

## Chapter 6

Hozil woke up, looking into the worried eyes of 3 Toa, some of the most important Toa in his life. General Zaxvo, Toa of Electricity and his mentor, Commander Tikaro, Toa of Fire and his best friend, and Doctor Ionus, Toa of Ice and his favourite teacher. They all looked worried. Tikaro sighed.

“Good. You’ll be alright. I know it.” Zaxvo smiled.

“It’ll take some getting used to, though.” He stated worriedly.

“I’ll have at the training grounds as soon as he can walk, Zaxvo,” Ionus said, grinning. “Oh, and don’t worry, it’s deactivated.” The Doctor continued, referring to the mechanical mass that had replaced Hozil’s left arm.

*A gun!* Hozil thought in shock, glancing where his left arm used to be. “How did this get here?” Hozil asked, puzzled. Ionus smiled.

“After you passed out, Zaxvo came in, checking on everyone like he normally does after a battle. He noticed your arm and-“

“And called me and told me to bring the 3M-Duo down here,” Tikaro interrupted. ]

“When Tikaro brought the Duo down, we operated and fused various wires and bars, and motors to your nerves, muscles and bones.”

“I told Dr. Ionus and Tikaro what to fuse to what, and he and Tikaro did the job. I helped out, making sure the electricity could run freely from nerve to wire, muscle, and motor.” Zaxvo added. “I hope it’s working fine.” He added nervously. Hozil frowned. “If it’s not working, I’m coming after you!” he joked, relieving the tension. Dr. Ionus smiled.

“Well, then, You’d better rest so you can get the training grounds and test it out.”

He said, his voice filled with concern. Hozil nodded, lay down, and promptly fell asleep. Dr. Ionus motioned Zaxvo and Tikaro, and stepped into the main room.

“Zaxvo, I’ll have him up and ready to go in a few hours. Maybe 3-4, so be at the training grounds to show him what it does,” Dr. Ionus informed Zaxvo, his voice low. Zaxvo nodded.

“Ok, I’ll be there. I just want to check out the Cordak blaster where Hozil was stationed first. Thank you for all your help, doctor. I’ll see you later.” Zaxvo said, heading for the door. “Tikaro, can you come with me please?” Zaxvo requested Tikaro. Tikaro nodded and followed him out the door. Standing in front of the door to the infirmary, leaning against the rough stone wall, was Toa Zaxvo. Zaxvo turned his head and looked at Tikaro. “What’s with you and Hozil?” He asked. Tikaro smiled.

“Oh, nothing. We’re just best of friends.”

“Oh. Good. He’d do well to be your best friend.” Zaxvo said, sighing. “Teach him Tikaro. Teach him all you know of the ways of the TrueToa. He will take my place one day, and I want the TrueToa to have a great leader.” Zaxvo ordered, his voice strange.

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Up on the battlements, a Toa stood over a ruined Cordak Blaster mounted on the wall.

“Nice shot,” He murmured to himself, examining the twisted and burnt metal. Just then, Zaxvo walked up the stairs towards the battlement. Activating his Great Huna, the Toa turned and walked straight past Zaxvo. As Zaxvo neared the destroyed Cordak blaster, he thought he sensed someone near him. Looking around, he shuddered, for he saw no one. Upon examining the ruined blaster, he could envision what had happened.

A brown pawzert would have raised his Cordak blaster, taking aim. Hozil might have not noticed and kept firing into the pawzert ranks. The brown pawzert had fired, and Hozil had spotted the Cordak rocket. He had used his left hand to quickly aim and fire, at what Zaxvo did not know. If he was aiming for the rocket, then he missed, as he still lost his arm. But if Hozil had been aiming at the brown pawzert, well, Zaxvo thought he could spot pieces of brown armour in a spot with a perfect line of fire towards this blaster. Anyways, the Cordak rocket must have hit the blaster and exploded and taking Hozil’s left arm with it. Even now Zaxvo could see a piece of what looked like a green left hand fused to the blaster.

Shuddering for the second time in as many minutes, Zaxvo turned and headed back down the stairs back into Gradis Aesdar.

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In the training room, Zaxvo waited. After a few minutes, Hozil came into the room, behind Zaxvo.

“You’re late,” Zaxvo growled, not moving a bit. “Come here.” Hozil walked over, unsure. “Hurry up! I’m not going to bite you, you know.” Zaxvo said. Hozil smiled.

*That’s more like it,* Hozil thought, smiling. He walked over to Zaxvo and stopped right next to him.

“OK, here we go.” Zaxvo said, pressing a button. A target rose on the far wall. “The 3M-Duo has 3 types of bullets. You can use a good ol’ laser beam, which can be focused, naturally. You can use a pair of hypodermic Darts, but you’ve only got two, so you should either have good marksmanship or carry extras with you. I recommend the first option. The third and final type of bullet you can use it a Cordak bullet. Again, you’ve only got 2 of those,” Zaxvo said, starting the training.

“I am so not going to use the Cordak bullets, not after what happened to me.” Hozil stated, eyes showing miniscule amounts of fear.

*It might be in miniscule amounts, but it’s still there,* Zaxvo noted. “I didn’t think so. That’s why I’ve disabled the Cordak function and removed the Cordak bullets themselves. So technically, you are using the one and only 2M-Duo. If you want, I can put customised, acidic Cordak bullets in instead.” Zaxvo offered.

“No thanks. I like having the one and only model of something. How do you shoot this thing anyways?” Hozil wanted to know. Zaxvo smiled.

“Wow. So eager. I’ll tell you how to shoot it once you point it somewhere other than at me.”

“Oh. Oops.” Hozil said, blushing. On a green mask, it was something to see indeed. Hozil turned and pointed the 2M-Duo at the target on the wall.

“Here. Put this mask on.” Zaxvo said, handing Hozil a mask.

“Why? It looks exactly the same as mine!” Hozil protested. Zaxvo smiled.

“It may look exactly like yours, and may do exactly what yours does, but it does a few other things as well. For example, it has a mike in the inside, for voice recognition. Put that on and say ‘sights’ and you get your laser sight turned on.” Zaxvo told Hozil. Hozil beamed.

“Really? Cool!” Hozil put the mask on. “Hey, there’s a secondary scope in here too!” Hozil exclaimed, jubilant. Zaxvo smiled.

“Yep,” He said. “That’s for when you don’t want to waste your breath or you don’t need pinpoint accuracy. The laser sight uses a type of laser only visible through the visor on your mask, so don’t worry about your enemies seeing it.” Zaxvo finished.

“Sweet! This is one awesome mask and gun you’ve put together, Zaxvo. Thanks a bunch!” Hozil said in gratitude.

“Oh, but you’re missing the most important part. Turn around please.” Zaxvo instructed. After Hozil turned around, Zaxvo lowered a clamp from the back of the mask onto the back of Hozil’s head. “Point it over there and imagine the gun shooting.” Hozil did as instructed, and to his surprise, the laser burned a hole straight through the target.

“I get it to stop!” Hozil yelled.

“It’s all based on your brain waves. You want it to stop, it’ll stop.” Zaxvo yelled back.

*Stop shooting*, Hozil thought, and the 2M-Duo stopped shooting. “Awesome!” Hozil breathed.