

A Hidden Power

By Limerickx

This story takes place after the Buu Saga

CHAPTER 1

Shin-kikoho!!!

Tien's yell echoed through the canyon where Krillin and he were training. The beam shot at Krillin, who leaped to the side in an effort to dodge it. The edges of the beam were close enough to send him reeling.

'Whoa, careful Tien!' Krillin yelled up at him as he straightened himself upright. 'We're sparring, not trying to kill each other.'

'The only type of sparring is the type that tests yourself!' Tien yelled at Krillin.

Suddenly, Krillin leapt towards Tien's face. In a blinding movement, he disappeared moments before hitting Tien's guarding arm. In a flash he was behind Tien. Krillin lashed towards his head with a kick, but the foot of Tien smashed into his spine.

'Wha...!' Krillin sputtered, as he stopped his decent. In an instant, Tien flew at Krillin. Krillin dodged his punch, and then threw one of his own. Tien was sent speeding to the ground.

'Wait...!' Krillin thought to himself. 'Tien would never let that hit him. Not the Tien I...'

A flash of pain came over Krillin as he was sent flying to the ground as Tien rammed into his back. Suddenly, realization came over him. 'You've used the Shinnoken technique!' he thought to himself. In a flash, he was being battered by the three figures. For every fifteen punches he blocked, one hit his face. For every ten kicks he dodged, one made it through to his gut. He was losing energy, and knew he had only one chance. He blasted away from the trio as fast as he could, flying towards the nearest canyon wall. One of the Tien's shot a kikoho at his fleeing back.

'Well... I only have one chance now.....Kakusandan!' A massive beam leapt from Krillin's arms, throwing him upward just in time to avoid the kikoho.

'It'll take more than quick ki reflexes to stop me Krillin!' yelled the Tien who sent the beam.

'Ah Tien,' Krillin yelled back. 'It's been far too long since you last saw me fight.'

A bright beam smashed into the Tien that had thrown the taunt. Two more flew to the others. Krillin had split his beam seconds after it entered the ground, and he was suddenly on the offensive.

The Tien that was hit fell to the ground, unconscious. The other two flew towards Krillin, beams trailing them closely. They combined into one as they lead the beams in twisting patterns. Suddenly, he veered towards Krillin. Krillin swung his arms around, making the beams follow.

'There's nothing you can do Tien!' Krillin yelled as the beams slowly gained on his opponent.

'Is that right....TAIYOKEN!' A bright light erupted from Tien's fingers, crossed over his eyes. Krillin's hands flew to his face, which felt as if it was on fire from the brilliant light

CHAPTER 2

Krillin woke up to find Tien sitting at a fire he had made cooking something.

'Wha..... what happened?' Krillin asked. All I remember is you flying towards me, and then using your taiyoken attack.

'Hm.....' Tien said. 'If you remember correctly, I was flying towards you. Your beams were after me. It was a small matter to zanzoken around you, leaving your own body a perfect target for your own attack.'

'Next time, I won't fall for that,' Krillin said. 'I'll be ready.'

'That's why we've been out here for the past year,' Tien said. 'While all the *real* warriors are sitting on their asses, as usual, we've decided to train harder than ever. The sayjins are unbeatable; their bodies were built to fight. But we humans have to have a limit, someplace where we can go up to. I've got to reach it. Ever since Vegeta first landed on Earth, we've been playing second fiddle. I've tried to keep my training up, but to no avail.'

'Ah Tien, don't go so hard on yourself. You're by far the strongest human on Earth. That's not TOO bad.'

'Thanks for training with me Krillin. Unfortunately, Chaotsu isn't nearly strong enough, and all Yaumcha cares about is picking up girls. It's good to have a real partner to challenge.'

'Ah, it's nothing. 18 was happy to let me get the chance to get stronger.'

Suddenly, a voice shot through the heads of Krillin and Tien.

'Quick! Come to Kami's lookout! It's urgen.....'

'What!' Tien jumped to his feet. 'That was Dende. He was trying to tell us something, but got cut off. What happened?'

'I don't know, but maybe we'd better check it out,' Krillin said.

They flew off from their camp, while unknown to them; a darkness was coming upon the land.