and Taurus saw each other, and they got into fighting stance.

"Taurus?"

"Yes. And who are you?" he asked.

"Faith. I am here to kill you."

"Really?"

Seconds later, they attacked. Taurus's hand was within reach of his gun. Faith knew he was about to draw it. He suddenly grabbed it and fired. Zap. Faith reflected the attack with her blade. Twang. She charged. He fired, she blocked. She slashed, he dodged. Whoosh. She hit up. He dodged to the side. He retreated as he avoided the attacks. She charged forward and slash - the gun dropped on the ground.

"Hyuah!" Faith slashed.

Taurus jumped over her and landed. Faith slashed twice - he dodged, but he wasn't quick enough. His suit was scratched. "Grrr...Who are you, lady?"

"Your executioner." she replied monotonously. She held the blade vertically, with the edge facing her. Then she turned it so that her reflection could be seen on the metal. "Now, prepare to die."

"Die? I can't die yet, I have a revolution to fulfill!" He ran forward.

Faith stabbed, Taurus knocked her sword down with his left arm, and his right arm punched her face. Pow. She fell and got up. Taurus looked at the gun to the right.

He could make it in a second. So he took a risk, running to it. Faith's vine whip caught his hand just before he got the gun. She pulled, and he lost control and got swung and thrown the ground. Faith pulled, dragging him forward. He took out a knife and cut the vine off.

He attacked. Faith slashed, he dodged, then stabbed, and she titled her head away from the knife. They exchanged more moves. Taurus knocked her sword away, and his knife dropped too. They were both weaponless. Taurus charged energy. Putting them into his fists, he fired. Faith blocked with the Vine Shield. Zap. Taurus charged energy into his palms. Faith powered up and became full of black energy. She threw a black rose and he dodged. Bam. Smoke surrounded him. He coughed and tried to find escape. She appeared in the smoke and attacked him.

Faith had another black rose and its vine grew. She whipped it at Taurus as he dodged the deadly thorns. Whip! Whap! Suddenly, the whip caught his neck, tying him. She pulled, and he fell on the ground. He got up and she pulled hard. He struggled to pull back. He broke the vine with his energy. He threw an energy ball at Faith, and she was knocked down. He charged energy again. She shot a beam at him, and he blocked. She ran forward and threw a black rose – its stem hit him in the heart. The poison went to his blood stream right away.

"Uuuuugh! Arrrgh!" Taurus moaned and fell backwards. His movements lessened as the vines grew inside of him. The vines poke through his body. He was already gone. His corpse became a mere body of flesh and blood, surrounded by vines and thorns. Blood spilled out.

Faith moved her right arm, and the Soul Sword flew into her hand, then she put it away in the patch.

Rebel soldiers just made it to the scene. "What have you done!?" A said. "General Taurus!!!"

"Your leader is dead." Faith said.

The soldiers all attacked her. The black energy on her zapped them, bouncing them away. They fell on the ground and died.

"G-General T-Taurus..." one of them moaned weakly. His fingers grabbed the dirt, and then he died.

Faith walked away.

The battle continued – but it was a clear victory for Enzyme. The Revolutionary Forces have been pushed back. They, hearing of the death of their leader, became de-spiritualized and they lost all hope for winning. Everybody was sad and unhappy. It was hard to motivate the soldiers.

Enzyme was happy as well. It was his first big victory in a long time – after a series of losses. Now he can finally reclaim his empire...

Tyson and Silver had just woken up. By now, Tyson had already lost track of time and days. He no longer knew how long he had been here. It felt like months in this hell hole of a prison. He could no longer tell night and day, since they're in outer

space anyway. When they're sleepy, they sleep, and they wake up, it's day. That's their night and day.

They waited solitarily in those four walls. Guards approached the gate. Tyson and Silver stared. The guard unlocked the gate, then slid it open. Two guards walked in and pulled Tyson by the arms, taking him out. Without having to say anything, Tyson knew what was going to happen. He was the next fighter selected.

The guards took him to the arena. The audience cheered. Tyson stood up, looking at the glaring lights and the screaming crowd.

6: Trapped With No Escape. Is This Fate?

Contents

The guards took him to the arena. The audience cheered. Tyson stood up, looking at the glaring lights and the screaming crowd.

Silver stood beside other prisoners. He silently wished Tyson good luck.

Chromium: "Now, let's see how good of a fighter Tyson Spade really is." He watched curiously, with his chin on his hand.

The guards unlocked his chains. On the other side, the guards unlocked Marlone's chains. Tyson chose a weapon from the wall – a sword. Marlone chose a curved sword. The warriors came to the middle of the arena.

The audience cheered loudly. The fighters got into stance.

(Alright, here goes nothing.) Tyson thought. But looking at his enemy, he was just the same as himself. He was also captured, just like all the other fighters, captured and forced off his home to live in this dump. No, it wasn't a dump, it was hell. Malone and Tyson circled each other slowly before doing anything. The suspense was building up.

"Five UU's says the man in the blue shirt will win." one of the Gladiators said, referring to Tyson.

"I'll bet on the other dude. What's his name? Marlone." said the person next to him.

"You're on."

As the warriors circled each other, Tyson said "Good luck."

"You too." Malone replied.

Then they attacked. Clang! Sparks flew. The audience was extra excited. It was an exploding first move. Neither could overpower the other, so they jumped back. They ran into each other and hit. Clang! Cling! Their blades smashed into one another's. Dodging and hitting is the name of the game.

They charged and went past each other. Slash! Malone's arm was hit. They turned around and faced each other.

Chromium and Hurricane watched with curiosity.

In another room, Faith watched the fight from the large computer screen. She watched Tyson carefully. He will be her next target. He is her enemy...

The fight continued – both warriors tried to slash each other. After a while, they stopped and panted for breath, waiting for the next move.

Silver: (Come on, don't waste time. Just do it.)

Tyson: (This isn't right.) Then he thought of what Silver said the other day. Everyone here is an enemy. Every single person here. (This just isn't right!) Suddenly, while distracted with thoughts, Malone attacked. Clang! Tyson fell on his butt.

Chromium: "What a disappointment. It looks like Tyson Spade is not as strong as we thought he was."

Hurricane: "So, you think he is going to lose?"

"Why don't we set our sights on the other fighter?"

Malone chopped – Tyson rolled away. Slam. He got up quickly and charged forward instinctively. He panicked and let out a cry. Swoosh! Clang! Malone's sword gets knocked away by the hit, and he fell on his butt. He had won.

Chromium: "So, he did it after all. We were too quick to judge."

Hurricane: "Indeed."

Tyson poked the tip of the sword at Malone's chin.

"Now, finish him off." Chromium said to himself.

Now the audience chanted. **"Kill him, kill him, kill him."**

Tyson looked around the place. Everybody was a blood-thirsty demon here. Chromium watched carefully to see what he will do. And so did Hurricane. Now there was a battle inside Tyson's head. What will he do? Even Silver Nitrate will kill someone...

The hell with it, he figured. Either way, someone will die. But if he kills this guy now, then people will die faster. Tyson looked at Malone's face. His face wanted death. But his eyes said otherwise.

"Just get it over with and finish me off."

"No." Tyson dropped the sword.

Everybody was shocked. There was a big gasp, then silence. Chromium stood up. "What is the meaning of this? Kill him now."

"No!!" Tyson shouted. This gave everybody an even bigger shock. People were almost speechless.

"Is he crazy?? Or does he have a death wish?" one Gladiator whispered to another.

"What the hell does he think he's doing?" said another.

Silver: (Fool, what the hell are you doing!?)

The guards took the prisoners, pushing them back into the hallway so they don't have to see what was about to happen. Silver struggled, but he was short on manpower. "Tyson, Tyson!" He was trapped in a mob of screaming people.

"I'm not killing for you entertainment." Tyson said, facing all the Gladiators and Chromium. "Is it really fun to kill people, taking away their lives, taking them away from their families?!"

Chromium grunted. "Listen warrior, you better do as I say. It has always been a tradition for one to kill his defeated opponent in battle. It is a must. Now, pick up your sword and kill him. Or else..."

"Or else what?"

Chromium was angry. Nobody had ever dared to defy him before. Except one other person, but that was a long time ago. No one was gonna break the rules and get away with it, not in his Coliseum. "INSOLENT! Kill him, or be killed. This is your last chance."

"My answer is still no."

Malone was shocked. Why is this man doing this?

"Get him." Hurricane commanded.

Six guards charged into the arena with their spears. "Yaaahhhh!"

"Shit..." Tyson said. He picked up the sword and ran to the center of the arena.

The guards hit him. He hit them to the side, slashing them. Slash. Chop. More guards came. Tyson was having a hard time. The guards kept coming and he became more trapped. Suddenly, Malone killed two of the guards by slashing their necks from behind. Slash, Slash. They fell and died.

Tyson was surprised. "Thanks!"

"No problem." Malone said.

"Boo! This is a ripoff." one of the audiences shouted. The entire audience was booing and screaming at the warriors.

"I've had enough." one of the audience members said. He jumped down to the arena with an axe. Then another one jumped down.

"Shit!!!!" Tyson said.

He and Malone stood back to back. Tyson went forward as Malone handled the other guards. The Gladiators screamed and hit. Tyson dodged and hit them, and they fell. The audience was getting pissed. Two more warriors jumped down from the other side.

Now, Tyson was going against four guys. Two in front, two behind. Malone killed the guards, then joined Tyson.

By now, the audience wanted them dead. "Kill them!" "Spill their blood!" they screamed.

Gladiators A and B attacked Tyson. Malone took on C and D.

They beat up the Gladiators, but more guards kept on coming. They were losing, but they didn't care. They were fighting for their lives.

A threw the spiked ball at him. Whoosh. Tyson dodged sideways. A pulled the chain hard, and the ball came back. Tyson looked behind and quickly got out of the way. A swings his chained ball like a helicopter, and Tyson waited for him to hit. Suddenly, A threw the ball forward. Tyson ducked, rolled forward, and slashed the guy's stomach.

The guards grabbed Malone. One of them slashed his neck, and he fell and died. Tyson was shocked. He did all that because he wanted to spare the guy's life, but he's now dead. He fought all this for nothing. All efforts were in vain.

The two Gladiators ran at him. Tyson slashed them, killing them instantly. Only one other Gladiator remained.

Chromium was watching the whole thing, seeing every single piece of the action, and he was pissed off. One person created all this chaos. "Enough! Open the gates!"

Hurricane: "You mean..."

"Yes. Let's release the beast."

All the guards ran back into the hallway. A giant metal door slammed down on both entrances.

Tyson and the Gladiator panicked. Everyone was almost silent now. They wondered what was going to happen. It seemed like the Gladiator had an idea of what was going to happen, and he didn't like it. One of the walls started to move. It was actually a big gate. It opened up.

The Gladiator was scared shitless. A roaring sound came from the darkness within. Red, glaring eyes shone. A big, tiger-like beast came out. Its claws were sharp as metal, and it had stripes on its body. The tiger beast drooled. The Gladiator stepped back. The beast went forward, and the guy tripped over a rock and fell. That was his last mistake. The tiger leaped at him, got on top and chewed him up. The guy screamed for three seconds, and then that was it.

Tyson watched in horror and disgust. The warrior was now a bloody carcass with missing body parts. The beast finished off his head and set its sights towards Tyson.

The audience watched in awe.

Faith watched carefully from the screen. How will the fight turn out?

"Nice kitty, nice kitty." Tyson said, waving his palms. The beast drooled and came closer. "Stay the hell away from me!!!" Tyson saw the sword on the floor. He went for it, but the beast got there before he could. He ran for it. The beast chased him. Tyson was near the wall. He turned around. The beast and he confronted each other. The beast leaped at him, and he ran to the side. Scratch! Tyson got scratch marks on his arm. They were bloody. He winced in pain.

Hurricane: "He will be dead soon, right?"

Chromium: "Yes. No one has ever survived an encounter with my pet. I haven't fed him in weeks. He's very hungry."

Tyson kept on retreating, and he was by the wall. The beast had him cornered. It leaped at him. Tyson jumped, and flipped and landed behind the tiger. It turned around and ran after him. Tyson jumped up, used his leg to bounce off the wall, and kicked the beast with the other leg. Wham.

Tyson ran and picked up the sword. The tiger leaped at him. Tyson ran at it and slashed. Whoosh! The beast squirted blood from its wound, and collapsed. It died. Tyson panted for breath.

There was a big reaction from the audience.

Hurricane: "No way!! He killed the beast!"

"Indeed." Chromium said. "We have underestimated him again."

"Sire, he must be dealt with."

"This is becoming most interesting. I think I will spare him for now."

Tyson now waited in the empty ring, full of corpses, for his fate.

Faith turned off the screen. Beep. She was not happy.

7: The Cruelty of Battle, An Inevitable Fate.

Contents

Chromium and Faith stood in the hallway in one of his private sections of the Coliseum.

"You have done well in Raptor." Chromium said.

"Thank you, sire."

"You've done better than I expected, I must say. And I want to reward you."

"Huh?" Faith asked, surprised.

He grabbed her shoulders and put his face close to hers. She got defensive and shoved his hands off, and turned away. He grabbed her hands violently. "How dare you! I created you! Without me you are nothing. Now you will obey me!"

"I'm s-sorry sire..."

He kissed her lips.

"What the hell did you think you're doing?" Silver Nitrate yelled at his cellmate.

"I..."

"You could've been killed. You're lucky you are still alive, lad."

"There's no way I will give up my morals. Not even if I die."

"Wake up!! Nobody's going to have sympathy for you if you die. So you spared the man's life. Then what? He got killed anyway. If you would've killed him, his death would be quicker. And you would not have gotten in this much trouble."

Tyson became silent. Silver let out a sigh, and they both stopped talking.

Noric and Hurricane were in the control room, doing some chores. The automatic door opened and Chromium came into the room.

"Sire." Noric bowed.

"I need to speak to Hurricane."

"Yes, sire." Noric said, and left the room. The door closed.

"So," Chromium said. "It is time for you to come to the spotlight."

"Yes, of course."

"As the champion, you have to defend your title. I am sure you will remain undefeated. You are one of my best warriors."

"Of course."

"Do you think that man named Silver Nitrate can fill your expectations?"

Hurricane smiled. "Yes, he will do fine."

Zelfire paced back and forth, with his arms behind him. "This sure is puzzling."
"Quit moving around." Nebula complained. "You're giving me a migraine."

The heroes were back at their usual "headquarters," or Macintosh's laboratory. From the large windows they could view the streets several stories below.

Nebula: "Lisa, what did those guys want with you?"

"I told you," she answered. "I have no idea! They just kidnapped me for no reason at all."

"No reason at all?" Neb said.

"When I was kidnapped, they asked me information on Tyson. That's the weird part."

Zell: "Information? Then they are responsible for Tyson and Faith's disappearance."

Mac: "Lees, what kind of information did they want?"

Lisa: "Well, it made no sense at all. They wanted the details of his personal life. And information about his family and friends."

Zell: "Hmmm, that is not normal. Why would these so called Gladiators want to know about the details of his life?"

Neb: "Guys, I can tell you for sure the people we fought were not from earth."

Lisa: "No kidding."

Macintosh went to the computer and started typing things. "Don't worry guys. I'll find as much information on them as I can."

"Alright, good luck with that. The sooner we find out, the sooner we can find them."

Once again, the guards rounded up the prisoners. Tyson and Silver were brought, along with others, to the arena.

Chromium stood on his feet and motioned his arms. The audience became instantly silent. "Ladies and gentlemen, the most exciting match yet is about to begin. I now present to you our undefeated champion – Hurricane!"

The audience applauded and cheered loudly. Hurricane entered from the hallway, walking gallantly, his cape waving from the wind.

Silver: "Undefeated, huh?"

The guards went toward Silver and took him by the arms.
Tyson stopped them. "Wait a minute guys... There must be some mistake."

"No mistake." the guard replied.

"But he fought already! "

"Yes, I know." the guard replied. Two other guards got in Tyson's way. He watched as they brought Silver to the center of the arena, just in front of Hurricane. The champion smiled and crossed his arms.

The guards unlocked the chains on his wrists, then walked away. Another guard came and handed Silver a sword.

"It is time to begin." Hurricane said. "This moment has finally come." Chromium stood up and waited for the audience to settle down. "Let the match begin!" He swipes his right arm.

Hurricane and Silver got into fighting stance. Hurricane drew his sword and charged. Swipe. Whoosh. Silver dodged. Hurricane continued his offensive. Tyson watched very carefully. After all, it was his friend whose life is on the line. He watched as he if he was in the fight, as if he was Silver. Chromium also watched with careful eyes. But he was not as worried.

Faith watched by herself in the computer room. Her eyes stared at the large bright screen.

"Hyuah! Hyuah!" Hurricane slashed as he advanced. Silver retreated and blocked. Cling. Clang.

Slash! Hurricane hit Silver's armor on the left arm. Crack. Silver retreated quickly.

"Ha ha ha."

Silver was very close to the wall, so he had little room to run to.

"Now die." Hurricane's offensive was pointing his sword forward and poking, and Silver found it difficult to defend or even go on the offensive. His attack stance was too good. He kept on attacking ruthlessly. Slash!

Silver blocked, but he was too slow to block the next one. Crack! His left arm was hit, and the armor cracked.

"Grrrrr!" Silver grunted. As Hurricane charged forward, Silver ducked and slashed his leg. Blood squirted out.

"UUUUGH!"

Tyson was shocked. Silver rolled away and got back into defensive stance.

"You bastard! You will pay!" Hurricane was mad. He put his sword back into the sheath and held his fists to his side.

Noric, in the control room, just received orders from his lord Chromium. He pulled the switch. The ceiling in the arena had a giant glass-like structure, like a bubble. The bubble started to glow and radiate light towards the fighting area. The radiant light changed from green to white.

Tyson: "So, that is the thing that is creating a dead zone? The thing that is keep everyone from using their powers?"

Hurricane began powering up. Energy filled his body. His aura was vibrating. He shot a beam at Silver – knocking him to the ground. Zap.

Hurricane advanced. Silver threw an energy ball. Hurricane dodged. Silver shot again. His opponent dodged. Then he punched Silver in the face. Vroom!

“Uugh!” Silver hit him back in the ribs. Bam. Hurricane grunted and then hit him in the stomach. Wham. Silver fell and dropped his sword.

Silver gathered energy and threw a ball at Hurricane. Twang. His spherical shield deflected it away. Silver shot some more, but it was no use. Some deflected to the air, and some to the ground.

“Ha ha ha ha ha ha!” Hurricane laughed.

Tyson: (You can't lose to him, Silver!)

Silver realized that he had no choice but to use his last resort. Hurricane charged and they attacked. They moved fast and swift, and most of the people there couldn't see their movements clearly. They only saw shadows of movement.

Silver gathered energy and concentrated them into his palms. Then he released it all. Hurricane was hit. BAM! He screamed as the beam pushed him back into the wall. Kaboom. The audience was shocked. Tyson was happy.

“Alright! You did it!” Tyson said.

Silver relaxed for a moment, but he was open-mouthed as he saw Hurricane come out from the pile of rocks. Hurricane grunted as he got up. “It is time for your demise.”

Silver ran and grabbed his sword. Hurricane gathered energy. Electric sparks filled the arena.

Tyson: “What...what is this power?!”

A swirl of energy surrounded the arena, all focused on Hurricane. He formed a big ball of energy, and winds blew crazily. Silver covered his eyes and winced. Hurricane unleashed his most powerful move. “**Circle of Death!!**” BAM! He released the ball of energy, and it turned into a cyclone of wind and electricity. Silver was in the middle, and it was hard to move. The energy was too intense, and kept hitting him. His sword cracked. He formed a shield, but it wasn't enough. His armor was starting to break. Hurricane charged into the cyclone and drew his sword.

The warriors charged into each other. Tyson watched in suspense. All the watchers were waiting for the result.

They got closer to each other, and to Tyson, it seemed everything was in slow motion.

(Tyson...)

The hero was surprised. It was Silver trying to communicate with him.

(Tyson Spade...don't worry about me, lad. I know that you will take care of this later on.)

(Silver...what do you mean?!)

Silver broke off communication.

“No!” the hero yelled.

SLASH! Hurricane stabbed Silver. The sword went through his stomach. Everything turned black. And the cyclone disappeared.

Hurricane pulled his sword out, and Silver collapsed. Hurricane turned around and walked away. Chromium was satisfied with the results.

"NOOOOOOOO!!" Tyson screamed. He pushed the guards out of his way. They couldn't stop him.

He picked up the old man's head. Silver opened his eyes weakly. "Y-Young lad..."

"Silver, don't die. You can make it through this!"

"No, I'm afraid it is too late for an old man like me. I t-told you this would be our fate."

"Silver!"

"F-From the day I entered the arena, I was prepared for this moment. I've lost everything. I have nothing to live for. Lad...get revenge for me."

His eyes shut. They would never open again, no matter how much the hero wanted to save him.

"No, Silver!! SILLLLLLLLLLLLLVER!" Tyson screamed with tears. "No!!" He sobbed sadly and put his face on the old man's chest.

The bubble on the ceiling turned from white to green. The radiation was on again.

Tyson looked at the lifeless body that was once his friend. Not just a cellmate, but a friend. In the short time they knew each other, they shared many things, and had many laughs. But he is gone. Gone from this world forever. He looked up, with uncontrollable hatred. "Stop right there!"

Hurricane continued walking, not even casting a glance back, and smiled. "Stop I'm telling you!"

The guards attacked him. Tyson fought them off. But they overpowered him. They grabbed him and a guy hit him on the neck with a spear. Whack. Tyson had the wind knocked out of him and fell. He was almost unconscious. The guards dragged him away from the dead body.

The guards threw him into the cell. The gate shut. Slam. Tyson watched them walk away. His eyes were thirsty for blood. Thirsty for revenge. Hurricane will pay. It does not matter if he's the champion anymore. He waited in the darkness.

8: Tyson vs. the Champion, Release the Fury!

Contents

Faith walked into Chromium's private chambers. He was busy looking at the through the window, at the blackness of space. "Is there something you want, Faith?"

"I have come for a request."

"A request? Name it."

"Please, let me kill Tyson Spade."

"Oh? You want to fight him in the tournament?"

"Yes."

"That is not your job. Hurricane will fight him."

"But..."

"That is my order."

"Please, sire. If I don't personally kill him with my own hands, I won't be at peace."

Chromium turned around. "Is that so? Then how about this – after Hurricane defeats him, you can go in while he's weak, and kill him."

"That will do fine."

The guards came over to the cell. Tyson had been sitting in darkness all this time, silent and motionless the whole time.

Normally, he would have hated it when the guards came, because it means he has to fight or watch a fight. Either way it's not good for him. But this time, it is different. It is very personal. Hurricane will pay for the death of his friend, champion, or no champion.

Guard A opened the gates. Guard B pulled him up and hand cuffed him.

Hurricane waited for his opponent to be escorted here. "Heh. Let's find out how strong Tyson Spade really is."

Chromium came to the top level from the backdoor that only he uses. He sat on his throne chair.

The guards brought him out. Tyson was nothing but a walking body of silent rage.

The audience members started chatting amongst each other. "Hey, he's the one who disobeyed Chromium's orders." "Yeah, he's gonna get it now." "He has it coming."

"Ha ha ha. Are you ready to die and join your friend?" Hurricane taunted.

Tyson ignored him. He just kept staring.

The guards un-cuffed his chains. Another one gave him a sword.

Chromium turned on his communication device. "Noric, turn on the anti-restricted shield now!"

"But sire, are you sure about this?"

"Just do it!" he yelled.

Noric gasped nervously. "Yes sire!" He went to the computer and pulled the switch.

The bubble on the ceiling started to glow white instead of green.

"Ha ha ha ha. This is the sign that you're dead!" Hurricane said cockily. "En garde!" He drew his sword. Tyson could see his face on it.

"You will pay, I swear it."

"Ha, tough words from an earthling. Don't forget that I am the champion of the Gladiators."

Tyson walked forward. "Champion or not, I will avenge my friend!" Flash. He blurred and appeared in front of his enemy. Hurricane was surprised he moved so quickly, but then got a hold of himself. Clang!

They had a feisty sword fight, running all over the place and hitting each other, and sometimes jumping. There wasn't an area in the arena that wasn't stepped on. Clang! Cling! Whoosh!

Chromium watched without any expression, resting his chin on his fist.

Clang. Tyson and Hurricane's sword smashed into one another's and pushing against each other, and they were almost face to face.

"Die earthling!" Hurricane grunted.

"You first!"

They jumped away from each other. Hurricane charged. Clang! Tyson's sword broke! Hurricane kicked Tyson in the chest, and he fell and rolled on the ground.

"Another one bites the dust. Ha ha ha."

Tyson got back up, standing like he was never hit. Hurricane grunted threateningly. He powered up. "You have no chance of winning, Tyson Spade. Muahahaha."

"Why do you say that?"

"Because I am undefeated. Ha ha ha." Hurricane said it with pride and cockiness. "Let me tell you something." Images of blood and death appear. "...We Gladiators have fought with pride since the very beginning of time..."

Images of barbarians killing each other with spikes, bats, and spears. People in caves hid in fear, families protected their children.

"In essence, Gladiators have appeared as long as there was life in the universe. We hid in the darkness, fought in the darkness, and died in the darkness. Fighting is an essential part to life, whether it is humans, sayan, or even Muraians. We are no different. We the Gladiators are a group of warriors who seek competition. That is the core of our existence. We live to fight. We fight to live. Years ago, our great Chromium founded us, and they started with only a few members. But our popularity grew, attracting more warriors."

Chromium stood high on a mountain, with his followers slightly below him. Hurricane was one of them.

"...And since that day, we have lived by the rules. We seek out worthy competition."

Tyson: "Yeah, and kidnap them, imprison them, and make them fight to death."

"Yes, and what's wrong with that? Ha ha ha."

"You people have no conscience. You kill in cold blood."

"Of course. A true warrior feels no emotions, and does not become attached to anything. Unlike you. Even the death of a pathetic old man causes you to react so extreme."

"Because that old man was my friend!" Bam. Tyson powered up. He meant serious business.

"Fool - everything you do is futile. No one has ever beaten me, and no one ever will."

"Hyuah! That's where you're....wrong!" Flash! Tyson became super sayan. Everybody was shocked by his transformation.

Chromium: "No-it can't be-"

Hurricane: "What...what is the meaning of this?!"

"Ever heard of a super sayan?"

"Grrr....I don't care what the you are. You are dead!" Whoosh, he rushed. Tyson leaped forward and blocked the sword with his bare arm. Crack. The blade broke, and Tyson's arm bled. "Uhh...uhh..." Hurricane moaned nervously. "You b-bastard. Go to hell!" He punched. Tyson dodged all his attacks. "Grrr." He was getting fed up.

Tyson had enough defensive. He switched to offensive mode. Hurricane punched, he jumped up. Hurricane nearly lost his balance as he missed. Tyson landed his foot on Hurricane's face. Wham. It was a major hit.

"Son of a bitch! How dare you hit my face!"

"Hmph."

Hurricane fired a beam, Tyson countered with an equally big beam. Boom! Tyson's beam overpowered his opponent's, leaving the champ in the dust.

"B-Bastard..." Hurricane said as he coughed from the dust. "Kuff, kuff."

"You can't win. Just admit it and die."

"Why you...do you know who you're speaking to? I am the champion of the Gladiators."

"I thought I made it clear I don't care! Champion or not, I am going to defeat you." Flash. He blurred.

Pow! Hurricane was punched. He fell face flat on the ground. "B-Bastard."

Chromium became worried. (He's...a sayan? Hurricane brought a sayan into the Coliseum?)

Memories of a similar event came back to him - the one memory that he wish he could forget.

Pow! Whack! Slam! A sayan warrior rolled on the ground and moaned in pain. He was all beaten up and injured.

Chromium laughed triumphantly. "Ha ha ha ha ha. I am the true champion of the Gladiators. You are nothing but a pathetic sayan."

The fallen warrior crawled back up. "You w-will pay." Blazer said.

"Ha. And what can you do to stop me? Can't you clearly see that I am winning?"

Blazer charged recklessly - resulting in him being punched in the stomach, and falling again. "Oof!"

"Pathetic sayan. Let me put you out of your misery." He held the spiked ball up and smiled maniacally.

Blazer was defeated and extremely pissed off. He got up, and power filled his body. He was grunting angrily, and his eyeballs were almost gone. He was barely conscious of his logical self.

Chromium froze. "What...what's going on?"

A powerful aura was produced from Blazer's body, as he grunted and moaned. Veins popped on his skin. His fists tightened. Then, he screamed. Bam! The energy output almost doubled, and then tripled. His hair turned golden, and his body filled with golden aura.

"What...what does this mean?"

Blazer laughed sinisterly. "Ha ha ha ha ha ha!" His loud laughing echoed throughout the area.

Chromium was nervous, but then he grunted angrily and charged forward, arrogantly thinking that he was untouchable, with the title of the champion.

Wham! Blazer broke the spiked ball like it was cheap glass. "No...!" Bam. Whack. Chromium was hit, and fell on the ground. It was the first time that Blazer had become a super sayan, and he enjoyed it very much. "Ha ha ha ha ha! You die!"

"I will...not lose! Arrrgh!" He fired beams crazily.

Blazer walked through them like they were nothing. Chromium gasped and stepped backwards. Blazer gave him a good combo of hits, and he was down. Chromium crawled on the dirt, unable to stand.

"No...this c-can't be happening to me."

"Humph. I seek for justice in the universe. My duty is to eliminate scum like you. You should never have underestimated a sayan warrior." He opened his palm, ready to fire.

Chromium's head was bleeding, and his face was bruised. "I'm sorry about everything I've done. I really am! Please spare me. Have mercy."

"Fine. But under one condition: you must disband all of the Gladiators immediately. Stop killing innocent people. Got it?"

"Yes, yes, I promise!"

With that, Blazer walked away.

That was the single most humiliating event of Chromium's life. He had never been defeated, except that time, but other than that, he had never lost to anyone. Before Blazer, he was undefeated. But he never expected to lose so badly. To be at the mercy of another man means as much as death.

Chromium was spaced out from the memory. But Blazer was long gone, so who cares, right? That was five years ago. Blazer could be far, far away by now.

Chromium, of course, did not keep his promise. After Blazer spared him, he continued to build the Gladiators, and building his own strength, so that, that humiliating day will never happen again. And as far as he's concerned, it never happened. He forbade anyone to ever mention that event again. Hurricane knows it.

But ironically, the day that he wanted to forget was the day that he remembered most clearly.

Chromium snapped himself back into reality. The fight was escalating. Tyson and Hurricane were jumping, moving fast as shadows, hitting several times in the air. (Tyson...that sayan...is just like that other sayan.) He had no idea Tyson was a super sayan. Just like the other sayan. He was becoming really worried now. What if history repeats itself...

Boom. Slam. Kapow. Hurricane hit the sayan's face. He kept on hitting, and Tyson landed on one foot and one knee. Hurricane shot a beam. Bam. Tyson's Electro-shield blocked it.

Chromium screamed: "YES THAT'S IT! KILL HIM!"

Faith, on the other hand, watched calmly and quietly. Her enemy must die. She could see most of the events on the screen. It showed many angles of the fight – a bird's eye view, and from the sides.

"Ha ha ha ha ha. Now you are going to die!" Hurricane gathered energy. Zzzzzt.

Wait, this looks familiar, Tyson thought. It's his Circle of Death move!

"Yahhh!" Bam! "Circle of Death."

The cyclone of wind and energy hit Tyson like a storm. He winced and covered his eyes. His movements became much harder, as he was pushed back. "Uuuuuuugh!"

"Ha ha ha ha ha!"

Chromium was so excited he jumped off his chair. "YES! KILL HIM!"

Tyson put his palms to his side. "Wrath Beam!" Bammmmmm – Hurricane was hit.

Boom! "NOOOOOOOOOOOOOO!!!!" Hurricane screamed. His cyclone of energy disappeared. Now injured and bleeding, he crawled forward. "Chromium ... my lord. Please help me!"

Chromium had an indifferent look. "Hurricane, you fool. You disobeyed my orders. Not only did you bring a sayan into the arena, but you lost to him. Some champion you are."

Hurricane was surprised, yet, he knew better. Chromium is a cold-blooded bastard. And now, it's his turn to die.

Tyson came over, and fired a beam. Blam! It was over. Tyson powered down and breathed hard. Silver Nitrate, his good friend, has finally been avenged.

"It can't be! He killed Hurricane!" one of the audience members shouted.

Tyson powered down, then fell on his knees and panted for breath.

Faith shut off the screen. She had seen enough.

"No, it's impossible!" "No one can be that strong!" "Hurricane really is dead..."

Tyson stared directly at Chromium, the one enemy he saw as a threat. Chromium saw the intensity in the man's eyes. They were full of determination and spirit, a spirit that can't be defeated, never by physical means. He saw those same eyes once before...

"It's your turn now!" shouted the hero.

"How dare you...you bastard!" Chromium banged his fist on the arm of the chair, cracking it. "No one comes into my Coliseum and tarnishes my reputation."

"I can take anything you throw at me. Your champion is gone now. What do you have to say for yourself, Chromium?"

"Buahahahaha!" He broke into laughter. "It doesn't matter anymore if Hurricane is dead. I have someone else to take his place. This defeat only proves his incompetence. Hurricane has served me well, but all good things must come to an end."

"Replaced?"

"Tyson Spade, I still have an opponent for you. You'll never guess who it is. Hahahaha."

The wooden gate opened. Tyke waited anxiously to see who will come out of the darkness. Tyke was shocked. Faith came out, looking completely different from when he last saw her.

"Faith?"

9: The Least Expected Fight.

Contents

The Gladiators tournament continues – but each fight proves more than what the hero can handle. In the corrupted world of violence and murder, a sayan fights alone against a blood-thirsty tyrant who has nothing better to do than watch innocent people kill each other, lowering their morals.

No matter what species they are, prisoners are not treated like people – but mere animals. While everyone fights for their own survival and taken over their selfishness, one man fights for what he believes in – the right to be free! Tyson's good friend Silver Nitrate is gone, but not forgotten and he certainly didn't die for nothing. Hurricane's dead and his friend was avenged – so what next? His next opponent is...the one he loves the most.

"Faith?" he said. Tyson was surprised. "What are you doing in those clothes?!" Faith did not answer him, she walked forward.

"Faith, I am so glad to see you!" Tyson ran forward and was about to embrace her. But she drew out her sword, and Tyson stopped. He was startled.

"Do not come near me!"

"Faith...what's wrong?"

Chromium watched with amusement.

"Faith, what's going on? Why are you pointing your sword at me?"

"Silence!" she yelled.

"I don't understand..."

"Of course you do not! Let me make it clear: you are my enemy and you must die."

Tyson felt a lightning bolt had struck his heart. Were these the words of the dear woman that he loves and looks forward to seeing the most? "What?"

Faith advanced.

"Chromium did something to you, didn't he? What did he do?" Then Tyson stared at Chromium, who was smiling sadistically. "Bastard. What have you done to her?"

"Nothing." Chromium answered amusingly. "It is her own hatred that is doing this. As you can clearly see, she can move on her own free will and think for herself."

Tyson turned to Faith. "Faith, listen, don't do this." He retreated to the center.

"Faith, I'm Tyson. Remember!?! Tyson Spade."

"Of course I know who you are. You are my enemy, and my enemy must die." she said coldly.

"No...Faith..."

Chromium stood up. "Tyson Spade, she will be your next opponent. You have no choice."

Tyson panicked and froze. He had to fight the woman that he cares about the most?

Faith got into fighting stance.

Tyson realized that he had no choice. He had to be careful, or he's dead. But will he fight? What will he do? (This can't be happening.)

Faith suddenly charged. "Now, die!" Slash. Whoosh. Tyson dodged the deadly blade.

"Faith stop!" Slash! He ducked. Slash. He dodged. "Stop this craziness!" Whoosh.

Faith kept on advancing. Tyson ducked and jumped and dodged sideways. She ran and slashed. Tyson jumped up and landed. Faith kept on attacking. Swipe, swipe. Each attack was deadly and dangerous, bringing him one step closer to death. It almost hit his shoulder. Swipe. Tyson jumped backwards.

"Stop this!"

Faith threw a black rose. Tyson caught it, but its thorns poke him and he dropped it. "Ouch."

Faith powered up, and became full of black energy.

(What is this energy?) thought Tyson. (Why is it coming from her? What is happening here?)

"Hyuuuah." Faith attacked.

Swipe! Tyson dodged. "Stop! Please listen!"

"SHUT UP!"

Slash. Tyson's right arm was hit. "Aaahh!" He put his hand over his wound.

While the two lovers were slaughtering each other in a black twist of fate, Chromium watched with amusement. (This is fantastic. Tyson will know what it feels like to be killed by the one woman he loves – hahahaha! It is even worse than death. And it has all been created by me.)

The warriors in the ring jumped and hit each other.

(That's right. Kill each other. Tyson would not even think of hurting you. Ha ha ha ha. Either one of them will die, or both of them die. It does not matter to me.)

Faith powered up, producing black electric sparks. Zap.

"I've got to get through to her, somehow." Tyson powered up. "But at this rate I'm going to die. Faith, you must stop. I really don't want to fight you."

"Oh but I want to. Just surrender and let me take your life."

Tyson shot an energy ball. Faith slashed it with her Soul Sword. She went forward and stabbed. Tyson dodged up and down, and jumped away. Faith threw a black rose at him. He ducked. She threw three at a time. Whoosh. He dodged. They hit the ground and puff – dust came out. The sayan ran away from the area. Faith kept on throwing roses. Puff! Smoke covered his vision. Tyson coughed. He couldn't see a thing.

A silhouetted figure came and attacked. Whack! The Vine Whip lashed at him, and he jumped away just in time. But wait – what's this? Whoop. The vine caught his right hand. And its thorns were pinching his skin to almost bleeding. Stab. Faith stabbed forward. Tyson caught the blade between his arm and his stomach. Now it's in his grip, and she can't pull it out. They struggled.

Faith lost grip on the sword, and he kicked her in the stomach. Wham. He pulled the vine off his right hand.

"That is enough fooling around." Faith said. "The end is now."

"Wait – stop."

Faith gathered energy and formed the Energy Bomb. A big, pink and black ball was produced. Tyson had no choice but to counter with his own Energy Bomb. Faith shot first – bam! Then Tyson shot his.

Zammmmm – the two energies merged together, forming a giant ball. It looked like a deformed Spirit Bomb. It was glowing blue and pink, but unstable, ready to explode at any moment.

Faith: "This is not possible. How come this is happening?"

The bomb floated up the air. The Gladiators panicked and gasped amongst each other.

Everybody watched fearfully as the bomb continued to move up. Then, it suddenly exploded. Boom. The Gladiators ran for their lives. Those who were unlucky were killed by the blast. Fires were all over the place.

"No!" Chromium screamed.

"Why? How can this be?" Faith asked blankly.

"Can't you see?" Tyson said. "We weren't meant to kill each other. Your spirit still knows. Search in your heart. You know the answer."

Faith was having an internal conflict. She grabbed her head with one hand and screamed crazily. "Nooo! I am...doing the right thing! Ahhh!" She moaned and stuttered.

"Faith, listen!" Tyson said, moving forward.

"Stay away!"

SLASH! Tyson fell, surprised. Faith was even more shocked. She watched with wide open eyes as Tyson fell on his back. But she snapped out of it. "Are you ready to die?"

Tyson put his hand forward. "Wait, stop!"

"That's right, kill him." Chromium said ecstatically. "Kill him. Show him the coldness of your sword."

"Any last words?"

"Faith...before you do anything, just listen to me. Think about the times that we had together. Just think. The Faith you are now is not the Faith I knew..."

Faith didn't respond, she just looked at him.

"Please, just think! Think about the good times we had. What about the promise we made?"

Faith froze. She didn't want to listen, but suddenly images appeared in her head.

The two were making love in a lake, late at night. They were embracing closely. "Tyson?"

"Yes?"

"Aren't the stars beautiful?"

The sky was dark, and the stars glittered against the darkness. It was like a picture in a dream, only more real.

"Yes, they are." he answered. "But not as beautiful as you."

She turned her head to look at him, and they were face to face. They kissed on the lips briefly. "Tyson, can you make me a promise?"

"Yes, anything."

"Promise me...promise me you'll stay by my side forever."

"I promise."

Yes, of course, the very foundation of their love and relationship always goes back to the promise. It was the essence of their love. It was the beginning and the continuing. Whenever Tyson and Faith mention to each other about the promise, they don't go 'what promise?' They know it like their first names.

Another image came to her. When Faith was just about to go back to her dimension, she decided to stay with Tyson. She gave her father and brother a big warm hug, and then went to Tyson.

The next morning, the lovers watched the sun rise. They hugged and embraced.

"You didn't regret your decision, did you?" Tyson asked sincerely.

"No, of course not. And I never will."

Then he touched her face. Then they kissed.

The next thing she remembered was when Tyson gave her the ring. She was so happy that she gave him a big hug, and they kissed for a long time. These memories she cherished with all her heart.

The comet crashed into the island just as the lovers embraced. The island exploded and the entire background turned white. The ground they were standing on started to fall apart, everything was being destroyed. The lovers were sucked into the air and moved apart, they reached for each other's hand, but could not reach far enough. In an instant nothing was left.

And Faith just realized that they have been through a lot together, she and Tyson. Their love overcame any challenge that came their way. There were no exceptions. They have promised to stay true to each other forever – through life and death.

"We met on the battlefield, and we will die on the battlefield."

"Promise me...promise me you'll stay by my side forever."

"I promise."

Suddenly, she dropped the sword. Clang. She screamed painfully and grabbed her head.

"Faith??" Tyson said.

"No – this is wrong. This is all wrong."

"Faith..."

"T-Tyson!!" she yelled, and ran to the fallen warrior. She hugged him and tears flowed down her face like a river. "Tyson. I'm sorry!"

"F-Faith..."

They became silent as she healed him. Energy flowed into his body. They were both glowing.

Chromium was angry. "What? What is this?"

Faith and Tyson were having their moment. Finally, she had come to her senses. Flames surrounded them.

"What have I been doing?"

"It's not your fault." Tyson touched her face. She reacted with tenderness. She touched his hand. "You were under Chromium's influence. But that is over now."

"Tyson..."

"Seven years...we have been together for seven years. Nothing can come in between us."

"Yes. I will never do anything to go against you. The times we spent together were the happiest times of my life."

Chromium's plans have been foiled, but he will not let them get away with it, that is for sure.

The Gladiators tournament continues – In the corrupted world of violence and murder, a sayan fights alone against a blood-thirsty tyrant who has nothing better to do than watch innocent people kill each other, lowering their morals.

Tyson learned that in the arena, everybody is an enemy. And that belief is put to the ultimate challenge when the hero is forced to fight the one person who he cannot fight, Faith. Pitting the two lovers into the battlefield against each other is just a mere form of entertainment to Chromium, who sees their slaughter as something amusing. But Chromium just learned that love has no limits. Faith returns to Tyson's side once again. Her black rose has returned to the red rose.

Tyson remained on the floor, with Faith holding onto his back. "You're not hurt anymore, are you?" she asked with concern.

"No, not anymore. Thanks to you."

They looked at each other intimately.

"I don't know what I was doing."

"No, it's not your fault." Tyson said in a soothing voice.

"Enough." the angry tyrant shouted.

Tyson and Faith stood up. Chromium jumped and landed on the floor. He walked through the flames.

"This is not supposed to happen. Faith, I command you, kill that sayan now."

"No. I will not listen to you anymore." The couple got into fighting stance.

"Chromium, your dirty tricks won't get you what you want. I will make you pay for everything you've done!" the hero said.

"Go ahead and try." He took out these two discs like weapons, holding them to his side. He smiled. "I will crush you."

The heroes reacted with alert. Chromium attacked. Slash! Faith's blade smashed into his discs. Clang. Wham. Kapow. Bam. They exchanged more moves. Tyson kicked Chromium in the back. "Ugh."

They stopped for two seconds to stare at each other. Then Chromium went on the offensive again.

The heroes defended and then counter attacked. The fighting of two people was too much for the tyrant to handle.

He slammed the disc hard into Faith's sword. But she pushed back, and he dropped a disc. Then he jumped away, and threw the other disc at Faith. She tilted her head, and the disc flew all the way into the opposite wall. Thud.

"Your so called Gladiators have abandoned you." Tyson said, trying to give him some taste of reality. "How do you expect to win?"

"Bah, I don't need those cowards. I can finish you both off by myself." Then he powered up. Black energy produced from his body. He was covered by electric sparks.

"Faith – why don't you come back to my side? I will give you one last chance."

"You can forget about it!"

Zzzzzzt. "Very well then." the tyrant said. "Since you love each other so much, then it is fitting that you both die together! Mahahahaha!" Bam! He released a bunch of energy.

Tyson and Faith could feel the force. "Uuugh. What power he has."

"We can take him." Faith said.

They went around him – Tyson on one side and Faith on the other. Chromium crossed his arms sideways and fired. Bam! Tyson's and Faith's shields blocked the attack. They ran across the arena, then jumped to the air and hit each other. Bam bam. Things break as they touched it.

Then they landed. Chromium shot an energy ball. Tyson blocked it, then Faith charged. Slash.

Chromium jumped away and landed. Tyson and Faith stood on opposite sides. Chromium put his arms on opposite sides and fired. Bam. Tyson hit the ball with his hands, knocking it into pieces. Faith smashed the ball into bits. Chromium ran forward, Tyson and Faith ran with him, on both sides. Half way through the arena, he jumped. Then they jumped.

Wham! Whoosh. Wham. They moved as fast as shadows and hit each other. Each collision was heard clearly.

Pow. Tyson was hit in the face. He fell on the floor. Wham. Faith soared up and slashed. Chromium dodged to the side, then hit her stomach. Then he moved a bit forward and hit her back. Whack. She landed on her knees.

Chromium made a bubble shield, and he screamed and it expanded. It knocked Tyson and Faith away, and rocks blew away. Boom. Everything turned white, and flashing. Then things calmed. Tyson groaned and mumbled as he pushed the rocks off him. He got up, panting for breath. Faith was almost unconscious, and she couldn't move.

Tyson recovered himself, and got into fighting stance. "Hyuh."

"Hmmp." Chromium twitched his eyes. "Damn sayan." He gathered energy. "I really hate sayans."

The hero was still in fighting stance, but his mind shifted to defense. He was getting ready for whatever Chromium was going to give him. Bam. He fired a black energy beam. Tyson blocked. Bam. He knocked them away with his wrists while moving back. Pom. Pom. Then Chromium threw a big mass of energy. Wham. Tyson got slammed against the wall. His Electro-shield broke.

"Ugh..." Before Tyson could recover, Chromium appeared in front of him and hit him many times. Pow pow pow. He hit his stomach. "Ugh." He punched, and Tyke ducked. Crack. Chromium's fist went into the wall. Tyke went to the side. The tyrant pulled his fist out, along with some small pieces of rock.

Then they stared. "Chromium, you've taken enough lives. I will not let you take anymore."

"Ha ha ha. Those weaklings do not get to choose who lives and who dies. The strong does."

Tyson grunted. "It is people like you that must be wiped out from this world."

"Is that so??" He charged. They jumped to the air and exchanged some moves. But clearly Tyke was no match for him. He kept on getting hit in the air. Then Chromium hit him hard in the face, and he spitted saliva. His head nearly turned sideways as he fell to the ground. Wham.

Chromium flew down, with his foot going for Tyke's face. The fallen hero quickly rolled away and bounced back to his feet. Chromium went forward and attacked, and the two fought with martial arts. They were fighting intensely. Tyson fell on the floor and Chromium got on top, and he punched him. They grabbed each other and struggled. Chromium strangled Tyson's neck, while Tyson grabbed Chromium's face, trying to rip him apart. Tyson punched his face. Whack. Then he kicked him in the stomach. Thud. They rolled on the floor and hit. Tyson kicked him away. Then they rolled away from each other and bounced back on their feet.

They gathered energy. Zzzzzt. Tyson charged the Energy Blast, as Chromium charged a black-energy blast of his own. Boom! The beams had a power struggle, but Chromium's electric charge gave his beam a boost, and hit Tyson. Zap. He took a critical hit and screamed. "AAAAAH!"

Faith crawled forward. "Tyson...no..." She got up, but barely able to balance herself.

Tyson collapsed. He was unconscious. Chromium was about to blast him. "Stop!" Faith yelled. She slashed, Chromium dodged it. Faith attacked recklessly, stabbing the sword forward. He dodged left and right. Faith left herself wide open, and the tyrant hit her stomach. She gapsed and moaned painfully. One hand held her stomach, and the other held the sword, upside down with its blade on the ground. She fell on one knee.

Zap. Chromium blasted her, she fell.

"Ugh!"

"Ha ha ha ha."

Faith panted for breath, putting her hand over her wound.

"Why don't you give it up? There is no way you can win in your current state."

He felt pity as she suffered and moaned in pain. "Come and join me. And I'll spare your life."

"Save your breath. I won't go back to your side."

"Think wisely before you choose. I gave you the power that you have now. Without me, you're nothing. I created you, and I can destroy you."

"You used me for your psychotic intentions. I will never, ever give in to your demands ever again."

The tyrant was agitated. "What was that? How dare you."

"I'd rather die than be with you."

The tyrant charged up. He formed a black, electric ball that was hollow inside. "As you wish!" Zap! Faith formed a shield – the ball hit her - bam. But it broke, and she was knocked down. "You're through." He advanced. "If it wasn't for me, you'd never had that power. And this is how you thank me?"

"Stop it." Tyson moaned. He crawled up. "Stop right now." He grunted like a lunatic.

Chromium looked at Tyson, this sayan who won't stay down no matter what. He looked just like...like Blazer. The more Chromium looked, the more he realized what they had in common. But then he snapped out of it. He was not going to let another sayan ruin his plans. Never. He did not build the Gladiators just to have it tumble.

Meanwhile, inside a space pod in the Meridian forest, Blazer checked the computer. "What's this?" he said in surprise. The radar showed a flying structure in space. "So, after all these years, he still has not learned his lesson."

Faith threw a bunch of roses at him. He dodged. Whish, whish. He advanced and punched. Faith blocked with her lower arms. Thud. Her bones hurt from the hit. He kept on punching. Thud thud.

"Humph. So you still won't die, huh?" the tyrant said. He threw an energy ball. Tyson jumped away. Boom.

"No!" Faith screamed. She fired the Mega Beam. Bam. The tyrant turned around, surprised. He quickly blocked it, but it was pushing him, so he jumped away. The remainder of the beam smashed into the wall.

"Nice try."

Tyson and Faith lagged forward. They both had bruises and dirt all over their bodies. But the tyrant could see the determination in their eyes. Their eyes showed they won't give up. They were staring at him intensely, and he didn't like it.

He looked at Tyson, and that reminded him of Blazer. They had so much in common. This thought sent shivers down Chromium's spine. They were so identical it's scary. This was just like that day...

"That is it, enough fooling around. You will all go to hell!" He charged up. Zzzzzt. He formed a vortex of energy, sucking up the wind.

Tyson: "Wait, isn't that the-"

Chromium: "Yes. The Circle of Death."

"That's Hurricane's move."

"Haha. Who do you think taught him that move?" He fired. BOOM.

Some of the fires in the path blew out. The couple stood side by side. Faith lashed out her vine whip, and it began to swirl around them. Tyson formed the Electro-shield, and they created the Electro-vine shield. The Circle of Death beam hit them, but they were safe. Rock chunks blasted away.

"What? This can't be."

"When we work together, there is nothing that can stop us. No force in the world can stand in our way!" Tyson said.

"Damn you!!!" the tyrant shouted.

"Let's go!" Tyson said, and he and Faith looked at each other. They nodded, then looked forward and charged.

Chromium grunted and punched forward. Tyson blurred. "Huh!?" Whack. Tyson kicked him. Wham. Faith punched, and he stuttered to the side. "Why you-" Tyson came from the left and hit him. Pow. Faith came from the right. Pow. Chromium was getting hit and he was losing badly.

They jumped and hit each other, exchanging some moves. But then the couple kept on hitting him, and he couldn't respond. Then they kicked him at the same time - on his chest. Wham. He fell backwards.

The couple stood side by side. It was just like old times. Chromium got up, angry. He fired a beam - zap. Tyson and Faith fired the energy blast. BOOM. Chromium's beam was undefeated and he was hit. He was slammed against the wall. Wham.

"Uuuuugh!" His back was against the wall, and he fell forward. Splat. Chromium realized he didn't have much energy left. He had lost. "This can't be..."

Tyson and Faith were still in firing position, and they just realized they had won. Smoke was coming out of their hands from the energy.

The flames have reached into the control room. One of the flames touched the computer, and ignited the wires, and it blew up. Kabam. Every electronic device in the room blew up. Boom. It caused a big chain reaction throughout the Coliseum. The bubble dome on the ceiling exploded. Crack. The entire space ship began to shake.

Everybody reacted with alert.

"It's not over yet." Chromium said. He jumped up to the higher platform, then ran away.

What will the fate of the heroes be? Have they made it this far just to vainly die in space?

11: The Great Escape, The Final Moments of the Coliseum.

Contents

When Chromium turned Faith against her beloved Tyson, a deadly fight ensued. But these two can't last as enemies forever. Faith came back to her senses, and her spiritual rose was no longer black. Pissed off, they teamed up against the one responsible for all this - Chromium.

After the Gladiator's leader was defeated, the Coliseum became unstable. The ship's engines blew up. Kabam. Fires spread everywhere.

The ship shuddered. Tyson and Faith felt it, and so did Chromium. They nearly fell from the shaking. "Whoa!"

They all looked up at the ceiling. The bubble dome cracked. Bricks from the ceiling fell.

"Grrr. It's not over yet." Chromium said. He jumped up to the higher platform, then ran away. Whoosh.

Tyke: "He's getting away."

Faith: "After him!"

They flew up to the platform and chased their foe. Nearly the entire Coliseum was empty now. Chromium could hear the echo of his own footsteps. Apparently, all the other Gladiators have fled and ran away like the cowards they are. He may have lost this structure, but he can always rebuild the Gladiators. All he needs is time.

The most important thing now was to find the escape pod – and he knew exactly where it was.

The couple chased tirelessly after him. But they lost sight of him, and he disappeared. But they could sense him faintly. But, their senses were distracted by all the falling bricks and rocks.

They reached a large around room, with many hallways. They stood there and wondered which one Chromium went to. There were six possibilities, not including the one they just came from.

"Oh great, what do we do now?!"

Faith held up her rose and mentally asked the spirits to guide them. She pointed at the hallway directly in front of them. The answer came instantly. "There." So they ran there.

The ship was becoming more unstable. Things broke and exploded. The entire floor was shaking, even the walls and ceilings. Thum. Thum. On the exterior of the ship, pieces of it exploded. **Boom.** Tyson and Faith were shaken by it. Rock chunks fell and blocked their wall.

"Oh man!"

"Not good." Faith said.

"Stand back." Tyson said, and she did. He fired a beam single-handed and blew a hole through the concrete. They jumped through the hole and resumed their running.

Thud. Thud. Thud. The dark hallway became bright. Chromium knew that he was almost to the escape pod. (They have not seen the last of me yet. I will come back and get my revenge. I can rebuild the Gladiators easily.)

He arrived at a dome-shaped room. Suddenly, he stopped, sensing someone approaching. When the person's face was revealed, Chromium nearly had a heart attack. His face became completely different from the shock. "No...it can't be!"

Blazer approached. "So, we meet again, Chromium, leader of the Gladiators."

"No...why now..." He was frozen in fear.

"Five years ago, you promised me that you would disband the Gladiators and changed your ways. But right after I left, you ignored what I said, thinking that we would never meet again. I really despise people like that. After five years, you still haven't learned your lesson."

Tyson and Faith hurried up, panting for breath. They saw Chromium standing in front of another man. BAM! A blast went through Chromium's stomach. He collapsed. Tyson and Faith froze in surprise. Smoke was coming out of Blazer's palm. He was in super sayan mode.

"Blazer??" Tyson said. "What are you doing here? How did you find this place?"

"It's a long story," he replied, transforming back to normal state. The ground shook again. "Now we have to get out of here."

"I know where the escape pods are," Faith said.

"It's too late for that," said Blazer. "By now the escapees have taken all of them. Even if there is any left," he said as he was drawing something out of his pocket, "we won't get there in time." He threw Tyson and Faith a belt each.

"The hell is this thing?" Tyke asked.

"Just put it on."

And they did. Then, zap. They vanished.

The Coliseum became really unstable. A bunch of space pods blasted off into space in many directions. Then it finally exploded. KABOOM!! Shards of the ship flew off in space. A big cloud of fire emerged, and then a giant ring of light. After that, only sparkles were left. They all emerged from the center, and drifted off.

Flash. Tyson, Faith, and Blazer appeared in the teleportation center of Blazer's space pod. At first, they were like wow, we're alive.

"Are we back on earth?"

"Yep, you guessed it," Blazer happily replied.

"We made it!!"

Tyson and Faith grabbed each other's hands and jumped and yelled happily.

The sky was clear blue that day, and it was especially clear for them. And so, things were finally back to normal. Whatever happened in space was something that they wished didn't happen, and it's all in the past now.

On earth, things were still normal. But for kids, normal is boring. One breezy and sunny day, Junior, Rocket, and Amanda were hanging out by the woods.

They sat around and did nothing but sighed. Amanda sat on a log, kicking her legs back and forth. Rocket yawned. "This is so boring!"

Junior: "Yeah, this sucks."

Rocket: "There's nothing to do. Arrrrh." He leaned back.

Amanda: "C'mon guys, think of something."

Suddenly, a spark went off in Junior's head. "Hey, doesn't Blazer have a machine that can teleport people to other places?"

Rocket had a smile on his face. "Yeah." The boys looked at each other. "Are you thinking what I'm thinking?"

Amanda: "Oh no...you don't mean..."

Junior: "Yeah! That will be fun. Let's check it out."

"No." Amanda said. "We'll be in big trouble for this. It's not ours. Besides, you know Blazer isn't a 'cheerful' man to be around with. Who knows what he'll do to us if he catches us....messing around with his property?"

Rocket: "What if we don't get caught? I just saw him fly by today. He's probably miles away from here. He won't know. Besides, with Junior's dad around, nobody dares touch us."

"Yeah. I want to do something daring and dangerous and fun for once."

"Guys...I dunno if it's a good idea."

"Then we'll have to go without you." Rocket said. "C'mon." He and Junior walked.

"Wait!" Amanda said. She sighed and followed them.

They spotted Blazer's space pod and went into it. "Cool." Rocket said, looking at all the blinking lights.

The teleportation chamber was actually a niche on the far side of the pod. The floor and ceiling had glowing lights. About six people could fit into that small space.

"Wow." Junior commented. "This is awesome. I wonder if we can go to anywhere we want."

"Yup. In an instant."

"C'mon guys, let's go back while we still have the chance." Amanda coaxed.

"Hells no, not after we made it all the way here."

Rocket played around with the controls.

"Umm, you really shouldn't be messing around with that."

"Oh lighten up, Amanda."

"Guys, we could get into really big trouble."

Junior went into the niche. "Cool. Look at all the lights."

Rocket was playing around with the computer controls. There was a small screen showing the virtual lines of a planet. "Awesome! With this thing you can go to any place on the planet in an instant!"

Junior: "Come check it out. Come one."

Amanda went to the niche with him.

"Don't you think it's neat?"

"Well, kinda."

Rocket: "So that's how it's done." He messed with the controls. "Teleportation is like that. I see. It's not splitting molecules apart, and then reforming them at another location. That would kill the person. It's actually using another dimension – opening a hole, two holes actually, one in A and one in B, so it's like a shortcut from A to B."

Jr: "Bah, stop it with your scientific crap, and just teleport us somewhere!"

"Alright, here goes." Rocket went to the niche. "So, where do you want to go?"

"France!" Junior said. "I've always wanted to see the Idol Tower."

"France it is."

The kids were all anxious. The lights blinked more. Suddenly, zap, they were all gone.

Zap. They appeared in a dark cave, in mid air, and fell on their butts.

"Ow!" they moaned.

"Where the heck are we?" Jr. asked.

"Apparently, in some cave." Rocket said.

"DUH. It doesn't take a rocket scientist to figure that out." Jr. snapped.

"Guys, stop." Amanda said, coming in between them. "I don't think we're in France."

Rocket: "Ummm, maybe we're **under** France."

Jr: "Where ever we are, this place is scary. We gotta get out of here. Where is the exit?"

Amanda: "Looks like we have to find it."

Junior started to walk in an arbitrary direction. The other two followed. It didn't matter which way they went, they were lost and they knew it.

As they were walking, they complained about missing home and being scared they might not come out alive. They're still just kids.

Suddenly, the ground began to shake and tremble. The kids couldn't stand still. They were like "Whoaaa!"

Then they ran forward, hoping to escape. The entire cave was shaking. Rocks fell and they ran while having the fear of being hit by rocks on their head. Some pieces were big, but most were small.

Suddenly, a giant worm popped out of the ground, smashing the rocks around it. It roared loudly. Junior ran too ahead, and he fell on his butt as the worm appeared. Amanda and Rocket watched in horror, Junior moved back. The worm had a circular mouth, full of teeth on its whole circumference, and it had glass-like eyes that looked like red shells.

"Aaaaaaaah!"

Jr: "What the hell is that thing?!"

The worm dives its mouth at them, and they ran away.

Amanda: "We're not in France!"

Junior: "No kidding! We're not even on earth!"

The worm turned its head around and went after Rocket. The kid panicked.

"Stay away from me!" he yelled. Bam. He shot an energy ball. It hit the worm's neck, and it let out a cry. But it only made it angrier. More of the worm's body came out from the ground, and Rocket just happened to be standing on it, so he fell. Splat. "No, no!"

"ROCKET!" Junior and Amanda shouted.

The worm set its gazing eyes on Rocket.

12: Little Kids, Big Trouble.

Contents

The worm set its gazing eyes on Rocket.

"Run, Rocket!!!" Junior yelled.

Rocket was still on the ground, gaping and moaning nervously. The worm let out a cry, and then dives its ugly head down.

"AAHHHH!" Rocket screamed.

Amanda covered her eyes; Junior watched in horror. Vrrroom. Rocket screamed and shot an energy ball. Bam, it hit the worm's neck, but nothing happened.

"Uhhh...uhhhh..."

The worm continued its assault. Rocket crawled out of the way, the worm smashed into the boulders – crash – and he was knocked away.

"Aaaaaah!"

The worm got its head back up, and then looked at the three kids. It was picking its target.

"Stay back." Junior said to the worm.

"Rorrrrr." The abyss worm charged forward. The kids jumped backwards.

Amanda used Lift on the rocks – and smashed them into the worm's head. "Rorrrrr." Junior and Rocket fired beams and went into the worm's mouth – and it died instantly. Slam. Its head fell on the ground, making a thud.

There was a pause. "Is it dead?" Junior asked nervously, hoping that it was.

"I think so." Amanda answered.

Rocket: "Whatever. Dead or not, I want to get out of here. Now let's move it before it starts moving again."

Suddenly, the ground shuddered. The kids were like "Whoaaaa!"

Another worm popped up. Then another. Then another. The kids were scared out of their minds. Five or six worms showed up. The kids ran for it. But more worms popped up. They were surrounded. One of them dived at them. They jumped away in different directions.

Slam. The worms chased them. Junior flew up and shot beams. Bam. But they barely did any damage to the creature's extra tough skin. Amanda used telekinesis to throw rocks at them – but they kept on coming. Rocket ran away as the worms chased him. Smash. He jumped as fast as he could. Suddenly, a worm was in front of him, and opened its huge mouth. He gasped, and then jumped, and the worm behind him crashed into the one in front. Slam. Rocket flew to the air.

"Phew, that was close." A worm reached for him, opening its mouth. Rocket kicked it in the chin – wham. It fell on the ground.

Junior ran as the worms tried to swallow him whole. Then he stopped, turned around, and fired the Energy Blast. Boom. It pushed the worm all the way back against the wall. Wham.

The kids stood together, and waited for their enemies to come. Amanda shook the ground, raising a big piece of concrete. She had to focus really hard, and close her eyes. Her head was straining and she was sweating. The worms had trouble moving and struggled and screamed. Junior and Rocket shot energy beams at them. "Hyuah!" Kabam. The rocks exploded, and fell on the struggling worms. They were buried in concrete.

Just as they beaten the enemy, more worms popped up. They were like an infestation.

Junior: "Shit! There's too many."

The three kids charged up energy. One worm spit acid from its mouth. The kids quickly ran away. Splash. It burned the ground.

Rocket: "Yikes! They can spit acid!"

Amanda: "Yeah, this is bad news."

The worms spit. Splash. The kids back flipped away. The acid melted the ground instantly. Smoke came from it.

"Let's go for it!"

The kids nodded. They ran in the other direction, and the worms chased them. The kids ran for their lives, rushing and breathing hard.

Suddenly, Junior stopped, and turned around. He fired at the ceiling, and a bunch of boulders came tumbling down, crushing some worms. Rocket and Amanda saw that it was a good idea. Rocket fired at the ceiling and the walls, bam. Crash. A bunch of rocks fell on the worms. Amanda used Lift and all the rocks in the area floated up. Then she used Push, and all the pieces charged at the worms. Smash. But a bunch of worms were chasing from behind, and they crawled over the rocks.

The kids continued running. Worms popped up everywhere. One popped up in front of them. Pop. They gasped. Junior fired a beam at its neck, and it fell and died. They ran past it. Another popped up from the sides. One popped out from the ceiling.

Rocket: "Oh my God. What the hell is this place?"

Amanda: "It's some kind of nest!"

They were still running. Then they elevated up and started to fly. Zoom. The worms on the ground still chased them. Roar. They spit acid. Splash. The kids flew around the acid to avoid it. Splash. Roar.

The kids flew at high speed. Zoom. The worms on the ground were falling behind, and they roared in anger. They saw a small light in front of them.

Amanda: "That's the exit!"

Rocket: "Alright. We're almost there."

The super kids were relieved. Now they can finally get out of this hell-hole, in only a matter of minutes. Suddenly, a worm's head popped out from the ceiling, catching the kids by surprise.

"Aaaaah!"

Its tail knocked Amanda, and she fell.

Rocket: "Amanda!"

Junior swayed off to the side. He fired energy balls. The worm charged forward and spit acid. Junior flew to the side. Another worm came from the ground, and Amanda was trapped between its long body. "Aaaaahhh!" she screamed.

"Let her go." Rocket said. He punched the worm's face. Pow pow. The creature hit him with its head. Wham. Rocket fell. Junior blasted the ceiling worm, making it fall on the other worm. Slam. He went to Amanda, trying to pull her out.

Amanda: "Forget me. Rocket is in trouble!"

Junior looked at Rocket. He was barely moving, and rocks were falling near him. Junior flew to his pal and picked him up, and took him to a safe place. The worms, with their bodies were coiled around each other's, struggled and screamed.

Amanda used her psychic powers, making more boulders fall from the ceiling. That lessened the worms' movement.

"C'mon, snap out of it, Rocket." Junior said, slapping his friend's face.

Rocket groaned and woke up. "Huh, what?"

"C'mon, Amanda needs us."

"Yeah."

They flew over there and kicked the worms in the face. Then Junior grabbed the worm by the tail and pulled, but it was too heavy for him to move it even a little bit.

Rocket grabbed Amanda's hand and pulled her out.

"C'mon, let's go."

So the kids ran for the light, and eventually, they got there. At first there was an overwhelming brightness. They had to wince and cover their eyes. But they made it. They were finally out of the horrible place with giant worms, and in the sunlight.

They breathed hard and sweated. Rocket fell on his knees and panted for breath. Junior's knees were bent, and he bent over, with his hands on his knees. They were just relieved.

Rocket: "Thank God! That was a scary place."

Amanda: "No kidding."

Something was not right. There were two suns. Clearly, they were not on earth anymore.

They found themselves in a rain forest like environment.

"Where are we?" Jr. asked.

Rocket: "Good question. We don't know!"

Amanda: "Guys, don't panic. I'm sure there's some village or city close by."

They looked around. Nothing was familiar. They heard sounds of crickets – or what they thought were crickets.

Junior: "So, where do we start?"

Amanda: "I don't know. But let's try that way." She pointed to a little right of the direction they were facing.

Rocket: "Fine, let's try it. It's better than staying here and starving to death."

Junior: "Yeah."

The kids, tired, hungry, and cold, walked and dredged on. They walked and walked, but found no houses nearby. There wasn't a city for miles. Flying was out of the question, since they used up a lot of energy fighting the worms.

While traveling, they came across many weird things. A dragonfly passed above them. It was larger than an earth one. A plant with teeth swallowed a butterfly. A carion caterpillar crawled on a big leaf, with water droplets. Furry, shadow-like creatures hid in trees, watching the kids with glaring eyes.

"Faith!" Tyson called from the stairway.

"Yes?"

"Has Junior come home yet?" he said, bending his upper body over the fence of the stairs.

"No."

Tyson came down the stairs. "Strange." He scratched his head with one finger. "He's supposed to be home by now. Is he at Nebula's?"

"I don't know. Maybe by Zelfire's?"

So, Tyson called Nebula.

It turns out their son wasn't at Nebula's. In fact, Nebula couldn't find Amanda. "I have no idea," he said over the phone. "I don't even know where Amanda is either."

"Oh okay then," Tyson said. He hung up. Then he called Zelfire. But it was the same result. "Strange. Where the heck are they?"

"They must be up to no good," Faith said, crossing her arms. "Junior is so grounded when he gets home."

Well, **if** he gets home...

Blazer had just finished training. He was all sweaty and decided to take a break, and then resume training later. To him, training is never done. It is on going. He opened the door to his space pod and went inside.

"WHAT THE HELL?!" he screamed.

The machine was beeping some signals.

"Who the fuck has been messing with my machine!?"

The kids continued their walk. Eventually, they reached a mountainous area. **Mito** was in sight. He was a man taller than average, and wide, with big shoulders, and muscles. He was wearing a head band, with a scouter on his left eye.

The kids saw him, and hid behind a rock. They watched him as he directed his soldiers. He pointed in many directions, and said something, but they didn't hear what he said. Then the soldiers scattered.

"What are they up to?" Rocket whispered.

"How should I know?" Junior replied.

"I hope they're not out here to kill anybody," Rocket said.

"Be quiet!" Amanda whispered. "They might discover us."

Mito just received a transmission on his scouter. He put his hand over the device and listened carefully. Then he looked at the kids' direction. The kids were shocked he was looking straight at them, even though they were behind a rock.

"I think he found us!" Junior said.

Amanda: "No way. How could he know?"

There was a clicking sound. The tip of a gun touched Rocket's shoulder. "Not now, he says." Then it touched him again. "I said-" He turned around and screamed. "Yipes!"

A bunch of soldiers were pointing at them with guns. Amanda, Junior, and Rocket raised their arms.

A: "So, what have we got here?"

B: "A bunch of nosy kids, apparently."

A: "Yeah. You know what they say. Curiosity killed the cat."

Junior: "Whatcha gonna do with us?"

A: "Wouldn't you like to know, kid?"

Amanda, using telekinesis, lifted the guns off their hands. The soldiers were scared shitless that the weapons moved by themselves, and floated up. Suddenly, Junior and Rocket charged. Pow. Wham Bam. They beat up the soldiers. They didn't know what hit 'em.

"Ha." Junior said, clasping his hands. "Nothing like taking out the trash."

"So, what do we got here?" Mito said.

Rocket: "Yipes!"

Mito: "You brats are really nosy, you know that? It's unfortunate that you have come across me."

Junior tried to be logical with him. "Look mister, we're lost. We don't want any trouble."

"Yeah." Rocket added. "We just want to find a place to stay and figure out where we are and how to get home."

"Too bad, punks!" Mito punched. Junior jumped away.

Amanda: "Let's get him!" She used telekinesis, and lifted a rock and it flew at him. Mito punched it, smashing it into pieces. Wham. Rocket attacked. Pow! He punched, but Mito blocked his small fist.

"Hah ha ha." He threw the kid away. Wham.

Junior attacked and used a combo. He hit Mito's chin. Wham. Rocket charged and hit him in the back.

"Ugh."

Rocket punched, but Mito blurred. "Huh?" He appeared behind Rocket and laughed. Rocket turned around. "Aaah!" Mito kicked Rocket away. Wham.

"No!" Junior jumped and punched ferociously. Thud thud. Mito blocked with his upper arms. Thud thud. They were like nothing to him. He grabbed Junior's fist, then punched his stomach. Wham. The kid felt it hard. Amanda threw an energy ball at Mito. Boom. He blocked it.

"You brat." Mito charged.

Amanda used telekinesis and pushed him into a rock. Bam. Junior and Rocket crawled back on their feet. Mito recovered and became angry. Amanda tossed a rock at him. He smashed it. He threw an energy ball. Amanda blocked, but it bounced her away. "Ugh."

"Why you!" Junior ran forward and attacked. Mito punched down, he jumped away. Wham. He hit the ground. Smash. Rock chunks came up.

The kid did a flying kick at the guy's face. Whack. Amanda used telekinesis and moved the ground Mito was standing on. He almost fell the shuddering. Junior fired a blast. Bam. Mito was hit, and he fell.

"Ha. Took care of him." Junior said. He was injured.

Rocket and Amanda smiled, knowing it was over.

Suddenly, another warrior appeared behind Junior and whacked him on the back.

Amanda and Rocket were surprised. Mito got up and roared. He grabbed Rocket and threw him into Amanda. Then he fired a blast. Bam!

Protein: "What took you so long, Mito? Don't tell me you had difficulty with these children."

"No, of course not. They were just nuisances."

"Hmm, apparently this girl has psychic powers. Maybe Enzyme will be interested in her."

"Yeah, good thinking. He might even reward us for a job well done."

The kids laid unconscious, unknowing the fate about to be bestowed upon them.

13: Infiltration of the Base: Save the Psychic.

Contents

Rocket and Junior were sleeping in the cell. Junior's eyes squinted and he woke up. He rubbed his eyes a little and sat up. "Huh – where am I?" he said sleepily. He realized he was in a cell. A really small one. In front of him were bars. "No, this can't be." Junior went to Rocket and tapped him on the shoulder. "Hey, wake up. Yo!"

Rocket woke up slowly. "What...Huh? Where are we? Where's Amanda?"

"I don't know. We're trapped." Junior went to touch the bars. Zap! "Aaaah!" He fell on his butt. "Ouch!"

"These things are protected." Rocket said.

"Damn! It can't be!" Junior went to the bars and again and grabbed them. Zap. He fell. "Uhhh..."

"Forget it dude, don't touch them."

"They took Amanda...what do they want with her?"

"They better not do anything to her. Or I won't forgive them!"

Meanwhile, in the technical laboratory, Enzyme was watching the psychic child in her sleep. Amanda was sitting on a mechanical chair, with a bunch of wires and things around it. They were all focused on one thing – her. Wires were attached to her face and forehead by suction cups, and wires were attached to her arms and body as well. She slept peacefully, head facing down, her arms on the handles. Her fingers moved slightly for a second.

From the glass window, Enzyme watched with curiosity. A doctor was standing next to him, holding a pad and pen.

"Hmmm, this child has psychic abilities." Enzyme said. "I'm sure she will prove very useful to me."

"Indeed." the doctor replied. "But to find her true abilities, we have to do some more tests."

"How long will it take?"

"It's indefinite. The human mind is very complicated."

"Do what you have to." Enzyme said.

In the next room there were a bunch of machines all cramped together – it was a control room. Five scientists were working, punching in numbers into the computer and reading charts. One computer screen showed the brain patterns of Amanda – it was a wave graph going up and down regularly. One scientist was taking notes of that. Another screen showed a close up of Amanda's face.

"Man, this sucks." Rocket said, kicking the air. He and Junior were sitting on the bench, with nothing to do but complain.

"Ya, I know, man." Junior replied.

Then a soldier came by, accompanied by Mito. "So, how are you kids feeling? Had a good night's sleep?" Mito said.

Junior: "You creep! What have you done with Amanda?"

"Oh her? Don't worry about your little friend. She'll be fine with Enzyme."

Rocket: "You better not hurt her. If she loses one feather, I'll won't forgive you."

"Ooh." Mito said, all sarcastic. "I'm so scared. Hahahahaha. You can't do nothing behind those bars."

Junior: "Grrrrr..."

"Ha. Give it up, kid." said the soldier. They walked away.

Junior made a face. "Jerk!"

Rocket: "Damn it. We're stuck here and we have no idea where Amanda is."

Tyson was floating above a forest, searching for his kid. He planned on meeting with Blazer, since he was close by. He gave up searching and went straight to Blazer's space pod.

Blazer, it turned out, was already waiting for him.

"Hey, what's up? Have you seen the kids?"

"No, but I have an idea of where they are."

"Really?" Tyson asked happily. "Where are they?"

"Come in." Blazer went into the space pod. Tyson followed him. "The kids, apparently, have been messing around **MY** machine!"

"What?!"

"They were fooling around with the teleportation device. I can check on the computer for their last destination."

Tyson was shocked. "You mean...they were teleported somewhere?"

"Yes."

"Where?"

"Planet R-10 of the R-Series."

"What! You're shitting me?!"

Blazer turned around and looked at Tyson. "Would I joke at a time like this?"

Tyson sighed and moaned. "What are the kids thinking?"

"Good question. You tell me."

"Quick Blazer, you gotta take me there. They could be in danger."

"Alright. I'll transport you to planet R-10."

"Ok, let's go." Tyson jumped to the teleport chamber.

"Wait." Blazer threw him four belts. "Take this."

"What is this?"

"Keep them safe. They will bring you back."

"Alright." Tyson put them behind his shirt. "I'm ready."

"I'll stay here and monitor." Blazer typed something into the computer and pushed the red switch. "Three...two...one..."

ZAP! Tyson vanished. The next thing he knew, he was standing on barren rock. "Oh man...this sucks..."

A guard came by the cell. He heard sounds of a kid groaning and screaming. He saw the kids, and Junior was on the floor, grabbing his stomach. He was making sounds of pain and agony.

"What's going on?" the soldier asked. "Are you alright?"

"My stomach hurts! It hurts a lot." Junior moaned.

Rocket was rubbing Junior's back. "Yeah, officer. I think he's really sick. We need to get him to a doctor or something."

The soldier rubbed his head. "Oh, alright." He pushed the button. The electric bars opened. The soldier came in and checked Junior. "You okay kid? Where does it hurt?"

"Right here." Junior said. The soldier looked closely. POW! Junior hit him in the face. He didn't know what hit him.

"AAAAH!"

Rocket kicked him and they beat him up. Junior snatched his gun and they vamoosed.

One soldier saw them running towards him. He drew his machine gun and shouted "Stop!" They kept on running and hit him, and then continued.

The fallen soldier crawled towards the wall and pulled the switch. The alarm rang off. Deeb. Deeb. All the lights in the area turned red and flashed.

"We better get outta here!" Junior shouted.

They ran down the hallway. Two soldiers appeared. "Freeze, children!"

Junior drew the gun he had and fired. Bang. One soldier was shot and he fell. Rocket jumped and kicked the other guy's face. Whack. Then he punched him down. Wham.

Enzyme heard the alarm sound. "What's going?"

Mito: "A prisoner must've escaped. I'll handle it." He left at once.

"Protein, go with him." Enzyme said.

"Yes, sire. At once." He left.

"Hmmpf. Whatever it is, it will be dealt with. Nothing can interfere with us now." he said, looking at Amanda. "My dear psychic child, you have a lot of potential power in you. I have very high hopes for you." He smiled evilly.

Amanda was unconsciously hearing all the noise and commotion. Her fingers moved. Her eyelids moved, but they were unable to open up. The readings on the screen showed a slightly higher graph.

Wham. Bam. Junior and Rocket fought their way through some soldiers.

Rocket: "Where is Amanda?"

Junior closed his eyes and focused his sixth sense. "Hmmm..."

"Well?"

"This way!" They headed off.

Just then, Mito appeared. "Going somewhere, kids?"

Junior: "Shit! It's him again."

Rocket: "Grrr, this time he won't get in our way."

"You're not going to escape, you little runts." Mito ran and punched. Bam. The kids jumped away.

Mito continued his attack. Whoosh. He punched, but Junior dodged. Rocket jumped up and aimed for Mito's face. Wham. Mito blocked the kick, and punched. Wham. Rocket was slammed against the wall.

Junior attacked, and Mito defended. Pow. Thud. He blocked every attack. Junior kicked. Mito ducked. Wham. Mito punched the kid's chest, knocking him down.

"Oof."

"Ha, take this you brat." Mito stepped on him, and Junior grabbed his foot, and they struggled.

"Take this, you ugly bastard!" Rocket shouted. He shot a fireball – boom. It hit Mito's back, burning a hole on his suit.

"Uuuugh!" He turned around. "Why you little..."

Rocket stepped backwards. He swallowed hard. Gulp. Mito advanced threateningly. Rocket grunted and shot a fireball. Bam. Mito blocked it with his arm like it was nothing.

Junior jumped and screamed. "YAAAAH!"

Mito turned around with a shocked face. Pow! He was punched. Rocket kicked him in the stomach. Mito collapsed. "Ugh."

Suddenly, Protein showed up. He shot energy balls. Bam bam. Junior jumped away. Boom. The kids ran for cover behind the wall. Protein walked forward. "It's no use, kids. Just surrender and there will be a lot less pain."

"Never!" Junior said.

"Then you leave me no choice." Protein said.

"Come and get us, jerk!"

Protein skidded on the ground, appearing suddenly, and shot fireballs. Rocket dropped from the ceiling and fell on Protein's shoulder, and grabbed his eyes. He couldn't see, so he screamed and stuttered. "I got him!" Rocket said.

"Get off me!" Protein screamed.

Junior ran forward and prepared a fist. Rocket jumped away. Pow! Junior hit the guy's chest. He was choking. "Ughhh...you little runt..."

Junior and Rocket fired their beams together – bam. Protein was blasted away.

"Phew." the kids sighed in relief. "C'mon, Amanda is this way." They walked forward and reached a metal door. "I can sense her – she is behind that door."

"Alright. Let's go in."

The metallic door had an electronic lock – with a keypad. Rocket tried pushing the buttons, but the thing won't budge. "Hmmm...we need a password."

"Forget the password." Jr. said. "We'll do it the old fashioned way. Stand back." He fired an energy ball. But it only burned the metal. "What..."

"This material is strong. Whatever it is."

"Crap. We have to keep trying."

"Amanda, Are you inside?"

Amanda could hear them unconsciously. Her eyelids started moving...

Mito and Protein were behind the kids. Junior and Rocket turned around, and they knew they were in big trouble. The bad guys grunted.

"We've got you now."

Jr.: "Oh crap!"

Bam. Wham. The kids screamed as they got hit.

Amanda's eyelids twitched. The readings on the graph were escalating. The scientists were in awe.

"What's going on?"

"The readings are going berserk!"

Enzyme: "What is happening?"

"I don't know." the scientist replied. He was frantically typing and checking the numbers.

Amanda's fingers were moving, and then her whole hand moved. Junior and Rocket's screaming were really getting into her head. The wires attached to her were become detached. Snap, snap snap. Suddenly, her eyes opened, and they flashed a purple light. Zap. The chair cracked. She floated up. All the wires on her snapped. She screamed, and everything around her broke. Bam! The glass broke. Enzyme covered his head and screamed. The explosion spread to the entire room. The scientists were knocked down and walls broke. Computers smashed. Bam.

Junior and Rocket and Protein were blown away from the door. There was a silence. Rocket and Junior recovered, and they grumbled in pain.

"Owww...my back..."

"C'mon. Let's find her."

They went inside. They searched through the pile of rubble. There were a bunch of injured scientists.

Amanda was on the floor. She moaned. Junior and Rocket went to her aid. "Are you alright, Amanda?"

She got up. "Guys...? Rocket? Junior?"

Rocket: "Yeah. We came to save you."

Amanda smiled and nodded. "Okay, let's leave!"

Junior was about to head for the door. "This way."

"No." Amanda said. "We'll leave this way." she said, pointing at the wall. She focused her mind. And then – bam. A hole was on the wall. They fell away.

Enzyme and the others pushed the rubble off of them and got up. "Blast it! They got away. Don't let them escape."

"Sorry, sire." Mito said.

"Don't just stand there!" Enzyme screamed frantically. "Go after them!"

"Yes, sire." said Mito, Protein, and Genome. They flew out of the hole and soared. Vroom.

"Yes! Free at last!" Rocket shouted happily.

The kids soared through the sky at high speeds. Vroom.

Junior: "So, where are we going?"

Amanda: "Anywhere. As long as we're far away from those guys."

"Yeah!"

Vroom.

On the ground, **Chloro** and his troops were traveling. He and his troops were equipped, and each of them carried a backpack with survival items.

Chloro's scouter beeped. "Hmmm, what's this?"

"What is it, commander?" a troop asked.

"Three flying objects approaching. They are above us."

"Do you think it's Enzyme's men?"

Chloro: "Most likely. They are coming from that direction. That's where Enzyme's base is."

Feeling tired from flying, the kids landed into the jungle. They were walking and walking and suddenly, a trooper appeared in front of them.

Amanda was just about to ask for help, but the trooper had his gun facing them. Then the kids realized they were surrounded in a circle.

Junior: "What...is going on?"

Rocket: "This is not good!"

Chloro came into the circle. "What the...these are just mere children..."

Junior: "Hey, who are you calling children?"

Troop B: "Shut up boy. You are in no position to speak."

Chloro signaled him to be quiet. The troop withdrew and stepped back. "Alright, children, who are you? Where are your parents?"

Amanda: "Our parents are not here. They are far away."

"What are you doing in the jungle by yourselves?"
"It's not by our choice. We were running away from someone who's trying to kill us."
Troop B: "They're lying."
Junior: "We're telling the truth!"
Chloro: "Don't mess around with me. I saw you flying. No ordinary kids could fly like that. You must be working for Enzyme, aren't you?"
"No!" Junior shouted.
Rocket whispered into Junior's ear: "Forget it dude, let's get out of here."
Amanda: "Listen we have no time for this. See you later!"
The super kids flew up. Vroom! The air made the soldiers wince.
Chloro: "Oh no you don't! Fire the flash bombs!"
The troops shot a little tin can into the air.
Rocket: "What is that thing!?"
FLASH! The kids were blinded. Suddenly, a net trapped them and zapped them. They were caught, and fell to the ground.
Troop C: "We have them now, sir."
Chloro: "Good. Round them up and bring them to camp."
Once again, the super kids have found themselves into another desperate situation. They thought they were safe for sure, but it's just not their day...

14: The Super Sayan Arrives, A New Light.

Contents

In a certain area of the forest, a light appeared. Flash. Tyson fell on a boulder. Wham. The dimensional rift closed. "Oh man...this sucks." He looked around. "Alright, so where do I start?" He couldn't sense the kids, so he had no idea what to do. He just started flying and went in a random direction.

The three kids woke up and found themselves as prisoners again. They were all tied up together by a tight rope. Two troops were guarding them. They had their backs facing the kids.

Jr: "What is going on?"
Amanda: "That is obvious. We are held prisoners."
Rocket: "Great...first Enzyme, and now this. This is just not our day! I wanna go home."
Jr: "Quit complaining."
The soldiers turned around. "Shut up you brats. I don't want to hear another word from you."
Jr: "Yeah, what are you going to do about it? Are you going to kill us?"

Soldier: "Listen you child, I have orders from commander Chloro not to hurt you. But keep running your mouth like that, and I don't know what will hold me back."

Amanda: "But we didn't do anything to you. We just want to go home. Can you let us go, please?"

Soldier: "I'm sorry, kid. I have specific orders. We can't let you go like that."

Rocket: "Damn it."

Mito, Protein, and Genome flew southward. "Man, I can't believe we let those kids get away."

Protein: "And we got in trouble with Enzyme. He will have our heads if we don't find them."

Genome: "Those little punks will pay dearly."

Mito's scouter started beeping. Then Protein and Genome's scouter beeped.

Mito: "What do we have here?"

Protein: "It's probably a rebel camp."

Mito: "Let's pay them a visit."

"But our mission is to capture the kids."

"I'm sure Enzyme will reward us for destroying a rebel camp. He might even forget about the kids."

Genome: "That's right. Let's go."

So they flew towards the camp.

Chloro had a meeting with his sergeants. He entered the tent, and sat down. The four sergeants were sitting in a circle.

Sergeant A: "Chloro, what do you plan on doing with the captured children?"

"I don't know yet. But I might let them live."

B: "Have you considered the possibility that they can be spies of Enzyme?"

"Yes, I've thought of that, but they seem pretty normal to me, except that they have special abilities...but I am not a child killer."

B: "But..."

"Let's change the topic." Chloro said. "Look, we have all fought very hard. And I thank each one of you for your efforts and contributions. I know that we all miss Taurus..."

A: "Yes, he was the hope that brought our soldiers together. Without him, it's just not the same."

Chloro: "Taurus has set an example for us. But his death does not mean we will give up. No, far from it. We must fight harder. We cannot let his sacrifice be in vain."

C: "I agree."

Chloro took out a map. "So these are our plans for the upcoming battle. Our waiting camps are stationed here." He pointed at red dot on the map. "And here, and here. Enzyme's troops are stationed here." He pointed at the map. "So we will make a

temporary encampment here, and here, in the mountains. Then we will make our surprise attack. Is that understood?"

"Yes sir!" all the sergeants said in unison.

One of the soldiers came in, knelt down, and whispered into Chloro's ear.

Chloro: "What? Enyme's agents are approaching?!"

All the sergeants were shocked.

"Oh...what now?"

"Don't panic!" Chloro said. "Tell everyone to get to their stations immediately!"

The alarm sounded throughout the camp. All the soldiers ran all over the place. There was a lot of noise and confusion.

Jr.: "What is that sound?"

Soldier A: "It means that we are under attack."

Soldier B: "We should get back to our stations."

Soldier A: "But the kids!"

Soldier B: "Forget the kids. It could be our lives on the line."

So they ran.

Rocket: "Do you think that it's Enzyme's guys attacking?"

Jr.: "I don't know, and I don't care. I just want to escape!"

Amanda: "Okay, let's get out of here." She used her psychic abilities – started to close her eyes and concentrate. The rope loosened and went up above them, and floated there. The kids got up and ran.

The soldiers were running around the place, too busy to notice the kids were free.

At the battle front, the agents were causing total havoc. They were shooting beams at the ground, flying around in circles. The soldiers were hit and blown away. Some of them took out laser guns and fired, but they missed.

Soldiers stationed themselves in the machine gun turrets. They turned, aimed, and fired. Tut-tut-tut-tut. Mito dodge the bullets. He flew around the bullets, then fired a beam at the turret. Boom. The soldier inside was knocked away and bleeding.

Genome and Protein destroyed the other turrets. The soldiers were like bugs to the agents. They were being destroyed and ran all over the place like ants.

Chloro came to the scene, and he was shocked at what he saw. "Damn it. How did they find us?" He took out a rifle-like gun and started shooting. But the agents were flying too fast, and he couldn't hit them.

An energy ball hit the ground and created smoke. Chloro coughed, letting his guard down. The agents landed.

The kids saw that Chloro was facing the three agents alone.

Jr.: "Look, it's Enzyme's goons! And Chloro is going to fight them, it looks like."

Rocket: "Oh no, he's not going to win!"

Amanda: "We can't just leave like this. We have to help."

Jr.: "Help the dude that kidnapped us? Are you sure?"

"It may be so, but we can't just not help someone in trouble. Your father would do the same."

Jr sighed. "Alright then."

Genome and Protein stood still. Mito walked forward and cracked his knuckles, and twisted his neck. "Let me take care of this one."

Protein: "Go ahead. We'll be right here."

Chloro stared at him, grunting. "I am not afraid of you, villain."

The kids ran to Chloro. "Hold it right there. We will help." Junior announced.

Mito: "Huh? It's you brats!"

Protein: "Aha, so the rebels have been hiding them from us."

Chloro: "What are you kids doing here? It's dangerous."

Rocket: "Nothing is too dangerous for us. We can help out, just trust us."

Mito: "Just surrender the kids to us, and no one gets hurt."

"In your dreams." Junior said, and he stuck out his tongue.

Mito grunted. "Why you..." He fired an energy ball. Chloro formed a shield and blocked it. Junior, Rocket and Chloro ran forward, Amanda stayed.

Mito punched forward, and Chloro jumped over him. "Huh?"

Amanda used Lift and threw a rock at Mito. Wham. He fell.

Junior attacked Protein, and Rocket attacked Genome. Wham. Bam. Pow. They exchanged some moves. Protein knocked Junior away with his fist. Wham. Genome kicked Rocket away. Chloro punched Genome in the face, knocking him down.

Amanda focused. A rock flew up and hit Protein. Wham. More chunks of rocks floated, and went towards the agents. They winced and blocked. Junior fired a beam at them. Boom! Smoke was created and they coughed. Their vision was blocked. Chloro shot a bunch of energy rays at the smoke. Boom. The bad guys were knocked away. They got up and grunted.

Genome: "Damn it, we can't win right now."

Mito: "Those punks..."

Genome: "We have to retreat."

They flew away.

Protein: "It's not over yet!"

Chloro and the kids cheered happily.

"Alright! We did it." Junior yelled.

"YAHHH!" Rocket said.

The boys jumped up and down, and slapped a high five. Amanda laughed with them. Chloro smiled. "Listen kids, it's thanks to you that we won. You practically saved our base. I'm sorry about the misunderstanding."

Amanda: "Oh it's no problem at all."

Junior: "Yeah, it turns out we are on the same side."

"Thank you."

"Your welcome." Junior said.

Tyson flew to the air, looking down, to see any signs of a town or city. Eventually, he found a camp and landed in the trees nearby. He saw two people talking with each other, and he walked to them and waved.

Orion and Kiyo reacted by pointing a gun at him. Click.

Tyson put his hands up. "Whoa, hold on there, pal! I didn't mean any harm."

Orion: "What do you want, stranger?"

Kiyo: "Are you a spy of Enzyme?"

"No!" Tyson answered. "Who is Enzyme?"

Orion and Kiyo looked at each other, then put their guns down. They believed Tyson's words. Somehow, Tyson's face looks like an honest face.

"I came here because I am looking for three kids. Two boys and one girl. The first boy is this tall-" and he motioned his hands. "-And the second boy is this tall-" He moved his hand again. "-And the girl is this tall. Have you seen them?"

Kiyo: "I am sorry stranger, but we do not have any children here. This is a military camp."

Tyson sighed. "That's okay. I am sorry to trouble you."

Orion: "By the way, I am Orion, and this is my friend Kiyo. What is your name?"

"My name is Tyson Spade."

Kiyo: "Tyson Spade? No way...you could not possibly be him."

"Why not?"

Orion: "Tyson Spade is the man who killed Chromium."

"Chromium? You mean..."

"That's right." Orion answered. "The sick bastard who was the head of the Gladiators. We heard rumors that a sayan single-handedly killed him. Anyone who can kill Chromium must be extremely powerful. Are you saying that you are that Tyson?"

"Well..." He scratched his head. "I can't take all the credit. But I am telling you, I **am** Tyson."

Kiyo: "Then prove it."

"How?"

"Fight me!" Kiyo said.

Orion: "Yes, that's a good way to prove that you are the one."

"Is that really necessary?" Tyson asked.

"Show me what you can do, that is, if you have the guts."

"Alright, you're on." Tyson said. One thing about being a sayan, sayans hate being made of fun of.

So the two got ready. They got into fighting stance.

"Anytime you're ready." Kiyo said.

"Alright." Tyson replied. "I'm ready."

Kiyo made the first strike. Whoosh. Tyson dodged the punch. Kiyo let out a combo of punches. Whoosh, whoosh. Tyson dodged left and right. Then he blocked the next fist. Kiyo stepped back and kicked. Tyson blocked with both hands. Thud. He pushed his leg away, then punched. Kiyo blocked, but lost balance. "Ahhh!"

Tyson did an uppercut. Whack. Kiyo got back up and charged. Tyson was hit in the chest. Thud.

Orion was kind of surprised. Tyson was able to counter his moves without any trouble.

Kiyo powered up and fired a beam. Tyson powered up and leaped forward. Bam. He went through the beam without getting hurt, then used the Power Punch on Kiyo. Pow! He was knocked down.

Orion was dumbfounded. Kiyo was too. He lay on the ground and didn't move. Tyson offered him a hand, and he took it.

Orion: "Wow! That was outstanding! You ARE the one named Tyson Spade!"

"I told you so."

Kiyo: "We are honored to have met with you, warrior. You truly are as powerful as they say."

"You didn't do too bad either. I had a hard time fighting you."

Kiyo was delighted by his compliments. "Oh, thank you, Mr. Spade-"

"Call me Tyson."

"Tyson. We will help you find the kids."

"Thank you!"

Orion: "No problem. Come, join us. We are just about to have dinner."

"Dinner eh...which reminds me...I'm hungry."

"Bahhh! Idiots!" Enzyme scolded. "I told you to find that blasted psychic child, and you ended up fighting a rebel army?!"

The three agents, Protein, Mito and Genome were bowing down. "But the rebels have the psychic child!"

Enzyme: "Goddam it! I don't want to hear anymore of this. RN and Viral."

RN and Viral walked forward. "Yes sire?"

"All five of you - this is your new mission - find the psychic child at all costs. And destroy the rebels! Got it?!"

"Yes sire." they said in unison.

Tyson was bored, so he came out of his tent and checked out the surroundings. Kiyo stuck his head out of the tent.

He motioned Tyson to come in. "Come here. We've got something to show you."

"What is it?" he asked.

Orion was sitting in front of the computer, transmitting a message to Chloro.

Kiyo: "We are communicating with our allies. He is one of Taurus's top guys, and our good friend as well."

"Who's Taurus?" Tyson asked.

"It is someone that we look up to. He used to be a great general. Unfortunately, he was killed while in battle, trying to take over Enzyme's base."

"Oh..."

[Suddenly, Chloro appeared in the screen. "Oh hey, what's up Commander Orion and Commander Kiyo?"]

Orion: "How are things going over there?"

["We're doing just great. Everybody is ready to fight."]

"That is good to hear."

Orion: "By the way, this is our new ally, Tyson Spade. We just met him."

Tyson waved and said hi.

["It's nice to meet you, Tyson. My name is Chloro."]

Orion: "Tyson is searching for his kids. Three of them actually. We were wondering if you'd know about their whereabouts."

["Three kids?"]

"Yes, two boys and one girl." Orion said.

["Are their names Junior, Rocket and Amanda?"]

After hearing that, Tyson nearly jumped. "Yes, that's them!! Where are they?"

["Don't worry. They are safe with me."]

"Hold on, I'm coming over!" Tyson left the tent and flew into the air.

Kiyo: "Wait!"

He disappeared into the morning sky.

15: The Super Sayan's Fury, Enzyme's Last Stand.

Contents

The super kids and Chloro managed to drive out Enzyme's agents away, but it's not over yet. Enzyme will do anything to get what he wants, anything. Will Tyson save the kids in time and bring them home?

The super kids - Junior, Amanda, and Rocket waited outside for Tyson to show up. They were so excited, hearing the news that Jr's father has arrived on this planet to rescue them. They were tired and ready to go home.

"He should be here anytime now." Jr said, excited.

Rocket: "Thank goodness. I can't wait to get out of this hell-hole."

Jr.: "I just knew my dad would come and save us. I knew it."

Chloro came outside to join the kids. "So is he here yet?"

"No, but he will come soon."

And suddenly, a shimmering star appeared in the sky. Junior and Amanda could sense him. Tyson landed on the ground. "Hey what's up guys!"

"Father!" Junior ran into Tyson's arms. They hugged. Amanda and Rocket hugged him as well.

"You kids are in big trouble. You messed around with Blazer's machine when you weren't supposed to."

"We're sorry, dad." Junior said. "Just take us home!"

"We've learned our lesson, Mr. Spade." Amanda said.

Suddenly, five dots appeared in the sky. Tyson and the kids looked at them.
"No, it can't be..." Chloro said. He checked his scouter.

Tyson: "I sense some powerful forces approaching!! Who are they?"

Chloro: "Enzyme's agents!"

"Damn..."

Junior: "They're coming back to get us. I just know it!"

"So there are five of them." Tyson said, using his senses.

Chloro: "They are Enzyme's five top generals. This is not good. We are in a dangerous situation."

"Alright. I'll go, and you guys stay here." Tyson said.

Junior: "What? But father-"

"Just listen to me and stay here. I will take care of them."

Chloro: "Mr. Spade, you can't be serious! They are not ordinary people you can just deal with by yourself!"

"Just trust me on this one." Tyson said, and walked forward. He flew away.

They did not stop him. It was something he said, and the way he said it, that made them not want to stop him. Junior and the others had no choice but to believe him.

Tyson saw the five agents on the ground, so he landed in front of them.

"Who are you?" RN asked.

"My name is Tyson Spade. And I will be your opponent for today. Leave the others alone."

The bad guys laughed. "You are kidding me! You want to take on us?" Genome taunted.

"That's right. All of you." Tyson said confidently.

Mito: "Either this guy is sick in the head, or he really wants to die!"

RN: "His poor fool has no idea who he is dealing with."

"I know. You are working for the tyrant named Enzyme." Tyson said.

Viral: "Enzyme is not a tyrant. He is doing this only for the good of the planet. We need to throw away inefficient and weak leaders."

"Enzyme is an abomination to this world! He needs to be rid of immediately."

They were all angry at that comment. "What did you say, you punk?" Mito said.

RN: "You are digging yourself a bigger hole. No one bad-mouths Enzyme and gets away with it."

Mito walked towards the sayan. He turned to his comrades. "Hey, five UUs says I can break his neck in less than five minutes."

Protein checked his scouter. The computer scanned Tyson's body. "Hmm...his power level is only 40,000. This should be a snap. Go ahead."

Mito cocked his head, and cracked his knuckles. He looked at Tyson and laughed. Tyson remained calm and expressionless. "This should be a piece of cake." He punched. Whoop. Tyke tilted his head. Mito punched again. Tyke dodged. Mito was aggravated. He punched really hard, and Tyke dodged his body sideways. "Grrrr!" Kapow! Tyson uppercut Mito in the chin, and he fell backwards.

All the other agents were shocked. RN and Viral ran towards Tyke. Tyke's eyeballs darted side to side. He had to react fast, if he was to take on five guys at once. He jumped to the air. RN and Viral used flight and soared up. RN was behind Tyke, and he charged. Tyke flew away. RN missed. Viral chased him. He threw a ball. Tyson turned around and blocked it. Bam. Genome and Protein soared up. Tyke flew into RN and pushed him. RN hit his neck with his elbow. Whack. "UGH!" Then he kned him. Whack. Tyke was sent backwards. Protein knocked him to the ground. Crash.

Tyke bounced back up. He breathed hard.

Mito: "Say your prayers, sayan!" He fired a beam. Tyke ran away. Kabam! Dust was everywhere.

They continued fighting. Tyke was getting hit left and right, and up and down. He was getting beat badly. They kept on hitting and flying in circles. Their energies collided into one another's. They flew so much that the winds began to circle them, and combined with the energies. Within minutes, a mini-tornado was formed. It was a huge storm of wind running in circles, with electric sparks. And the warriors were inside, floating. Whhhhheerrrr! The tornado grew bigger.

Tyson was in the center, and the others remained still, waiting. And suddenly, Tyke charged up. They all flew towards him. Tyke blocked and dodged them brilliantly, but it wasn't enough.

The kids and Chloro were still waiting for the hero. They saw a tornado coming from the left side.

"I hope my father is doing well." Junior said.

"Look!" Rocket said, pointing at the tornado. The giant storm of wind went past them, destroying the ground, leaving a gap. They all could feel the energy from the winds.

Chloro: "It looks like things are pretty intense over there."

Jr.: "My father has to win. There's no way he can lose..."

Eventually, the tornado died out. Tyke fell to the ground on his back. The five agents landed, and surrounded the fallen warrior. They laughed at him.

Tyke was on his knees, and panted for breath. Mito punched him in the chin. Wham. He fell.

"What's the matter, sayan?" RN said. "Looks like it's the end for you!"

"Not...by a long shot." Tyson said. He looked up at them and smiled.

Viral: "Still so cocky, eh? Looks like you need more beatings! You're going to need a lot of help."

"The one who needs help is you." Tyson said.

Viral's scouter started beeping like crazy. "What's this?"

Flash! Tyson turned into the super sayan. All the agents were totally surprised by his transformation. Not only does he look stronger, but he IS stronger.

Mito: "Garr! This means nothing!" He charged forward and punched. Tyson ducked instantly, and dug his fist into Mito's stomach. Thud. Mito's body kept on

charging forward, which made the hit more painful. "UGH!" Tyson followed up with an uppercut to the chin. Jab! Mito fell on the ground backwards, and broke his neck.

All the agents reacted in shock. Now they know they weren't dealing with an ordinary punk.

RN and Protein grunted angrily. "You're going to die for that, sayan!" They fired beams. Bam!

Tyson jumped to the air. Genome and Viral followed him. Viral attacked him head on with punches. Pow pow pow. Tyson dodged, but he barely moved his body. RN flew behind Tyson and attacked. Tyson flew away from him, and he missed. They both attacked. Tyson flew in between them and escaped. Genome and Protein followed in the chase.

Tyson turbo charged and zoomed out of there. RN chased Tyson, tailing him good. He shot fireballs. Froom, froom. Tyson flew left and right to avoid the deadly fireballs. They ended up hitting the rivers. Splash. Splash.

Tyson suddenly stopped flying, and turned around. RN was almost surprised. "You bastard, you are going to get it! No one insults Enzyme and lives!"

"Humph. We'll see about that." the sayan responded.

Protein, Genome, and Viral appeared behind the super sayan. Tyson's eyeballs darted left and right. He already had a plan. Zap. He blurred and hit RN, pushing him diagonally down. The wind was against his face, but he kept pushing. "Arrrrgh!" Tyson stopped descending, and gathered energy into his fist. Twoop. BAM. He fired a beam directly at RN's stomach, point blank. The beam pushed him into a mountain. KABAM. His body was fried within seconds.

The other agents were pissed off. Genome, Protein and Viral shot energy balls like crazy. Tyson flew to the ground. The energies hit everywhere and exploded. **Bom bom bom.**

Tyson fired the Energy Blast. "Hyuh." The agents dodged it.

Tyson fought the agents head on. Wham. Whoosh. Bam. He punched and kicked, and flew around in the air. But even all of them together, they couldn't bring him down. Tyson kicked Genome, and elbowed Protein at the same time. They were knocked away from him. Viral shot a beam, and hit Tyson. Zap. He was slammed into a mountain, and made a hole. Viral went inside, and the fought. Kapow.

Protein and Genome wondered what was happening in there. There were sounds of fighting and rocks cracking. Suddenly, Viral came flying out, head first, and slammed into the opposite boulder. He fell and didn't move. They couldn't tell if he was dead or unconscious.

Now the agents were scared. This was totally unexpected. All of this time, their powers have dominated the people of R-10. But now, they were being dominated by one man - a sayan named Tyson Spade.

Protein and Genome gathered energy, and fired balls non-stop. Tyson strengthened the ss shield. "Hyuahhh!" The balls hit the shield and bounced off, hitting everywhere. Boom!

Viral moved his head up slightly. "Ughhh..." Suddenly, an energy ball came towards him. "NOOOO!" Boom! His body was wiped out.

Tyson flew into the stream of energy balls, dodging them and going around them. He charged into Protein, and punched him a dozen times. "Ugh! Aah! Oof!" Then Tyson kicked him in the chin. "Aaah!" Then Tyson elbowed him down. Whack. Protein fell on a plateau. Slam.

Genome: "No, stop it!"

Tyson followed up with an energy beam. Twong! Boom. Protein was lost in the explosion. Genome flew straight into the sayan. Wham. He pushed him a couple of meters. Tyson pushed back, and kicked him to the ground. Genome got up. "You fucking bastard!"

"Give it up, you've lost!"

"Never! If I must, then I will die, in the name of Enzyme!" He fired a double beam.

Tyson blocked it like it was nothing. Genome stepped backwards in fear. "No, this can't be..." He fired more. Bam. Tyson smacked it away. Bam. Smack. Genome retreated several steps. He gathered more energy and formed it into a ball. Zap! Pow! Tyson kicked him in the face. Then one in the neck. He fell. "Ugh..." he moaned.

Tyson bent down and grabbed the guy by his collar. "Where is Enzyme?" he demanded.

"Just five miles north of here. You will see a base. He is inside. But it is well-protected."

Tyson let him go, and his head fell.

"Oof."

"Let this be a lesson to you." the sayan said before he flew off. Vroom! He flew towards the north at high speed. He was really anxious to meet this famous Enzyme.

Finally, he saw a large military building on a mountaintop. "This must be it." he said to himself.

"What the hell is this?" Enzyme asked, as he watched the computer screen. On the screen was Tyson. Enzyme pushed a button, and it showed a close-up of the man's face. "Who is this?" Suddenly, he vanished from the screen.

The gun turrets shot at him. Thud thud thud. Tyson flew around the bullets. Thud thud thud. He blasted the turrets. Bam. Bam. He flew close to the wall, and blasted a hole. Then he flew inside. Gun turrets came out of hidden sections of the ceiling and shot at him. Vroom! He flew past them, and they exploded.

"Crap!" Enzyme said, watching the screen. He got his handgun ready, and turned towards the metallic door. Suddenly, there was a loud explosion. Wham. The door fell. A silhouetted figure was seen. Super sayan Tyson walked in. "You're not going to get me!"

"Are you the one they call Enzyme?"

"Yes, I am Enertia Enzyme. You've got a lot of nerve breaking into this place, rebel." He pulled the trigger. Bang. Tyson's SS shield reflected the shots away.

"What?!"

The sayan charged fired. Before Enzyme could make another shot, his hand was caught. He squeezed Enzyme's hand.

"Arrrgh!" The gun dropped. Clonk. Tyson punched him in the stomach. "Urgh!" He fell to his knees.

"Don't make me do what I did to your henchmen."

"My henchmen? You mean..."

"That's right, I'm sure you've figured it out already. While you were in the safety of this hideout, I defeated them."

Enzyme was scared shitless. "What are you..."

"I am the one named Tyson Spade."

"T-Tyson Spade?" Enertia repeated while shaking. "The one who killed Chromium?"

"Exactly. Now, I want you to dispatch your army, and free the rebels. Give up the war."

"What? Are you nuts?"

Tyson held his collar tighter. "Do it or else..."

"Alright, alright! Just don't kill me, please!"

Tyson let him go. "Just remember your words. If you dare go back on them, I will come back for you." He walked out of the room.

Enzyme breathed hard. He was relieved that the sayan had left. But things will never be the same again. He had never been at the mercy of another man before, but today, a man had him in his mercy. He was almost killed. Enzyme was humiliated and disgraced.

Tyson had reunited with the kids. Chloro was impressed with this warrior. They were just about to leave. "Thank you so much for what you have done."

"Oh, don't sweat it." Tyke replied. "I owe you one for watching the kids."

"No problem. Come and visit us anytime you want. You'll always be welcome here."

"No problem." Tyson said. He gave the kids each a yellow belt. "Put this on."

They did as instructed.

Junior: "What does it do?"

"It will teleport us back home."

"Goodbye!" Chloro said, waving

"Bye!"

"Goodbye!" the kids yelled enthusiastically. They waved non-stop. Tyson pressed a button on his belt, and all four of them disappeared. Rocket, Junior, Amanda, and Tyson vanished.

Chloro will never forget what happened that day. Later on, the people will always know of the stranger sayan who came and fought selflessly for their sake.

16: Survivor Of The Gladiators, Kershaw's Sinister Plan.

Contents

Inside Macintosh's laboratory, the heroes waited patiently for Tyson to return. It was very quiet. Nebula and Macintosh lounged around the place. Mac was typing on the computer, working on an important project as usual.

"Tyson still hasn't returned?" Nebula asked, breaking the silence.

"Nope." Macintosh said.

"Damn it. It shouldn't take him that long to find the kids. What's going on over there?"

"We don't even know where he is. Relax man, have patience."

"I **am** frigging patient! I have nothing to do!" He yawned. He walked over to the window, to bore himself by watching cars pass by.

Faith went towards the lake to wash clothes. She set the basket down and began her work.

Kershaw went through the bushes and saw her. He approached in a threatening manner. Wherever he goes, he feels superior as a Gladiator, so he always talks with an authoritative tone, no matter who he's talking to.

Faith saw him come, and she didn't know what to do. Is he a friendly man, or someone who wants to cause harm? She just stared.

"Excuse me." he said. "Do you know where Network City is?"

Two seconds later she responded. "It's in the southeast of here." she said, pointing in that direction. "You can get there in half an hour by walking."

There was a strong wind, and she winced. She looked back, and the man was gone. She wondered where he went in such a hurry.

Kershaw walked deeper into the woods. Little did he know, there were people waiting nearby. He sensed something wrong.

Suddenly, a beam came towards him. He jumped away from it. A shadow figure popped out and attacked. Kershaw dodged. Three figures came out and attacked him. Kershaw jumped away and landed. The three figures stopped. Their faces were revealed once they stood still.

Kershaw: "Is that you, **Cobalt**?"

The Gladiator, surprised to hear his own name, replied, "It's you...you're Kershaw!..."

Cadmium and **Nickel** were surprised as well. They were all focused on attacking that they did not recognize each other."

"I must apologize for the misunderstanding, Kershaw." Cobalt said, lowering his head, and placing his palm on his chest. Nickel and Cadmium followed, lowering their head and placing their palms on their chests to show respect.

"It's alright. No problem. Are there any more survivors?"

Cobalt: "No, lord Kershaw. Only the four of us have made it to earth. The other survivors have been scattered throughout the solar system."

Cadmium: "So it is pretty much just us."

"Excellent." Kershaw said. "Then we have this planet all to ourselves. All it takes is us to take over this planet. Humans are weak anyway."

Nickel: "But what about the sayan named Tyson Spade? I heard rumors that he lives on this planet!"

Kershaw: "Ha! Tyson Spade. Why should we worry about someone like him?"

Nickel: "He is a super sayan! He has powers that no one could ever achieve through normal training. And he is the one who defeated our leader, Chromium."

"Chromium was strong, but not strong enough. Besides, I saw the whole thing. It was not Tyson who killed Chromium. It was another sayan. A sayan named Blazer." Kershaw said.

Cobalt: "Are you sure?"

"Yes, I saw it with my own eyes. They both are not a threat to us. Thus we have nothing to worry about. Tyson was able to injure Chromium was because he got careless. Tyson himself was injured as well, and he couldn't kill Chromium anyway, so he let him escape. Then Blazer came in to finish the job. But we've already learned of their secrets now. So there will be no surprises on our side. They do not know we have fled here, so we have the advantage. Besides, I have a plan to take care of them for good."

Cobalt: "Very well then. What is your plan?"

"Yes." He revealed two objects: a small head-set device, and a large cannon like gun.

Nickel: "What is this?"

"This is our ticket to victory, gentlemen."

In the busy city, a man was standing on the rooftop of a tall building. Cobalt was a man of about 6 feet 2; a Gladiator born into the world of war. He was wearing the usual Gladiator attire; spikes on his shoulder, a metallic chest plate with silver designs on it, and black boots. He was holding a large spiked ball, with a chain. That is a common weapon amongst Gladiators.

He laughed manically. He looked at the streets below him. All those cars passing by, all those people below him. They are all insignificant bugs to him. They are all powerless. He could kill them like ants.

Suddenly, he jumped all the way down to the street. His feet landed on a car. Smash. The hood of the car was bent and the glass cracked. He jumped to the floor.

All the people looked at him strangely. It wasn't everyday a man dressed in strange clothes walks by and breaks a car. He didn't care about their staring and comments. He just laughed to himself. He took the spiked chain ball and started spinning it. Whoop whoop whoop. Energy was put into the weapon. He let it go. Whoosh. It hit a light post. Wham. It exploded.

The people ran away and screamed like there was no tomorrow. Cobalt continued to throw the spike ball into things, and they exploded. He destroyed cars, light posts, and other objects. The ball hit the street. Boom. The street got a hole on it.

"That's right, run earthlings. Run for your dear lives."

Nebula sensed the force. "What's this?"

Mac: "What is it?"

"Someone really strong is here. He's releasing his force...oh man, I have to find out what's going on." Nebula ran for the door. "Stay here!"

"Alright..." Mac said, watching him go.

Nebula arrived at the chaotic scene. People were running in the opposite direction of him, and they pushed him. He struggled to get through the people. Then he just soared up and flew. No one would notice him anyway.

Cobalt continued to wreck havoc. "Stop right there!" Nebula shouted.

"Who the hell are you, earthling?"

"My name is Nebula Spade."

"Spade? Ha! That name will be rid of soon."

"Why you...who are you, and why are you doing this? Who ordered you to do this?"

Cobalt crossed his arms. "Why should I tell you?"

"Because if you tell me, I'll pull out only one of your eyeballs!"

He charged forward and drew his sword. Cobalt frowned, and waited for him to come. He swings the spike ball and lounged it forward. Froom. Neb jumped, and landed, then went forward. Cobalt pulled the chain. The ball came back in an arc. Cobalt jumped away, Neb turned around and saw the ball coming. He rolled out of the way.

"Humph, not bad for an earthling."

"Shut up." Neb charged forward. Cobalt blocked with his ball. Clang. Neb jumped back.

Cobalt put energy into the chains, and to the spiked ball. Then he swings it at Nebula. Bam! Neb jumped away.

"What's the matter? Can't defeat me?" Cobalt taunted. He was swinging the ball, keeping it in motion.

Nebula found it hard to get close to him. Even though it was a hard weapon to use, the chained ball was being used effectively by this Gladiator. One wrong move could be deadly. They stared at each other for a couple of seconds. Neb figured nothing would be done by just thinking. So he charged. Clang! They hit each other.

Then, he felt Macintosh coming. He fired the shockwave. Zap. Cobalt dodged it. "What's this, another one?"

Neb: "I thought I told you to stay behind!"

Mac: "I knew you need my help!"

"Whatever."

Cobalt: "How annoying." He powered up. Zap. He was filled with black energy. "Let's get him." Neb said.

So the heroes ran forward. Cobalt punched Mac in the stomach. **Thud.** Nebula slashed. Cobalt jumped to the air. Neb flew up. The sword and the spike ball crashed into one another. Clang! Cling! Cobalt threw it at him. Froom! Neb dodged, and the ball hit the building. The glass cracked. Neb flew forward and slashed. Cobalt dodged. The spike ball came towards him.

"Huh?" Whoosh. Neb ducked it, and cut off the chain. Clang.

"No! My weapon!" Cobalt threw the chain away. "Like it matters anyway." He powered up. "Hyuah."

Neb waited for the attack. Cobalt fired a beam, Neb blocked, but the force was too much. He fell down, and slammed on the top of a car. "Ugh!"

"Hahahaha!" Cobalt laughed. "Is that all you can do?"

Neb struggled to move his head. "You b-bastard..."

Mac fired the Electro-shockwave. Cobalt blocked with his left hand. Bam! "No way!" Mac said in disbelief. Cobalt fired at the ground. Boom. Mac was knocked away by the explosion.

Neb just got off the car. He fell on his fours, breathing hard. "Puff, puff."

Cobalt charged and punched him in the stomach. Doosh.

"Ugh!" Neb fell on the floor.

"That will teach you a lesson, earthling, not to mess with a Gladiator." He said. Then he left.

Nebula was powerless to stop him. He couldn't even defend himself. His vision was blurry. He couldn't see anything clearly, except his own hand, struggling to grab the dirt.

Since it was a bright and sunny day, Faith went outside to hang the clothes for them to dry. Usually, after a couple of hours, she'd go back out and take them inside. She carried a basket, and laid it on the grass. She reached up, and grabbed the pants, and folded it up, and put in into the basket, then repeated with the other clothes.

Kershaw arrived nearby, and he saw her. As Faith was pulling the sheets away from the clothesline, she saw Kershaw's face. They were right in front of each other, and she gasped and screamed. The basket dropped, and all the clothes fell out.

"I've found you now!" Kershaw said.

Faith ran for the house. She slammed the door shut, and breathed hard. Her heart was thumping heavily. Suddenly, a hand came through the door, and grabbed her neck. "Ugh! Aah!" He let her go, and she fell. Thud. Then he grabbed the knob and turned it.

"There's no escape, woman!"

"Noooo!" she screamed. Faith tried to escape, but he grabbed her and tossed her at the table. Crash. The table fell sideways, and she was on the floor.

"You are going to be useful to me."

Nebula and Macintosh were back at headquarters (the lab) already, along with the others.

Erika: "What happened to you guys?"

Neb: "To make a long story short...we got beat up by some jerk. I can't believe he did this to us."

Mac: "This guy was no ordinary foe. We have to be careful."

Zell: "Who is he?"

Neb: "Good question. I don't know. Wait a minute; he looks like the people who kidnapped Lisa."

Lisa: "Oh no...they're back for me!"

Mac: "No, not for Lisa. I think they have another purpose this time. I think they are called Gladiators or something like that."

Zell: "Gladiators? What do they want?"

Neb: "Who knows? Who cares? All I want to know is how to kill them!"

Erika: "It looks like this situation is more critical than we think. If one guy could beat Nebula and Macintosh combined, we can't underestimate them!"

Lisa: "That's right. Who knows how many more there are, hiding here?"

Suddenly, the heroes felt Faith's signal. She was in danger.

Neb: "Faith!"

Erika: "No, it can't be...they got her?"

Zell: "Damn it! We should've gotten her here with us! We should never have left her alone."

Mac: "Then let's go."

Without another word, the heroes flew out the window. Macintosh had to carry Lisa, so he was the slowest flyer.

Faith was tied up to a tree outside the house. The ropes were tight and inescapable. She struggled many times, but it was no use, it wouldn't budge. Kershaw took out a remote control. "You see this? This directly activates the bomb," he said. One push on this button, and kaboom!" He pointed at the bomb to the side of the tree. The explosives were set to explode on the push of the red button on the remote. "So I would behave if I were you."

"Why do you want us dead? What is your purpose?" she asked frantically.

"My purpose? It's to kill all your allies. Then the Gladiators will be able to control this planet without interference. My trap is already set. They wouldn't dare attack me, as long as I have control over your life! Literally at the push of a button. Ha ha ha ha ha."

"You're insane! They'll never submit to you!"

"Ha. We'll see. Let's see how weak-hearted they are."

"Tyson will come and get you." Faith said with confidence.

"Tyson? Ha, that sayan...if he's so great, where is he now? How come he's not saving you, huh? I'll tell you, because he is a coward."

"No!"

"All sayans are cowards."
Just then, four dots appeared in the sky.
"Ah, here come the fools now. They have no idea what they're getting themselves into."
Faith: "Guys...no...go back! Turn back!"
Too late. The heroes were just about to land. Kershaw's plans have already been set up. Will the heroes be able to survive this predicament?

17: Imminent Danger, The Gladiator's Power.

Contents

The heroes were just about to land. Kershaw's plans have already been set up. "Guys...no...go back! Turn back now!" Faith cried out. But they were too far away to hear her.

Erika, Nebula, and Macintosh landed. Lisa ran to the side and hid in the trees.

"Well well well, if it isn't the rest of the earthlings." Kershaw said. Then his eyes glanced at Nebula and Macintosh. "I see that you've come back for another beating?"

Neb saw Faith tied up to the tree. "Let Faith go now!"

Kershaw: "Why should I?"

"I swear, if you hurt one hair on her..."

"Don't be making demands here, boy! I'm in control here."

Faith struggled to get free. "Get out of here now! It's a trap!" she yelled at the top of her lungs.

Erika: "No way, we came to save you. And we'll do just that."

Kershaw: "How are you going to save her if you cannot defeat me? Hahahahaha!"

Neb: "That's it, you punk!" He charged forward. He punched. Whoosh. Kershaw dodged, and countered, hitting Neb in the stomach. "Ugh!" Then he uppercut him. Whack. Neb fell backwards. "Ugh!"

All the heroes reacted in shock.

Erika: "No! Nebula!"

Nebula got back to his feet, with his hand on his wound. "Son of a bitch."

Kershaw: "It looks like Cobalt didn't teach you a good lesson, now did he? You haven't been humiliated enough." He had a twisted smile.

Nebula was still moaning over the wound. Kershaw gathered energy.

"Bastard..." The rest of the heroes charged forward.

Kershaw jumped to a longer distance. "Ha, come and get me, all of you!"

"Stop!" Faith continued. But no one listened. "Stop fighting! Just forget about me!" She did not want to see her friends in danger, but there is nothing she could do.

Erika made initial contact, and Kershaw fought offensively. Macintosh attacked from behind. Kershaw flew to the side, and fought them both. His punches were hard

and solid, so Erika was cautious in fighting. Zelfire joined the fight. The Nebula. Kershaw knew he couldn't fight all four at the same time, so he flew to the ground. The heroes went after him.

"Come on!" Kershaw yelled, and powered up. A sphere of black energy engulfed him. "Yahhhh!" Bam! A shockwave was produced. The heroes winced from it. Nebula and Erika charged first. Kershaw released energy, and knocked them both away.

Zell: "This looks like it's going to be a hard battle." He turned to Mac.
"Macintosh, I want you to untie Faith, and then get out of here. I will deal with the Gladiator."

"Alright. Go get him." Mac flew the other way.

Kershaw: "I don't think so!" He fired a beam. Bam!

Zelfire: "Watch out!"

Mac turned around, but it was too late. It hit him, and he fell.

Zelfire: "Son of a bitch!" He rushed forward, and punched. Pow!

Kershaw blocked it, and countered with a jab in the stomach.

"Ugh!"

Kershaw smiled, then punched him in the face. His head almost turned sideways. Zelfire scraped against the ground from the impact. Vroom. His face was bruised.

"You weakling."

Nebula attacked out of nowhere. Kershaw blurred. He appeared in the sky. Nebula attacked head on. Whoosh, whoosh. He punched and kicked with combos. Erika attacked as well. Kershaw blocked and dodged all their moves. Wham! Pow! Whoop! Erika and Nebula fell to the ground. Splat, splat.

"You idiots!" Kershaw yelled. His superiority over the heroes was clear. Their powers could not match with his.

Lisa saw her chance. While the enemy was distracted, she sneaked stealthily all the way to Faith's tree. She started untying the ropes.

Faith: "What are you doing here?"

"I'm trying to save your life! Now hush!" Lisa said.

"Hurry up, before he sees you!"

"Don't worry. I'm very lucky, you know? I won't die easily."

Nebula got up, and couldn't keep on his feet. He gathered energy for his signature move.

Faith: "Behind you!"

Lisa turned around, and Kershaw was there. "Nice try, woman!"

Lisa reacted with fear. "No...don't kill me!" She stepped backwards. "No!"

Kershaw gathered energy and opened his palm.

"No!" Faith screamed.

Zelfire punched him by surprise. Pow. He followed up with another punch. He waited for Zelfire to let his guard down. A split second after Zelfire's punch, Kershaw hit him in the chest. "Ugh!" Then Kershaw grabbed his shirt, and threw him on the

ground. Slam. He grabbed Zell's neck and strangled him with one hand. With his other hand, he fired an energy ball towards Lisa, and she ran away, but it hit the ground and knocked her down. Erika ran towards them. Kershaw grabbed Zell, and threw him at Erika. Then he fired a beam. Kabam! Smoke covered the area.

Macintosh attacked. He went on the offensive, and Kershaw dodged and moved backwards. Mac tried to grab the remote on his belt. But he missed it. "Damn it."

Kershaw jumped away. "I know what you're trying to do. You're trying to get the remote control, aren't you? You think I'm stupid?"

"Why don't you let her go? She has nothing to do with this." Mac said.

"Au contraire, my friend. She is here so she can witness your defeat. Ha ha ha ha."

The warriors charged into each other and hit on the arms. Bam. Energies collided and made electric sparks. Kershaw grunted, and pushed Mac backwards. "Arrrgh." The Gladiator fired something on the ground. Bam. Mac was hit.

By now, Nebula was done charging. "Die!" Nebula fired the Nebula Blast. Bam!

Kershaw: "You son of a bitch!" He gathered energy and formed a black ball. Zzzzzt. The black ball countered the Nebula Blast. The result was a huge explosion. Boom! Faith closed her eyes and turned her head. Nebula covered his eyes.

"It can't be. My strongest move can't penetrate him."

Kershaw: "What a bunch of weaklings. You're not even a challenge."

Erika, Zell, and Mac were down. Only Neb remained standing. Being pissed off, he took out his sword and slashed. Whoosh, whish. Kershaw blocked with the iron bracelet on his wrist. They stayed like that for a second.

"Humph." Kershaw said, with an evil look.

"Uhh..."

Kershaw pushed the blade away, and punched Nebula in the face. Scrrrrrrch. He scraped against the ground from the impact.

"The remote..." Neb mumbled. "I must get the remote."

Kershaw: "Now, which one of you should I kill first?" He walked towards the fallen warriors. "Should I kill that woman tied to the tree? Or will one of you be it? Decisions, decisions." Suddenly, Lisa ran to him and grabbed the remote control from his pocket. "What the-"

"Ha sucker!"

"Give it back." Kershaw demanded. "Or else."

"No way!"

Erika: "Damn it...I can't let this happen."

Kershaw approached. "I'm going to give you three seconds." He charged energy. "And then you will be the first to die."

Lisa held the remote tightly. She had a feeling that death was near. "Go and do your worse! Scum."

Suddenly, zap! A shockwave came from behind and knocked Kershaw down.

Lisa gasped. "Macintosh!"

Mac stood limply. "Heh heh, I am not that useless."

Kershaw: "Damn it. You just won't stay down." He blasted Mac, and Mac fell.

Lisa threw the remote towards Erika, and Kershaw appeared and smacked Lisa down. The remote fell on the grass. Kershaw and Erika looked at each other, and then ran for the remote. They were both very close to it. The others watched with wide opened mouths. Erika grabbed the remote, but Kershaw hit her in the stomach, and the thing went flying to the air. Erika fell. Kershaw caught the remote. Clip.

"Bunch of worthless earthlings." The Gladiator crossed his arms and laughed maniacally. "You worthless piles of trash! You are no match for me. HA HA HA HA HA! HA HA HA HA!"

Erika could barely move from her spot. Only her arm could move slightly. The others were biting the dust, but still conscious, hearing Kershaw's laughter. It looked like a grim situation for the heroes.

"Damn earthlings. This is what you get." Kershaw was about to push the red button.

Everybody was shocked.

"NO!!" Erika yelled.

"Stop it!" Nebula yelled.

Too late. Beep. Faith had a look of surprise on her face. The bomb ticked for a split second, and then it was flashing. Twang. Kaboom! "AAAAAHHHH!" Faith screamed as the smoke consumed the whole tree. Froosh!

The heroes watched with angry and helpless eyes. Seconds later, they became eyes of anger, sadness, and disbelief.

Kershaw: "Ha ha ha ha ha! It was bound to happen eventually. This will be all of your fates."

They could no longer sense her life force. Is she really...

Macintosh pounded his fists angrily on the ground, with tears streaming down his eyes. "It can't be!"

Zelfire was holding on to a tree, with his knees on the ground. He stared at the grass, not saying anything.

"Faith..." Erika groaned. "How can this be happening?"

Neb was grunting with a grimace on his face. Lisa was about to cry as well.

The smoke was blown away.

Lisa: "Guys, look!"

Kershaw turned around. "What the? It can't be..." He saw a pair of feet behind the smoke. Then a pair of legs, then a whole body.

Faith walked forward, with electric sparks zapping from her body shield. She was breathing hard and sweating. All the fallen heroes were relieved. Erika was laughing as if they were on top of the world.

"How can a woman have that much power?" Kershaw asked.

"I...w-won't die that easily." Faith said.

Kershaw: "Wait a minute...you look familiar. Yes, you're that woman who was with Chromium, aren't you?"

Suddenly, Faith's energy ran out, and she passed out. Splat.

"Ha, looks that that explosion took out much of your strength." Kershaw opened his palm. "Now to finish the job. Say ta-ta." He fired. Suddenly, a silhouetted figure jumped in and grabbed her out of there. Zap. Boom. The beam missed. "What?"

Blazer put Faith down behind him.

"Who dares?"

"Humph." the sayan said. "Picking on weaklings and women. You Gladiators have gone to a new low."

Kershaw held out a fist. "What? Watch your tongue, sayan. I am the one in control here. You know what happens to people who disrespect us?"

"Humph. You lost your hostage. This battle has turned around. You think you can still win?"

Kershaw smiled confidently. "So you want to fight me? Come and get me." He ran into the woods.

Blazer: "Coward." He ran after him. They disappeared quickly.

Nickel, Cadmium, and Cobalt were waiting in the crater. They could sense Kershaw close in proximity. "What is this? Kershaw is heading our way."

Cadmium: "Did the operation fail?"

Blazer chased Kershaw all the way into the deep forest. But he didn't know he was being led into a trap - he just wanted to kill his enemy.

Finally, Kershaw turned around.

"So, you stopped running. Are you ready to fight me?"

Kershaw smiled. "Heh...I don't have time to waste with you."

Suddenly, a silhouetted figure dropped down from the trees, attacking at a sharp angle. Blazer jumped away from the attack. Bam!

"Damn you!" he said. Suddenly, Blazer was surrounded by four Gladiators, instead of one. "You bunch of cowards. I should've known you'd pull something like this."

Kershaw: "What'd you expect? After Chromium's unfortunate death, I have to be more cautious. Winning is all that matters."

Blazer: "I'll show you what matters!" He began groaning, floating up the air. "Wuuuuuhah!" Flash. He turned to super sayan. Usually, when he transformed, people get surprised, but these Gladiators showed no reaction to his transformation.

All four vanished in a split second. Blazer dived downwards, hitting Nickel in the chest. Suddenly, Cadmium came from the side and hit Blazer, knocking him away. Whack. Then Cobalt appeared and knocked him backwards. "Ugh!" Then Kershaw appeared and knocked him down. Even when Blazer was falling, they kept hitting him. Kabam.

Blazer bounced back up. Cadmium ran at him and attacked. They exchanged some moves. Wham. Pow. Blazer kicked him away. Suddenly, Cobalt appeared and knocked Blazer against a tree. Slam. Blazer didn't fall, but stayed in the air, and went to the side, as Cobalt punched the tree. Blazer flew to the crater. Kershaw chased him. He fired a beam, Blazer ran away from it. Boom.

They jumped up and hit each other, then landed. "Your days are up, Gladiator!" Blazer shouted. He charged forward. Kershaw drew the metallic band, and ran. Blazer punched, but Kershaw jumped, with his legs in the air, and he put the band on Blazer's head. Then he landed in a crouch.

Blazer: "What the hell is this!?"

Kershaw took out a remote control and pressed the button.

Zap! The band sent electric waves all over Blazer's body, and he screamed in pain. "AAAAHH!" He tried to pull it off, but it won't budge. Within seconds, he collapsed. Thud.

Cadmium, Nickel, and Cobalt arrived. "Is he..."

Kershaw: "Yes. Watch."

Blazer got up mechanically. His eyes were different than before. They were blank and lifeless, without the fire that was in there before. He bowed on one knee. "I am here to serve you, master."

Kershaw had an evil smile on his face.

In the middle of the forest, a vortex appeared. Tyson and the kids appeared in a flash, and they were two feet up the air. They landed on their butts. Then they got up.

"Looks like we're back home." Tyson said.

Junior: "This sure looks like earth alright."

But something did not feel right. All of the energy signals were going haywire. "Something's not right here!" Tyson focused on his senses. All the heroes' signals were weakening. "You kids find some place to stay. I have to find out what's happening. Got it?"

Junior nodded. He watched his father leave, and he knew his father will solve the problem.

18: A Lost Ally, Blazer's Sudden Switch.

Contents

Tyson just came to the scene where the battle between Kershaw and the others took place. What he saw made him shocked and unbelievably angry. "Guys..."

The injured heroes saw him come. They were just glad to see him. They've all been through hell and survived. Tyson went to Nebula.

"Brother, you okay?"

"Of course I am." Neb said weakly. "Don't look down on me like that. I'm stronger than you think."

"What happened here?"

Zell: "A Gladiator came and attacked us. We think there's four or more of them."

Tyson went to Faith. He lifted her back up. "Honey, are you alright?"

"Tyke...I'm fine. I really am. There's nothing to worry about."

Now Tyson was pissed off. No one comes and hurts his family and gets away with it. Someone will pay dearly for this. It's up to him to make things right. "Where are they now? Tell me!"

Lisa: "They went that way. Blazer is already on his trail."

"Go get them." Faith said.

Tyson put her down. "Alright. You guys should get away from here, in case they come back. I'll be back soon." He dashed off into the woods.

The sayan could sense the forces ahead. Zelfire was right, there was four of them. And one more. It was Blazer, was it? But wait, the signal feels strange. It's not normal. What was happening over there? Oh well, he will find out very soon.

He suddenly stopped. The enemies were just ahead of them, behind the trees. He took one cautious step forward. Kershaw appeared. "So, you must be the famous Tyson Spade. Am I correct?"

"That's right. And you are?"

"My name is Kershaw. But there's no need for introductions for a dead person."

Tyson made a grimace. "I am going to make you pay for what you did to my friends and family!"

Cobalt, Nickel, and Cadmium appeared. Tyson's eyeballs moved left and right. "So is this how you fight?"

"Hahahahaha!"

The three Gladiators dashed off.

Kershaw: "Your opponent is him."

Blazer came out of the bushes.

"Blazer?!" he said, in the same disbelief as when Faith betrayed him.

Kershaw: "He's on my side now."

"What have you done to him!?" Tyson asked.

"Hmph. I just put him under my control. He is my slave now."

"So, you Gladiators always take control of other people and turn them against each other. Don't you ever fight fair?"

Kershaw flew away.

"Wait!" Tyson said, running forward. Blazer got in his way. "What are you doing? Snap out of it!"

Blazer made a fist, and punched. Tyson dodged it in time.

"Stop, Blazer! I'm on your side!"

Blazer's eyes were blank and lifeless. He walked forward mechanically, like a killing machine. Tyson stopped and thought of what to do. Should he fight his friend, or be killed trying to help him? He really didn't know. But safety first is always the rule of thumb. His own safety.

"Blazer, listen to me. Can you hear me?"

"Shut up and fight!" Blazer said. He charged forward, his feet like a turbo engine. Swoosh. Tyson dodged, his back bent, and his head titled. Whoosh! Blazer followed up with a series of jabs. Tyson quickly moved his body side to side. Three or

four seconds later, Tyson jumped to the side. Blazer followed like a magnet. He unleashed a fury of fists. Tyson blocked, but wasn't fast enough. Pow! He was hit in the face, and fell on his side. Blazer took a step at him, and he rolled away, and bounced back up.

Blazer rushed to the front to punch. Pow! Tyson blocked it. Blazer used the other hand. Tyson ducked it, then un-ducked and punched Blazer in the face. The sayan showed almost no feeling of pain whatsoever. His head was turned to the side, and then was facing forward. He was staring at his opponent with the same expression as before. The blank, cold stare of death. Their friendship, no matter how long or short, was invalid. His only mission was to kill - even if it meant killing them both.

"I don't want to fight you." Tyke announced.

But of course, Blazer didn't listen. Those words were meaningless. He walked forward at a steady pace. Tyke waited for him to come. When it was the right distance, Tyson punched. Blazer ducked, and jabbed him in the chest. Thud.

"Ugh!"

Then Blazer uppercut him, and he fell. His back hit a tree. Blazer put energy into his fist and punched, Tyson rolled out of the way, and Blazer hit the tree. Kabam. The tree collapsed. Tchhhhhhhhhh - slam.

"Phew." Tyke said in relief. Suddenly, pow. He was hit in the face, and scraped the ground. Scrrrrrrrrrh. "Ughhh..."

(Must kill, kill kill). Blazer opened his palm and fired. Zap, zap. Tyson dodged the rays. Bam, bam.

(I've got to figure out a way to stop him. Before he kills me!)

Faith forced herself to get up, despite the difficulty walking. She limped over to Zelfire, and put out her arms.

"What are you doing?" he asked.

"Healing you."

"No, Faith, save your energy. You need it."

"I'll be fine." she said, already putting her hands on his shoulder. The transfer was processing. They were both glowing pink. Zell felt relaxed...and warm. Just like every time she healed him. His bruises began to slowly fade away. The scratches faded away too. Only the blood on the outside remained.

Faith then went over to Nebula. He refused to be helped as well. "No, save your energy. You're injured too."

"I'm fine." Faith said in denial. "Just hold still."

"Faith..."

Tyson dodged some energy balls. Kabam! Booom! "Aaagh!" He dashed through the trees, avoiding the attacks. Blazer was hot on his tail. Vroom. Tyson flew and powered up. Blazer caught up with him, and hit him in the back. Wham. Tyson was pushed horizontally, and his feet hit a tree, and he used it to bounce backwards, using his legs like a spring. He flew into Blazer - pow! They hit each other in the air.

After a couple of moves, they landed. "Enough is enough." Tyson said in frustration. "This has to end now!"

Blazer floated up a few feet above the ground and powered up. All the winds were being manipulated towards him. Frooom! Tyson winced. Seconds later, Blazer's hair turned gold, and a golden light flashed.

"No way...he can turn to super sayan even under someone else's control?"

Blazer landed and walked forward.

Tyke: "He still has access to all his powers! This is not good!"

Flash. Blazer appeared in front of him, Tyson dodged his punch.

Kershaw went into the bushes and pulled out a large cannon gun. He sneaked behind trees, watching the sayans fight.

As Faith was done healing everyone in the group, she collapsed. Everyone ran to her aide.

"Faith, are you alright?"

"Faith!"

Mac: "She is out of energy. It's because she healed us."

Neb: "Damn! It's all because of our incompetence."

Zell: "I hate to say this, but I sense three of them coming. They're on Kershaw's side."

Neb: "Macintosh, take Faith to the hospital right away. We'll take things over from here."

Mac: "Roger." He carried Faith and flew away.

Erika: "Take good care of her."

Nickel came back to the original battle ground where the fight between Kershaw and the earthlings took place. He scratched his head in confusion. "Damn, no one's here. Am I too late?"

"No, you're just in time for the party!" Erika said.

"Ha, is this a challenge?"

"You bet it is. Now prepare to defend yourself."

Cobalt: "You're going to regret this. When I'm through with you'll be begging for mercy and crying for your friends' help."

Cadmium and Cobalt showed up as well. They were intercepted by Neb and Zell.

Cadmium: "So these are the weaklings whom were beat up by our boss?"

Neb: "Grrrr...who are the weaklings?"

Cobalt smiled. "Fighting them won't even be worth our time."

Zell: "That's it, you guys talk too much. How about taking some action?"

Cobalt: "No problem. You must have a death wish!" He vanished.

Zell and Neb vanished, followed by Cadmium.

Macintosh, carrying the unconscious Faith, came to the premises of the hospital.
“Please, she needs to see a doctor right away!”

Nurse: “Okay, we’ll be with you in a sec.” She quickly dialed the phone.

A doctor ran from the hallway. “Lemme see.” He examined her. “Ok, Let’s take her inside.”

Faith rested on the bed peacefully. Outside the room, Mac and the doctor discussed. “Will she be okay?”

Doctor: “It looks to me like she is very exhausted. She fell unconscious due to fatigue. Just let her have some rest, and she’ll be fine.”

Mac: “Oh, thank God. Thank you so much, doctor.”

“No problem, it’s my job.” the doctor walked away.

Mac opened the door, went in and sat by Faith. “Faith...why do you always push yourself so hard...for us?”

The fireworks had already begun. Boom! Neb dodged a fireball. Cobalt was locked onto him like a missile to its target. Boom! Evaded. Boom! He threw some more energy balls. Neb formed a shield. The explosions didn’t get him.

Cobalt: “Take this.” He fired a super ball. Bam.

Neb: “Aahhhhh!”

Cobalt: “Hmmp. There’s no way he can survive that.”

“On the contrary...”

“What?”

The smoke blew away, and Neb was still standing, with arms crossed over his face. “It wasn’t fast enough to hit me.”

Cobalt: “...”

“This battle is just beginning.” Neb said with a smirk.

Zell and Cadmium ran parallel to each other, dashing through the woods. Doosh doosh. They broke leaves and bushes along the way. Then they jumped and hit in the air. Wham. They both landed.

Cadmium: “Here’s a little encore for ya!” He gathered ball, and threw it straight forward. Boom. Zell jumped up, Cadmium jumped and slammed him against a tree. Whack.

“Ugh!”

The push went through the tree, and Zell hit the next tree. Thud. Zell punched him away. They hit in the air, like two blurred lines going back and forth. Then they exchanged some moves, moving in a constant direction.

Zell punched, Cadmium blocked his fist. They stayed like that for a moment, then Cadmium pushed him back, charged energy on his other hand, and touched Zell on the chest.

“Aaaaaaah!” Zell screamed as he was zapped.

Cadmium proceeded to kick him to the ground. Boom. Cadmium laughed as Zell was biting the dust.

The fight between Erika and Nickel had just started. Erika powered up, while Nickel waited. She took out her light saber and turned it on. Twang. The purple blade showed up. She charged.

She swings the blade, Nickel jumped away. Swish. Swash. Erika kept swinging as he dodged. Whoosh. Swish.

Nickel: "You don't expect to beat me with that thing, do you?" He dodged another swing.

"Shut up and fight!" Swing.

Nickel jumped and kicked her in the head. Wham. She fell and dropped the saber. She got up, reached for the saber, and Nickel blasted it away. "Ha. No more toys for you."

Erika: "You'll pay for that."

"If you can find a way to hurt me, then please do so!"

"Be careful what you wish for." She powered up, her hair stood up, and she was filled with purple energy. "Hyyyyyaaah." Flash.

She appeared directly in front of her target and punched. Doosh doosh. Nickel blocked, and he was taken by surprise. He jumped back to a safe distance. "Heh, is that all you got?"

"You want some more?"

"No matter what you do, it is useless. Let me show you a real attack." Electricity gathered at his right arm, and he swings it. Froom. The blast traveled through the ground, going towards Erika, she quickly jumped away. The blast flew out of the ground and hit her in the air. KaBoom.

Erika breathed hard. She had dirt all over her.

"Ha ha ha ha ha. Is this all the power of the earthlings has to offer? What a pathetic planet this must be." Nickel said with crossed arms and a cocky attitude.

While all those events were happening, the main fight ensued. Tyson kept on dodging Blazer's lightning fast punches, but how long can he keep it up. Wham! Tyson got hit in the face, and he scraped against the ground before stopping.

"Blazer...why did this happen to you?"

"Must kill..." Blazer opened his palm. Not a good sign. Tyson jumped and grabbed the tree branch, as Blazer fired and killed most of the bottom of that tree. Tyson, still hanging on, swings up, and landed on the branch. Blazer fired, cutting the branch, and Tyson jumped and landed elsewhere.

Blazer kept firing energy beams like a machine. Tyson dodged the beams, but he had to transform into SS. The beams kept on coming, he blocked some, then flew away from the trajectory range. Flash.

Blazer flew up and intercepted Tyson during his flight. They did some aerial combat before landing on two separate branches.

Tyson: (Why is he acting this way? What has the Gladiators done to you?)

Blazer fired an energy ray. Tyson jumped out of its way. Boom. The tree was ruined.

Suddenly, Blazer appeared behind Tyson, and whacked him on his back. Wham. Tyson fell to the ground. Blazer landed, then charged. They grabbed each other on the wrists and struggled.

Tyson: "Blazer, have you gone mad? Why are you doing this?!" Suddenly, he answered his own question, noticing the metal band on his foe's head. (Could it be?)

Blazer overcame Tyson's grip, overpowering him.

"Aaaahh!" the sayan screamed in pain.

Then Blazer blasted him away. Tyson hit against a tree. Smoke covered the area. But it wasn't over yet. Tyson, with one knee and palm on the ground, breathed hard.

"I guess I have no choice but to fight you?" the hero said. "Fine then. I've been looking for a match!"

Blazer: "You will...perish."

They jumped to the air, beyond the height of the trees, and did more aerial combat.

Kershaw came out from the bushes and took out his cannon.

Tyson sensed him. "You!"

Kershaw laughed, and pressed the trigger. FROOM! The cannon fired its ray, and hit both warriors. Zap. They vanished.

The Gladiator laughed maniacally. "I got rid of them at last! Ha ha ha ha ha!"

Faith was still in the hospital, accompanied by Macintosh. Neb, Zell, and Erika are struggling for their lives. And now, Tyson and Blazer have disappeared into thin air. What will become of the heroes?

19: The Battle Heats Up, Showdown In Space!

Contents

Deep in outer space, in some group of meteors, there was a glowing light. Two lights, actually. Tyson and Blazer appeared, standing on nothing.

Tyson: "Huh...what? How did we get here?"

Blazer showed no reaction whatsoever.

Tyson looked at the earth, a bright and beautiful sphere far away. "No way! We're that far away from the earth. How can this be? It must have been that damn Gladiator! He sent us here, somehow."

Blazer attacked him in the middle of his thought.

Tyson dodged. "Blazer, listen to me, you have to stop this! Or we'll both die in space!"

Blazer fired a golden beam, and Tyson had no choice but to counter it with his own beam. Froom. The beams had a power struggle.

"Stop this non-sense! Don't you care about your own life?!" More struggling.
"You don't care do you? But I do!"

Meanwhile, Cobalt was having a hard time with his adversary. He was panting for breath and a little battered up.

Neb: "What's the matter, Gladiator? Is that all you got?"

Cobalt grunted and fired a black ball. Neb jumped over it and fired a shockwave from a swing of his arm. Wham - Cobalt was knocked against the tree.

Cobalt sprang back up on his feet, angrier than ever.

"Stop." said a voice from the woods.

Cobalt stopped immediately, a little shocked.

Kershaw appeared. "Cobalt, I will take over from here. You go and find the other two."

Neb raised his eyebrow. "It's you..."

Cobalt flew away.

Kershaw smiled with eyes closed. "Now the power has shifted to my side. Are you ready to set your grave, earthling?"

"Hmmp. I am going to pay you back for what you did to us, ten times worse."

Kershaw gathered energy into his palm. "All four of you combined was still not enough to even hurt me. What makes you think you can take me on alone?"

"Well, my allies were just in my way." Neb said cockily.

"Oh really? They were your last hope. Now you will die alone." He ran and fired the ball. Neb jumped over it, and rolled on the ground. Kershaw appeared in the air, and fired a beam. Boom.

Neb coughed from the smoke.

"What's the matter? Can't see me?" a voice said from above.

Neb powered up and his energy cleared the smoke. He flew up and attacked Kershaw head on. Their aerial combat ended rather quickly, when Kershaw whacked him into the trees. Then Kershaw dived into the trees himself.

Cadmium laughed as Zelfire was biting the dust. Zelfire stood up firm, annoyed by his enemy's laughter.

"Are you done yet?" Zell said with a serious face. "Cuz I'm certainly not."

"Oh...this one's got spunk. I guess you're going to drag out your death. Ahh, they always do that."

"They always do that'? How many people have your kind killed?"

"Countless!" Cadmium proclaimed proudly.

"You people have no shame." Zell said angrily, and powered up.

Cadmium laughed. "We Gladiators have prospered over the decades under the leadership of our great leader, Chromium. We were undefeated. Our power was so great that we were untouched. (Images of Gladiators killing other people, under a red sky.) All the citizens in nearby planets feared us. We seek competition - worthy competition. That's why each time we find a new planet - we find the strongest warriors, and put them in a life and death battle against each other. We only take on the most worthy ones ourselves. Once in a while, there comes an exceptional warrior - and Chromium himself takes him on." He crossed his arms. "But this planet has no worthy warriors - the only one who even stands a chance is now gone - forever! Spade has been blasted into space along with the other sayan!"

Zell: "Damn you...are you saying that we're not worthy? This planet has a lot more surprises to it than you think. Don't underestimate us. This is why Chromium was defeated - am I right? And this is why the Coliseum was destroyed - now you have nothing."

"Hmmp, oh please. If someone didn't take out Chromium, one of us would surely have. It was only a matter of time before Kershaw reigns supreme. Each generation of fighters is stronger than the previous one. Even if there's only four of us left, that's more than enough to start our own Gladiators group. (Images of Kershaw,

Nickel, Cobalt, and Cadmium covering the sky.) And what better place to start off than planet earth?"

"Sorry pal, that's not happening." Zell said, and powered up. He ran to the side.

Cadmium ran parallel to him. "What power do you have to stop us?"

"Let me show you the sensation of a real punch!" Doosh. Zell flashed.

They jumped in the air, bouncing off trees, breaking leaves as they hit. Flash.

Hit. Flash. Hit.

Zell flew along the forest, and Cadmium chased him while shooting balls.

Boom. Boom.

Zell fired a beam sideways, and Cadmium was hit. Zell stopped in mid air, and turned around. "How's that for starters?"

Cough cough. "Not bad." Cadmium said. "But not good either!" He gathered black energy into his palm. "**Dark Neutron Wave!**" He fired.

"Huh..." **Frrrooom.** Zell blocked, crossing his arms over his face. He was hit and thrown backwards by the pressure. Cadmium appeared behind him, and knocked him into a tree, and he went through the tree, and a few other trees. Crash! He landed with his face on the ground.

Zell crawled up. "Ughh...uhhh..."

"Ha ha ha ha. Now you see how futile your efforts are?"

"You...are...annoying..."

"What?"

Zell's body glowed white. **BOOM.**

Nebula and Zelfire are pretty respectable fighters, but right now they are doing poorly. Unfortunately, things aren't going so well for Erika either.

Nickel: "Is this all the power that earthlings have to offer? Ha ha ha ha. What a pathetic planet this must be."

Erika: "Don't make fun of the earthlings. You don't know what they can do."

Nickel: "Oh, we have a pretty good idea already."

"You don't know anything!" Erika said and did a Power Punch.

Nickel blocked it, and her force pushed him back. His feet scraped up dirt as he was forced back. "That's nothing." He squeezed her fist.

Erika, using her free hand, karate chopped his arm. Chop. He grabbed her free arm and then gave her a knee jam in the stomach. Thud. She felt it good, and it paralyzed her for a few seconds. He punched her, knocking her against a tree.

"Ugh..." she groaned as she tried to stand up.

"Say bye bye." Nickel said playfully as he fired some black beams. **Boom.** The smoke and dust cleared. "Oh, you actually avoided it. All you did is you managed to prolong your death for a few minutes."

Erika panted for breath. (I need my saber. Where could it be?)

Another energy ball flew at her, and she flew up. Nickel predicted her movements, and intercepted her in mid flight. Wham. She fell.

"I told you. Look at what your resistance has cost you."

Erika got up, and wiped blood off her mouth.

Nickel sensed something. "Oh, looks like Cadmium and Kershaw are taking their time. They'll finish off your friends soon enough. Once I'm done with you and your remaining members, we can have the earth to ourselves."

Erika: "Why? So you can re-create the Gladiators?"

"Yes, very smart!"

"Why must you do this? Why? Is killing and bloodshed the only thing on your minds?"

Nickel smiled. "That is why we exist. Competition and power is what we live for. No matter which planet we come across, we always find the strongest warriors and have them fight to the death. But still, we have not found worthy competition. Until we came all the way to this galaxy, we finally found some worthy opponents."

"Planet earth is not a battleground. This planet is full of life and energy, it has hundreds of thousands of different species inhabiting it. We're the most densely populated planet in this galaxy - and you don't belong here."

"That is why we must conquer it. The more populated it is, the more challengers we have!"

"Challenge this!" Erika powered up, and her hair flew up. She was flashing purple. Suddenly, she charged and let out a furious combo.

Nickel dodged and blocked her attacks. "What are you trying to accomplish?" he said in the middle of combat.

"This!" Wham! She kicked him in the hip.

"Ouch!" He jumped away. "That's it bitch, play time is over."

"Good, I was hoping you'd get serious." Erika said. But in actuality, she gave it all she got. If he got any more serious, she'd be in trouble. And it looks like...she's in trouble.

Tyson dodged a beam, and went fast forward, punching Blazer. He let out a fast and furious combo, Blazer dodged efficiently. Then Tyson followed with a round kick, Blazer vanished, appeared on the side, and punched Tyson away. Pow. As the sayan was being thrown in the air, Blazer followed him, going even faster, and punched him, making him fly even faster. Tyson ended up hitting another meteor. Blazer came and hit him from all directions in space, and finally slamming him against a big meteor.

"Damn it..." the hero said in frustration. "What is going to get through to him? Blazer, don't you recognize me at all?"

"You are my enemy, and I must kill you."

"Damn that Gladiator, this is all his doing. We're going to die because of him!" Tyke said. "Listen Blazer, if we both die, it doesn't benefit you."

Blazer walked forward. His faceless, blank expression seemed to defy all logic and common sense. In his primitive mind, he had only one goal - kill Tyson Spade.

The sayan opened his palm, and Tyson, on the other side, got ready. He fired a beam - **bam**. Tyson intercepted it, but was thrown away by its force. He scraped against the ground of the meteor.

"Why, Blazer, why? Why did you let the enemy do this to you?"

Blazer soared up and fired consecutive beams. Tyson dodged. **Kaboom!!**

"Why won't you listen, damn it?" Tyson said as he evaded some punches and chops.

Blazer kicked him in the stomach - doosh. Tyson was thrown up, then Blazer appeared behind him, and proceeded to whack him in the back. Luckily, Tyson was fast, and he landed on his hands, and bounced back up.

"Don't you understand that you're being used? We're going to lose our lives!" the sayan yelled angrily. He fired a beam, which Blazer flew away from. "Does that mean anything to you?"

They continued flying around and shooting each other, their movements resembled those of fighter jets.

Blazer fired numerous streams of beams at Tyson. They all hit him. "WHY MUST THIS HAPPEN? AAHHHHH!" Tyson powered up. His shockwave neutralized all the beams. Froom froom froom.

Now, Tyson was all hyped up and pissed off, and energized by now. Blazer flew at him, Tyson grabbed him and pushed him onto the ground. Slam. Crash. They punched each other furiously, as if they forgot about blocking. All they did was hit and get hit.

Spade landed a clean punch to Blazer's face, and turned his head. Blazer showed no signs of pain. His eyes were dead and expressionless. Blazer punched, and Tyson jumped away. They rested for a while, staring each other.

Spade: (I have to remove that metal band somehow. I have get rid of it, but it's going to hard. It's hard to get close to this guy.)

Blazer took a step forward. The warriors prepared for the next round.

Nebula kept on getting beat up by Kershaw's attacks. His swift and solid punches were nearly unavoidable. Neb had to retreat while he dodged the furious assault. Wham! Pow! He was knocked against a tree. Kershaw landed punches on after another. Pow! Neb was punched away, he had to walk a few steps to stop from falling.

Neb wiped the blood off his mouth and spit. He powered up and fired a beam. Kershaw was pushed far away. Then Nebula formed the Target Energy Bomb. The ball of energy flew towards its target, navigating its way through the trees, controlled by Neb's hand movements. Kershaw just recovered from the last attack, and he just stared at the bright ball hurling at him. "Nooooo!" Boom! It exploded on him.

"That'll teach you a lesson." Neb said, and relaxed a little.

"What was that supposed to teach me?"

Neb was shocked.

"That you're a weakling?"

Neb was now frustrated. He fired a bunch of fireballs at him, Kershaw blocked, and there were multiple explosions. **Boom, boom, boom.**

Then Neb gathered energy, making the **Nebula Blast**. He fired the big blue ball forward, and it destroyed everything in its path, even if it's near its path. Kershaw

blocked it. He struggled with it for a while, as the ball pushed him back, and his feet scraped the ground. Then he screamed and pushed it up, so the ball went up and exploded.

Nebula held his tired arm, and breathed hard. He couldn't believe it didn't work. "My most powerful move...it didn't work on him. What's it going to take to take this guy down?"

Kershaw, approaching: "I have to admit, earthling, that wasn't half bad. However, that technique must have taken out most of your energy. Which means you are finished!"

Kershaw charged.

Nebula drew his sword, and charged. "You wish!"

Slash! Kershaw blocked with the iron bracelet on his arm. Cling. He pushed the blade away, then jumped away.

"Don't you know how hopeless your situation is? As we are speaking right now, your friends are dying."

Neb: "You underestimate us. That's going to be your biggest mistake."

"Hah, oh really? And of your friend Tyson Spade? Where is he now?"

Neb had no answer.

"Wasn't he supposed to save you? Well, so much for your savior, right? Ha ha ha. Let me tell you what happened to him. I transported him and Blazer to outer space. I got rid of both sayans with one teleporter cannon. Ha ha ha ha."

Neb: "You did what?"

Kershaw: "See how futile your efforts are? Your two best warriors are dead - probably floating somewhere in space. And then your friends will die one by one. Including the woman and the other man. They will all die. And you're going to hear their screams of agony just before you hear yours."

"That's it scumbag. I'll make you pay with your life."

"Hmmp." said the Gladiator, crossing his arms.

Neb charged and slashed.

Zelfire and Cadmium were both roughed up and tired. But the show must go on. Both gathered energy and prepared for the next attack.

Cobalt, using his sixth sense, traced Macintosh's presence. He flew all the way to the hospital, and he knew he was getting close to his targets. He landed in the front area, close to the fountain. He walked past some people, and entered through the front entrance. The automatic door opened for him. He walked to the front desk, where the guard asked him, "Sir, can I help you?"

"No you cannot." He walked past the desk.

The guard stood up. "Excuse me, where are you going?" He got in front of Cobalt.

Cobalt got irritated, and smacked him away. All the people who saw it were shocked.

Mac, sitting on the chair, fell asleep on Faith's bed. The machine was beeping lightly, and all signs were normal and stable.

Boom. Tyson jumped away, dodging some beams. He countered with his own beams. Blazer dodged.

The super sayans stared at each other with intensity. Will Tyson be able to disable the metal band in time, before their oxygen runs out, or will they perish in space?

20: A Desperate Battle! Time Is Running Out!

Contents

The Gladiators who escaped the Coliseum have fled to earth, and this group of four, led by Kershaw, started making trouble immediately. All the heroes are occupied by a Gladiator enemy, as Faith rests in a hospital, drained from healing people too much. Three fights are happening at the same time, including the one between the two super sayans, in outer space. Time is running out for the heroes...

Nebula and Kershaw stared at each other with killer intensity. The between Erika and Nickel was heating up as well, and the same goes for Zelfire and Cadmium.

"Blazer, you have to listen to me." Tyson said as he blocked some punches. "Stop this non-sense already!" He got knocked into the air. Blazer flashed, then reappeared in front of Tyson, and kicked him in the chin. Wham!

Tyson's feet landed on a meteor, and bounced back. They charged into each other and their collision made a shockwave. Other smaller meteors were destroyed.

They both grunted and kept on pushing. Neither of them were able to overpower the other, and they retracted and panted for breath.

Suddenly, Tyson's hair flashed black and gold. "Oh no...my energy is running out. Once I go back to normal, I'll be dead! I gotta get back to earth somehow."

Blazer powered up.

"Sorry, Blazer. But I am going to have to end this match one way or another."

Within the city hospital, Cobalt walked through the hallways, ignoring the frightened responses of the people he was passing by. A doctor was in his way, and he pushed him away. All the people in the hallway quickly stuck to the wall, letting him go through.

Macintosh just got his water and came back. Seeing all these people act strangely, he got curious. "What's happening?"

Nurse: "That scary man...he just came in and started making trouble."

"What? Which way did he go?"

The nurse pointed. "That way."

"Shit, he's heading towards Faith's room." Mac crushed his cup of water unintentionally, and ran down the hall.

Cobalt felt he was getting closer to his target. Faith's energy was low, and he could barely feel it.

Faith was still resting unconsciously. She was breathing through a respiratory. Her breathing was deep and low, the machine beeped. But she could sense the evil force coming closer. Her eyes twitched. She could sense danger approaching, but she was still unconscious and couldn't do anything.

Mac: "Hey you! Hold it right there!"

Cobalt turned around. "You talking to me?"

"You can't just come to a hospital and start making a mess like this. This is a place for people to rest and recuperate."

"Hmmp. This is also a place of death. In this case, it will be yours, earthling!"

The warriors charged and hit each other. Pow. They exchanged moves.

Zell and Cadmium had a fierce power struggle. Their shields hit each other, and at the point of collision, there was a lot of pressure and electricity. They struggled for dominance.

Cadmium: "Uuuughhhh...I will not lose."

Zell: "Neither will I."

Both energies became exhausted and disappeared. It was a tie. They charged and exchanged some physical moves. Wham. Bam.

Zell fired the Spirit Blast. Cadmium screamed as he was momentarily paralyzed and shocked by the hit. Zell appeared in front of him and hit him in the stomach, and zapped him. Cadmium grabbed Zell's shoulder and zapped him. Bam. Zell was blown away, his back hit a tree. Doosh. He slid and fell on his butt.

Cadmium: "Grr...you die!" He fired a disc. Zell jumped out of its way, and the disc sliced the tree. The tree was falling, as they hit each other. Doosh! Zell hit him in the face - and it was a good one. Cadmium felt it good, and he fell, and the tree fell on him. "Noooo!" Crash.

Now he can't move. "No..."

Zell opened his palm. "Well, so much for conquering the world."

"No, have mercy!"

Zap. **Kaboom.**

No mercy for a Gladiator. Zelfire was done with his part. Now he wondered about the others...

"Good, I was hoping you'd get serious." Erika said.

Nickel: "Fine then, with my next move, I will finish you off." With that bold statement, both warriors waited patiently, waiting for the other to attack.

Erika gathered two balls into her hands, Nickel gathered energy into one ball in between his palms. He threw it at her. She jumped over it, and somersault on the

ground, landing on her knee. The ball blew up behind her. She fired two parallel beams. Zap. Nickel jumped out of its way. He fired a stream of balls. Erika ran for it.

Boom. Boom...

She coughed from the smoke. Nickel was already in the air, gathering energy for his next attack. He was filled with black energy and he was charging like a battery.

"Now, time to die, earthling. Say hello to your friends in hell."

Erika looked up. "My name is Erika..." And she flew up towards him. Frooom. Suddenly, the saber flew to her, and she caught it.

Nickel: "No way!"

Erika: "...And...you say hello to your friends in hell!"

Nickel fired his Dark Neutron Wave. It was a big black ball of negative energy, and it smashed into her. She threw the saber at him. Slash! It hit him in the chest, going in a few inches deep. Erika saw he got hit, and she was happy, even though the black ball was burning her. Her shirt got rips on it and she was bleeding.

As it pushed her down, the ball exploded.

Nickel landed and grunted painfully. He tried to pull the saber out. Suddenly, Erika appeared and pushed the saber deeper into his body. Schleb. It went through his back.

"Ugh..." he coughed blood on her face.

"Leave planet earth alone, Gladiator scum."

"Ugh..." The expression on his face turned from pain to anger. He tried to make on final attack, Erika saw it, and she blocked his arm. Zap! She hit his stomach.

Then he collapsed. She pulled the blade out of his chest. Soon, he was lying on his own pool of blood.

"You had this coming." Erika said, even though he was said. "Earth is not a battlefield. It is a place of peace, and we intend to keep it that way. Keep your wars and killing on your own turf."

Meanwhile...

Nebula dashed through the woods, slashing about. Kershaw dodged the blade. Whoosh. Whoosh. They jumped away, then did the stare.

"You earthlings are weaklings just like any other race. Eventually they all will become dominated by us!"

Nebula was extremely pissed off by now. Shadows from his hair covered the anger in his eyes. "First of all, punk, I am not an earthling. Second of all, we are not weaklings!" He gathered energy into his sword and it glowed.

"Tyson and Blazer were your only hope. But they're gone now! Ahahahaha! You're all done for."

"You got rid of them because you were afraid." Neb said.

Kershaw showed a grimace.

"Afraid that their power is better than yours. And without them, you'll still lose."

Kershaw gathered all the power he had into his right fist, and waited. Suddenly, they both jumped, Kershaw fired a ball. Kaboom! Both warriors went into the explosion, and came out.

Nebula and Kershaw landed. The suspense continued. Who got hit? Who is the victor?

The explosion faded away. Nebula coughed blood and fell on one knee.

Kershaw had a smirk on his face. But that smirk quickly turned into a grimace, as he felt the pain in his stomach. Blood dripped on the ground next to his toes. His stomach was hit badly, and he just realized his defeat. He collapsed and died.

Nebula put the sword back in its sheath, and walked on without looking back.

So far, three fights have concluded already. And that leaves only two more unresolved. Now we continue with Macintosh and Faith's predicament.

Cobalt and Mac exchanged some moves, and he overpowered Mac in physical strength and spirit power. Wham! Bam! Pow! Mac was getting hit left and right. The doctors didn't do a thing except cower in fear and scream. Doosh! Mac was jabbed in the stomach, and he couldn't move for a second.

"Ughs..."

Cobalt: "How does that feel, human?"

Mac: "You punk..." He fired the Electro-shockwave.

Cobalt jumped up, smashing through the ceiling, avoiding the beam. Then he came down on Macintosh's spot and hit him. Crash.

Now he was beat up and tasting the dirt.

Cobalt: "Heh, that should teach you a lesson to challenge me. Next is your woman friend."

"No...please..." Mac said, grabbing his foot.

Cobalt shook it off. "Don't worry, you can join her in hell soon enough."

Mac: "No...don't..."

Cobalt approached the hallway where room 213 was located - Faith's room. She was still unconscious, and couldn't wake up. Cobalt walked closer and closer. He opened the door.

Mac: "No damnit...I can't let her die. Faith, please wake up. Don't die."

Cobalt opened the door. The room was pretty dark. The blanket covered all of Faith, even the head. He pulled the blanket away, and there was no one underneath - nothing but pillows!

"Huh?" Cobalt said in surprise. What does this mean?

Faith, lying under the bed, knew it was the right time to make a surprise attack. She pushed the bed up, and it fell on him. Crash. She quickly jumped to the corner and summoned the Soul Sword.

Cobalt blasted through the bed. "Damn you."

She jumped at him and slashed. Doosh. He was knocked out of the room. Faith screamed and slashed, he blocked with the bracelets on his wrist. Clang. Cling.

He countered attack with a blast attack. Bam. Faith was knocked down.

"Heh, all you earthlings are pathetic."

Faith grunted.

Suddenly, Macintosh grabbed Cobalt by the waist. "What the hell?" the Gladiator shouted. Faith jumped up and slashed him. "NO! AHHH!"

It was over in an instant. Let's just say ...Cobalt is not half the man he used to be.

Mac: "Faye, you're alright!"

"Alive and kickin'." she said in a cheery voice.

"Thank God. I thought that creep was gonna kill you."

"No, you stalled him enough for me to wake up. You did a good job."

Mac blushed. "Heh, thanks. I'm surprised you can wake up so soon."

Faith: "It's all thanks to the Great Spirit of the forest." She held up a rose. "It's been protecting me for a long time now."

Blazer and Tyson kept on shooting beams at each other, as they dodged. Tyson was hit, and he fell against a meteor. Blazer continued his assault - he fired ten beams at once, exhausting a large amount of energy. Tyson flipped backwards, avoiding the beams as they blew up in front of him. Kazam - kazam!

"Enough, Blazer!" Tyson shouted. But it was still no use. He was still in denial that Blazer would still have some humanity (or sayanity) left in him... Tyson took a good look at the earth. If he doesn't do something soon, neither he nor Blazer would be able to return. Then he'd never see his family again. Family?

Suddenly, Tyson thought of Faith and Junior. His own family. "I can't die here, not yet!" he said.

Blazer flew at him head on. Tyson put his palms together and gathered energy. "Energy Blast!" he said, and fired. Boom.

Blazer blocked with one arm. It wasn't enough, so he used his second arm. The beam pushed him higher. Finally, he was able to neutralize it, but Tyson appeared behind him and hit him. Wham. As he was falling, Tyson kept hitting him. Doosh, doosh, doosh, doosh.

Blazer fell straight into the meteorite. Bam. Smoke appeared. Tyson landed on the meteorite to catch up on his breath. Suddenly, rocks flew away, Blazer was still standing. His gold aura was still bright. But his hair flashed black and gold.

"Damn it! You're going to run out of energy and die. You gotta listen to me."

The sayan charged and punched. Tyson dodged and hit him in the chest. Doosh. Blazer's eyes showed a little change. It was a critical hit. Blazer was pushed back, and he put his hand over his chest. "You...must...die."

"Idiot..."

They charged. Froom. Tyson's fist hit the side of Blazer's head. They went past each other, and paused for a moment.

The metal plate on his head cracked, then shattered, and drifted away into space. Blazer collapsed on his knees.

Tyson, just standing there, could feel the change in his friend's presence. He turned around, with a feeling of surprise.

Blazer stood up, and rubbed his head. "What happened?" he said in a trance-like state. "Tyson? How did we get here? What are we doing in space?!"

"No time to explain! We have to get back to earth immediately. C'mon."

Tyson flew towards the blue sphere, and Blazer followed.

Once they entered the earth's atmosphere, they started to burn up. Tyson was having a hard time navigating through it. "Ugh...damn it..." His energy almost ran out.

Suddenly, Blazer grabbed his hand, and gave him some of his energy. Now their shields have become one. Tyson looked at Blazer and smiled.

"Phew, that was a close one." Tyson said, as him and Blazer stared at the ocean scenery.

The sun was about to set.

"Tyson...I want to apologize for what happened."

"Huh...Oh don't mention it, it was nothing."

"No, it wasn't nothing. My careless action could've cost us our lives."

Tyson was trying to be positive about it, and Blazer knew that. Nonetheless, he still felt guilty.

"But we didn't die. Everything turned out okay." Tyson said.

Blazer looked at him, and smiled. "Yeah, it did." It was so rare to see him smile, so Tyson smiled too. Tyson Spade always wanted to help people; it was just part of his nature. Seeing Blazer finally open up...even if it's a little bit, made Tyson himself feel better. Maybe all that trouble was worth it after all.

[Split screen - 4] Nebula, Erika, Zelfire, and Faith could sense Tyson's presence. Neb: "Well I'll be damned, he made it after all. And Blazer is with him too."

"I knew they could do it." Zelfire said, appearing from the woods.

Neb looked at him with surprise. Looks like Zelfire won his one on one duel as well.

"By the way," Tyson said. "How did you know Chromium?"

"It's a long story. Those Gladiators are sons of bitches. They were around for a few decades, making trouble on every planet they set foot on. According to my data, they originally started out as a bunch of bandits on planet. They seek to grow in power, so they gathered more and more members. They went out to planet **R-1** to challenge other clans, and their popularity grew. And soon enough, they became powerful enough that no one was able to challenge them. Led by Chromium and his lacky, Hurricane, they went from planet to planet, kidnapping warriors they deemed 'worthy' and make them fight against each other. And one day, by chance, I ran into them. Or should I say, they found me. It happened on planet **R-2**. Just like what

happened to you, the exact same thing happened to me. One day they just showed up out of nowhere and forced me to fight in their tournament. Of course, I resisted, but I was given only two choices - fight or die. I didn't have much choice, did I? After a series of fights, Chromium himself challenged me. And we had a life and death battle." Chromium and a younger Blazer attacked each other. They were both bleeding in various places. "And that is when he nearly beat me to death. And suddenly, the need to survive, and the fear of death became so great that I unleashed a power I have never seen before - the super sayan power. It was the first time I transformed; all the Gladiators were shocked. I beat Chromium in front of his men."

Wham! Blazer kicked Chromium in the chest, which caused him to fall splat on the ground. The tyrant tried hard to stand up. Blazer landed.

Chromium: "No...this can't be."

"That was too easy. Is that all you have to offer?" said the cocky sayan. He moved forward, and Chromium moved backward.

"No, wait. Don't do it. Please! I beg of you."

"Hmmp. How pathetic. A Gladiator begging for his life. Well, what can I expect from the likes of you people?"

"Spare me, please. Have some mercy!" He reluctantly got on his knees.

"Fine. Promise me you'll never, ever challenge anyone again. Disband the Gladiators immediately. And I better not see you again either."

"Yes, of course, oh mighty Blazer. You have my word." Chromium said.

"You better." Blazer said with a distrusting face. He flew up, his face not changing.

"That son of a bitch ignored my orders. So I gave him a farewell present."

"I see." Tyson said. "You have an impressive history of experience, is that right?"

"You don't even know the half of it."

And thus, with the last thought, ends this saga of the Power Force. Tyson goes back home with Faith, and their beloved son, Junior. But it's not a completely perfect ending. Junior, Amanda, and Rocket were punished for their 'mistake,' and believe me, they paid big time. They had to do chores for the next two months, and they can't complain about it.

The kids were sweeping the leaves off the ground. They were tired and annoyed.

"Geez." Rocket said. "I can't believe we have to do this shit. This is all your fault, Junior."

Junior: "Well, no one told you to come with me."

Rocket: "You and your stupid ideas..."

"Stop complaining, guys. You should learn to look at the bright side of things." Amanda said as she telekinetically controlled the broom's movements. It was sweeping the leaves by itself. She was smiling, which irritated the boys.

Rocket: "Of course you're not complaining, Amanda. You're cheating! You're using your psychic abilities to do the work for you; you don't even have to lift a finger."

Amanda: "It's not my fault you don't have these abilities."

The kids kept arguing and arguing, so loudly that the eavesdroppers can hear them. Unnoticed, Tyson, Faith, and Nebula were watching them behind some trees.

Neb: "Goodness...they haven't learned anything, have they?"

Tyson: "Geez...what are we gonna do with them?"

Faith: "They'll learn. Someday. Kids grow up fast."

End.

Finished 5/06

Edited 3/07

| Characters | | |
|----------------|-----------------------------|-------------|
| Name | Role | Personality |
| Chromium | Lord of the Gladiators | A |
| Hurricane | Champion of the Gladiators | A |
| Noric | Underling | T |
| Silver Nitrate | Tyson's cellmate and friend | S |
| Enertia Enyzme | Dictator of R-10 | S |
| Genome | Enyzme's commander | T |
| Protein | " | T |
| RN | " | S |
| Mito | " | T |
| Viral | " | R |
| Taurus | Leader of the Revolution | A |
| Orion | Taurus's commander | R |
| Kiyo | " | S |
| Chloro | " | R |
| Kershaw | Stray Gladiator | A |
| Cadmium | " | T |
| Nickel | " | S |
| Cobalt | " | T |

Summary:

Tyson and Faith are teleported unwillingly to outer space, in the Coliseum, where Gladiators challenge worthy foes. Tyson refuses to fight and is imprisoned.

Chromium, their leader, feels that Faith has hidden powers that are dying to be shown. He gives Faith a drug that alters her feelings, and makes her anger, jealousy, and hatred grow beyond control. He convinces her that Tyson is cheating on her, with Lisa. Faith loses all sense of righteousness and goes on a killing spree in Planet Raptor, where the people are rebelling against their tyrannous leader, Enzyme. Faith kills the rebel leader, Taurus, which destroys all hopes for the people.

Then Tyson is ordered to fight, after his friend Silver Nitrate dies in the ring. He kills Hurricane, then meets his next opponent, Faith. Shocked as he is, he tries to convince her that he's not cheating on her. After the horrible battle, Faith loses all her anger and joins her lover once again. Together, they beat the crap out of Gladiator, and he flees, but is killed by Blazer. Then he blows up the Coliseum.

Just before Gladiator is killed, the super kids, Jr., Amanda, and Rocket decide to play with Blazer's teleportation chamber. Consequently, they are transported to planet Raptor, coincidentally. There, they fight giant monsters for survival. Then they meet Enzyme, and he wants to know the secret of Amanda's powers. The boys rescue Amanda and flee to the rebel camps, where it's safe. Tyson finds out about this and goes to planet Raptor to save the kids. He fights all of Enzyme's agents and Enzyme himself.

On Earth, one of the members of the Gladiators survives the explosion and challenges the heroes. Erika, Nebula, Mac and Faith fight for their lives, until Blazer shows up to make things right. Kershaw flees and regroups with other survivors of the Gladiators. (Kershaw, Cobalt, Nickel, Cadmium) They develop a sinister plan that will allow them to take over Earth. Blazer goes to stop them, but in carelessness, a device is stuck on his head and he faints. When he wakes up, he is under Kershaw's control. Tyson returns to Earth and find out about this. Blazer and Tyson end up fighting in space.