

Part 6: Into Darkness

Damien couldn't believe his eyes, nor the feeling on his body. The temperature was starting to go up, and the further he went through the tunnels the warmer it became. At first he had not taken much notice of it, until he took a break from training- "*What the hell is...*" - he felt some strange energy coming from around a bend and went to investigate-

B-man wiped the sweat from his brow- "why is it getting so hot all of a sudden? I thought you said this thing was extinct" -Sky hissed as he responced- "I bet Wolf is doing something, what is easier to use to kill people?" B-man frowned- "he wants to set this thing off, killing us and most of the people in those whole area."

Sky growled- "who would take notice if a volcano went off" -they both stopped feeling another life force- "here it...comes?" -B-man blinked then smiled- "Damien! Thank god!" -the Rhinos massive form came into view- "Hello boys, fancy meeting you here." -he blinked as his eyes focused- "Brandon, your wounds they have, wait you two have been fighting" -he looked passed them- "why are you two here?" -Sky hissed once more explaining-

Damien couldn't believe his ears- "a demon? really?" -he gave the two boys a rather skeptical look- "sure, and the tooth fairy is really as well"-Damien's answer came in the form of a sudden rumble in the ground-"what in the?" -B-man couldn't help but lean on the wall for support, then recoil holding his shoulder- "the walls they are getting hot"

-Damien blinked then reached out touching, it didn't effect him as much due to his thick hide - "you are right, and it is getting warmer" - Sky turned in one direction- "the energy is coming from there" - Damien blinked- "you felt it as well?" -Damien blinked as the ground shuddered once more- "maybe you two should fill me in on this Demon"

-B-man winced then looked down at his side, then looked over at the wall, he quickly lifted up his shirt then pressed his side into the wall- "B! What the hell are you doing?!" -B-man stepped back wincing slightly, due to the heat some of the blood had stopped flowing- "this

will have to due for now I guess, my bandages are almost soaked through"

-Damien put a hand on the humans shoulder- "Sky and I will take care of this, you should rest" -B-man shrugged off the hand- "like hell I will, it's my fault I didn't make sure he was dead to begin with" -Sky blinked, Damien took it at face value- "you let this thing get away?" - Sky moved between the two- "B, you weren't even conscious when you used that blast on Wolf"

Damien blinked- "B, Is that why you ran away? To find this demon?" - B-man looked at the two, desperation in his eyes- "We don't have time for this, Wolf is going to blow this whole place to bits and people are going to die because of it" -Sky frowned-"you blamed yourself for their deaths?" -Damien grunted- "sounds like you didn't have a choice" -B-man turned back to them- "listen, lets talk about this after we finish him off that bastard once and for all"

-Sky sighed then nodded- "right, we can talk about it over the funeral" -Damien shook his head some as he followed the two, the deeper they went into the tunnels the hotter it became. Sweat was dripping off their bodies at that point, when they arrived at a wall that had not been there before." Fresh lava? but how?" -Damien questioned- "is this demon that versatile?"

Sky shrugged- "who knows what he has learned in these five years, think we can blast through it?" -Damien shrugged some- "what have we got to loose?" -B-man moved back getting into a fighting stance, ready to use the Haou ShouKou-Ken, Sky did the same. Damien huffed- "in for a penny in for a pound"

-Sky mirrored his friends stance- "once we blast it open, we all charge in. Hopefully we can catch him off guard" -the others nodded- "three... two...one...Now!" -they fired causing a massive hole to open up at least two hundred feet long, this confused them as to why the damage would be so precise. "this doesn't feel right..." -Sky said as they slowly moved into the foot ball stadium sized cavern-

Heat waves rose up from the ground, but what took their notice were the large odd shaped crystals from various points inside- "jeeze, look at the size of those things" -Damien stepped back marvelling at the

sight- "wow, it's beautiful" -they group made their way deeper into the cavern, It was beautiful but it was not at all natural-

"B, this doesn't feel right..." -the boys stepped forward slowly then felt something strange- "I can feel the energy all around me, but I can't pin point it. what about you Damien? Damien? -they both turned slowly to be struck from behind, they crashed to the floor then rolled back onto their feet - "oh god no...Sky, He's got Damien!"

-Damien had a grin on his face, the voice was Wolfs- "he had me all along..." -Sky and B-man jumped into their stances, a traditional KyoKugenRyu type. Sky growled as he spoke- "This time Wolf, I'm... WE are going beat you down!" -B-man grabbed at Skys wrist- "we can't risk using energy attacks or this place might go up"

-the ground shuddered once more, Wolf couldn't help but laugh- "tick tock tick tock boys, time is a wasting" -just as Wolf finished speaking Sky and B-man attacked, their movements mirrored each other as if they had not been apart for that amount of time- "This again?" -Wolf grinned as Damiens body took on a more reptilian look, he was about to lash out with an energy blast then both boys vanished- "what?!"

Sky appeared coming from the right- "Hien! Shipuu-Kayku!" -Wolf was just about to dodge when he heard a yell from his left, too late to react the full force body blow from B-man came as a shock to his system. The following attack from Sky's double kick sent Wolf flying out of control into pillars of rock-

B-man winced feeling his body protest- "we have to end this quickly, I don't know how much my body can take this" -Sky looked at his friend, he could feel the guilt creeping into his system- "B, I..." -B-man grunted- "Lets hit this guy with everything we've got, think you can keep up? -he grinned yet still sweating from a mixture of the heat and the pain he was under- "Lets finish this"

-Wolf growled, snorting what looks like pure black mist from his nostrils - "B, I'll distract him and you try to nail him with that super move of yours" -B-man grunted trying to focus on Wolf, Sky started the attack going into a full bore fun at Wolf, who was preparing to fire off a similar energy blast like Damien had before when fighting B-man-

Sky front flipped landed on his hands and pushed off, his nails were already glowing. Wolf grunted firing off the blast anyway, but B-man was already moving in a zig zag pattern towards the demon- "Die you Bastard!" -Sky came down on Wolf who raised his left arm to block, only to have to sliced off as if it were cheese.

Wolf howled starting to twist his body, but it was too late B-man was already on him lashing out as hard as he could- "Chou! KyoKugenRyu Ougi!" -after the furious melee of punches and kicks, Sky joined in as well finishing off the combination. Wolf shot upwards into the air from the double rising uppercuts-

Both boys landed already gathering energy- "Haou!" -Mirroring their movements they combined their energies then fired just before Wolf hit the ground- "ShouKou-Ken!" -the recoil threw both of them backwards, but the explosion caused them to tumble into the rubble of the opening they had created-

Wolf howled out enraged just before the energy collided with him, bits of rock, and hardened lava showered the area. Sky got up first brushing the pebbles out of his hair- "did we do it?" -B-man leaning on Sky for support- " I can't sense him, man I'm thrashed" -Sky nodded- "it will be over soon I know it will" -the ground sundered again but not as badly-

-B-man was just about to say something then he felt it, he jerked quickly then shoved Sky out of the way as Wolf burst out with a roar- " I will not die!" -B-man tried to get out of the way but his right leg was grabbed, he was just about to fire off a energy blast into Wolfs face but was flung to the side. Out of control he smashed into a wall high above that gave way from the impact-

Sky grunted rushing towards his fallen friend, only to get stopped short as Wolf came up from the ground. Black veins of blood ran down his face and body- "Your turn feline" -Sky back flipped to gain some distance, he hissed- "Bastard get out of my way" -Wolf grinned, Sky felt as if those blood red eyes were boring into his very soul-

"It must be maddening to have a rival that you know is much stronger than you" -Sky paused- "you...were Damien during that fight as well?" -Wolf never took his eyes off him- "oh yes, as usual that human

wanted to make things a test of skill not strength" -Sky turned ruddy with anger, but the response he gave Wolf gave him satisfaction-

"Because without me, he would have never had been able to reach that level." -Sky smiled like that of a predator- "come on!" -Sky leapt towards Wolf, meanwhile in a small cave B-man groaned. He felt as if his body weighed a ton, brilliant light flooded into his vision. He rose slowly looking up at the large elegant crystalline structures around him.

-he heard fighting again- "oh no.. Sky..." -he groaned turning to see the hole had been closed up by fallen rocks and hardened lava, using all the will he had left he rose and tried to move what he could. " Sky! I'm coming! just hold on!" -he dug away then lashed out with the Burn Knuckle technique but was unable to get enough strength to make a hole big enough for him to get out-

As the dust cleared he looked down, Sky was holding his own and was doing some damage to Wolf with his special cutting technique- "Die you son of bitch!" -Sky leapt up ready to deal the final blow, Wolf looked up in horror then grinned, it was too late Skys face stopped just inches from Wolfs, the energy in Skys hands slowly faded, then his body was jerked back-

-Sky felt all feeling start to leave he body as he looked down, protruding from his stomach more than a foot in diameter was a lizard like tail. Skys head lulled back slightly, tears ran down his cheeks as he laughed some then was flung to the side near the entrance created like a rag doll. B-man yelled out his friends name-

"One down, one to go" -a demonic grin spread across Wolfs face as he turned in B-mans direction- "come down and meet your fate!" -the rubble blew outwards as B-man burst out, in mid air he spun front flipping to land close by Wolf. He attacked as hard as he could only to get swiped away by the tip of Wolfs tail.

B-man landed hard close to Sky, he could feel the sting on the right side of his face. Worst was that he could feel and taste the still warm blood of his friend- "Sky, It's okay. I'll get us out of this" -he got up and crawled over to his friends body, he reached out to touch his friends arm. Despite the heat of the cavern Skys body was already

cold, B-man got to his knees nudging his friend- "Sky, come on get up... you...you have too..."

Wolf howled out with laughter- "Alone once more eh human?" -Wolf stomped over to the middle of the cavern- "And soon everyone will cry out my name and beg for mercy" -B-man slowly got up shadows hiding his eyes- "good boy, now just stand there and die for me" -the damaged left shoulder portion of B-mans t-shirt tore away and vaporized-

Wolf blinked as he felt energy beginning to rise- "that will not help you, no matter how strong you get I shall always be stronger!" -B-man whirled on Wolf, eyes narrowed at the demon before him, Wolf blinked as he could see even from that distance the glow in the humans pupils. "Now pray that you die easy!" -Wolf howled, about to unleash his own attack-

B-man let off a groan as energy slowly began to build, the beginnings of a white/blue aura began to form. Wolf stopped in mid step about to launch his attack when he noticed the wrist bands on the humans body give way first, they almost seeming to shatter like glass. Wolf stepped back slightly not sure what to expect, what was this feeling he had?-

-B-man brought his arms up and close to his chest before swinging them out and up flexing his biceps doing so caused the upper portion of his t-shirt and undershirt to give way, blood soaked bandages followed next splitting as his muscles flexed before thrusting his arms out yelling that much louder causing the entire shirt to shred and blow off , the fabric vaporizing instantly from the pure force and energy flowing off B-mans body-

He brought his right arm up hand clenched tightly into a fist before thrusting it down to Wolfs shocked amazement, " AATAAAH!" -he continued to yell as the ground started to crack then give way as fissures of energy and lava combined. Wolf felt his body go weightless for a few seconds as the ground gave way.

The demon howled out just before being drowned out by a combined energy and lava geyser, the pure force threw B-man backwards along with the body of his friend, then everything went dark. In those last moments he could see whispers of dark energy rise up from the

molten lava pit, then he mercifully lost consciousness.

Clouds were already becoming darker, tendrils of black vapour rose up from the cracks of the volcano, Wolf grinned holding a deep green stone. *"Thank you human, now I shall repay the gods ten fold for my exile "* - Gem in hand Wolf flew upwards throughout the clouds, blood red eyes gleaming.-