

Chapter 3

“Behind you!” The halberd wielder barked. Zaxvo didn’t hesitate, and quickly rolled off to the side. The figure’s halberd sliced cleanly through a Pawzert.

Zaxvo brought up the short mace he carried and swung it into a second Pawzert.

“About time you arrived, Lanii! I was going to be Pawzert-bones! What took you so long?” Zaxvo yelled at Lanii in the thick of the battle.

“I call it being fashionably late,” Lanii grinned. Zaxvo cut the power cords on yet another Pawzert.

“How many of these things are there, anyway?”

“If you want to know how many of these there are, you might want to ask Mr. Gold over there.” Lanii pointed with one hand, and swung her halberd with the other, disconnecting a Pawzert head from its body.

“Of course! You’re a genius Lanii!” Zaxvo leapt up, kicked a Pawzert in the face with his spiked feet, then activated his mask of stealth.

“I know,” Lanii smiled. Suddenly, she ducked, whirled and finished off the last 3 Pawzerts. “Better go back Zaxvo up,” she said to herself.

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Amid the tangled wires, shards of armour, cracked masks and Toa tools, the golden-armoured commander stood, unchallenged. He had sneer on his face, as if daring Toa to attack him. Suddenly, a blue and yellow armoured Toa appeared in front of his face, startling him.

“What the-” He yelped, astonished. This Toa had silver armour as well, along with a silver kanohi. *That’s impossible! The only Toa with those colours was Zaxvo himself, the master had said so. So how was he down here?* The commanding officer glanced up at the battlement where he and Zaxvo had conversed, and to his surprise, there was no one there.

“Surprise,” the Toa said dryly, no humour at all in his tone. He raised the dual-bladed staff he held, and the Pawzert smiled.

“Behind you!” Lanii’s voice rang through the battle, a warning. Instinctively, Zaxvo rolled to the side and the Pawzert’s katana came down on air. Annoyed, the red Pawzert looked around, searching for his opponent. “Over here, Scum!” The red turned around and saw Lanii. He chased after her, swinging his katana at her. Lanii swung her halberd, shocked as the red Pawzert blocked it. *I didn’t know Reds had that much IQ.* She thought. But then there was no time to think. She ducked, whirled, and swung her halberd in the intense battle. “You are pretty good, you know?” she said, addressing the Pawzert. Then she ducked, slid, and kicked upwards, effectively knocking it over and disarming it. “But I am better,” she grinned. She stood, reached down and pulled out its power and nerve cables. Then she swung her halberd a last time, beheading it. She stood triumphant, watch the last of the battle. She glimpsed a Toa go down underneath a mob of blues, and felt the loss of the TrueToa. She hurried over towards that area, meeting up with another Toa, wielding twin razorblades.

“A Toa is in trouble, Lanii,” He said, nodding to her. “We must help, or seek revenge if he has already passed on.”

"I know, Akura. I saw him go down in the eastern area." She replied. "I'll help you."

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Meanwhile, Zaxvo turned back to the Gold Pawzert.

"You're dead, you know that, right?" He asked. "We TrueToa don't take well to being threatened." Zaxvo swung his long staff at the Pawzert, getting it blocked by the Pawzert's blades. *Exactly where I want him.* Zaxvo grinned inwardly. Outwardly, he pretended to struggle. He gave a half-turn, and brought his short bladed mace crashing down on the commander's head. He discharged some Electricity into the Pawzert, and then pulled out the power and nerve cables. He grinned, crushed the cables underfoot, and, after insuring there were no spare cables, and lifted the Pawzert, intending to take him for analysis. *The battle looks just about over, I'll let them retreat and call the TrueToa inside.* He thought. *<All right, let them Retreat!>* He gave the command. *What a Battle,* He thought. Unbeknownst to him though, the TrueToa had suffered fateful losses.