

Betrayal of Friendship

This story was written by Justin Kelley. All thoughts and comments can be sent to JD Kelley18@aol.com. This story involves strong language, violence, death and other subjects of a very mature nature. If these subjects offend you, do not read the story. Well, here we go.

Chapter 11: Fall of the first.

Gohan layed into Tenshinhan with a strong kick. The triclops was sent back several feet, and gripped his side, where the boot had landed.

"So, I see you're not quite as strong as you made yourself out to be. What's wrong, Tenshinhan? Afraid?"

"Afraid? You speak of fear, when you've never known it? Well, perhaps I can beat some *fear* into you, boy, then you'll have right to speak of it!"

With a scream, Tenshinhan began to power up. Gohan got into a battle stance, and flew at Tien, before he was finished collecting energy. He drew back his right hand, and thrust it forward, smashing into the mouth of his opponet. His eyes lit up with pain, and he drew it back. His glove had been burned in places, and the flesh beneath it was blistered.

"What the hell..."

"Ha ha! So, Gohan, how do you like my ability to redirect physical energy into a defensive measure? I think it's a very useful ability."

Gohan hung in the air, rubbing his hand.

"Physical, huh? Well, try this one!"

Gohan put his hand out, and fired a small orb. It expanded as it came to Tenshinhan. The giant laughed, and covered the front of his body with a blue ki shield. The shot was absorbed into it, then fired back out. Gohan's eyebrows shot up, as the golden ball smashed into his chest. He screamed in pain as his body flew backwards, smoking.

"Did I forget to mention I've developed a technique that redirects ki energy? You know, you really shouldn't underestimate the greatest fighting innovator ever!"

Gohan slowed his body down, and looked at Tien. Thoughts slowly drifted through his mind about how he was going to beat him, if no attack could harm him.

"Tien, you know as well as I do that my father is better than you!"

Tien burned with anger at that, the greatest of insults to him. He tore through the air, leaving a long, burning tail of ki. He punched a blur of Gohan, and reeled in pain as an elbow was driven into his neck. Before he could use his physical technique, he felt Gohan fly to his side, and fire off several ki blasts. They burned into his clothes, but not through, as he began to push his own ki out, to weaken the blasts. He turned to punch, but was rewarded with a boot into his face.

Tenshinhan's body fell to the ground, and remained there for some time. Gohan stood close at hand, collecting his breath. It was obvious: Tenshinhan's new techniques could not be used at the same time. Now, it was all a matter of keeping it switched up, so he could get attacks in.

"Bastard boy..." Tien sighed as he tried to stand up, still dazed from the attack.

"Wrong, I know who my father is, Son Goku, the greatest warrior alive!"

Gohan stretched both hands out, which lit up bright white, and turned the ground where Tien lay into a blaze of ki fire. The ground shook, and rocks exploded upwards, as Gohan pushed the ground he was attacking further down. He stopped long enough to collect a great amount of power, and sent it down into the crater, causing a mushroom cloud to billow up, and debris and smoke to fill the air. Gohan raised his arms over his eyes, and closed them. He was pushed back slightly from the explosion.

"Kame..."

Gohan turned quickly. He couldn't feel the one saying it. But he could hear it. The smoke was too thick to see through.

"Hame..."

Gohan took off straight into the air, flying up as fast as he could. As soon as he came out of the dust, he saw the giant above him.

"Ha, you son of a bitch."

Gohan crossed his arms over his head, and braced for the attack. The shot connected on his wrists, and sent his body, still in a standing position, down to the ground. He fought against the beam, and tried to push up, but still he was knocked slowly into the ground. One foot, two feet, three. Soon, he could no longer see past the ground. The light in the hole came less and less from the sun, and more from the attack burning into his wrists.

"Had enough yet?" floated Tenshinhan's voice down the deep pierce in the Earth, as the beam ended. Gohan sighed, as the shot dispersed. He exploded in ki, and flew up. About five seconds later, his head came out of the top of the hole. The rest of his body never followed. Tenshinhan was lying in wait, and as soon as he felt Gohan rise up, he executed a flawless sweep. The right side of Gohan's neck was snapped, and his body sent crashing through the ground. He screamed as the rocks tore his suit, and flesh, away. He stopped only when he collided with a massive mountain, causing it to topple on him.

Tenshinhan pulled his forearm guards off, his vest and his shirt. He stretched his arms back, and felt his muscles pull. He took the hilt of Trunks' sword out of his belt, along with his sensu beans, and put it all into a pile. He flexed his arms, and prepared for Gohan's counter-attack.

It came about seven seconds later, as Gohan blew all the rock off of him, pelting Tien's body to no avail. He bled through several gashes of his body, and the green part of his attire was hanging on by a few threads. He screamed as he powered up, and took off into the sky, inches above the ground. His scream echoed through the mountains.

Tenshinhan leaped forward, and punched. His fist landed on Gohan's jaw right as Gohan's landed on his. The two flew backwards, leaking blood from their mouths. They both stopped at the same time, and wasted no time before they clashed again. Gohan's knee found itself to Tenshinhan's gut, forcing blood up.

Gohan's fists flew like lightning, smashing Tenshinhan's chest into a bruised mess. He continued powering up, giving his attacks massive power. Tenshinhan, meanwhile, was busy looking for the perfect moment to strike. He endured the blows to allow his arms the freedom he'd need when the chance arose.

It came very soon. Gohan drew his right fist back, for a powerful hay-maker, when Tenshinhan's hand sliced across, cutting into Gohan's chest. As red blood exploded out, he was forced back. Tien flew forward, his mind set on inflicting pain.

Gohan's body pushed out a wave of ki, and took off quickly into the air. Tenshinhan followed him swiftly. They met several hundred feet above the ground. The two warriors began to descend as they poured their power and concentration back into fighting. Gohan's swift punches were doing little to injure Tien, yet the giant's punches weren't able to land on his opponent. They gripped hands, in a battle of strength, and dropped almost straight down. They stopped only inches above the ground, then landed. White ki exploded off both of their bodies, and they saw each other's veins rise in the skin. They released together, and again began to attack and defend.

Gohan's blood began to come out more swiftly as his heart beat harder and faster. He paid it no mind, and shot backwards, leaving Tien to swipe at a blur.

"Tenshinhan! What is wrong with you!"

Tenshinhan answered only with a shot of ki from his right hand. Gohan leaped up, cracking the ground he stood on. The dust and rock overtook him in his flight, and blinded him. He zanzokened forward, into a spining knee. More blood shot from his nose, and his body flipped backwards.

Tien went backwards very fast, and pointed both hands at Gohan.

"Renzoku energy dan!"

Gohan's back was smashed with hundreds, then thousands, of ki blasts. The yells of pain didn't make it past the sound of the explosions. His body landed on the ground, and layed still. Smoke rose from the burnt shirt and flesh.

"This can't be happening..." thought Gohan. "I can't let him get away with this...my friends...my family...!"

Debris around Gohan slowly began to hover off the ground. Tien, who had been slowly walking towards the fallen warrior, stood still. The small pieces floated up higher. Gohan pushed his body off the ground, and stood up. Slowly, he turned around to face Tien.

Tenshinhan's brows knitted, and he took a tentative step backwards. "This power...so much like Goku's," he thought.

Gohan, as if understanding the thoughts running through his opponet's mind, clenched his fists and brought them down, exploding again in burning ki. The rocks that were hanging in the air exploded outwards. Electricity crackled around his chest and arms, and roared harder when he tilted his head forward, as if he were simply thinking his power higher.

"This...this is impossible!" yelled Tien as he jumped back. With eyes full of rage, he put his hands facing Gohan, and charged up a sphere and let it loose at Gohan.

The smoke was layed down as the shot came screaming in. Gohan, however, showed no signs of being worried. Right when the blast was upon him, he raised his head slightly, and his own energy flared up. Tien's shot simply faded in face of the superior energy and focus. Tien's eyes, all three of them, shot open wide. He took a few more steps backwards.

"What's wrong? You're not afraid are you? You've hurt too many people, Tenshinhan. I can't let you live. If it means I must sacrifice myself to reach that goal, then I will do so gladly."

Tien's mind snapped in a rush of rage. Bright white ki roared from his body. To

hear Gohan speak like Goku was more than he could handle. Tien stopped his retreat, and stood firm. He clenched his fists, and shot forward. He swung at Gohan, and missed as he flipped back.

Gohan reached his hands out to continue the flip, and zanzokened right as he was about to land. Tien followed the move, and shot up and forwards, sending his knee up. Gohan was caught in the middle of his movement, and had no time to set up a defense. Blood spilled slowly from his mouth, and he slowly reached down and grabbed Tenshinhan's leg. He pushed it away, and gripped down. He spit the blood into Tien's face, and flared up.

"Masenko!"

Point blank range, Gohan's attack slammed right into Tien's scarred chest. He screamed as he was shot backwards. Gohan flared with ki again, and shot straight forward, leaving a trail of burning light. With clinched fists, he slammed into Tien's burned chest, sending him into the hard rock below.

Gohan dropped to the ground and waited for Tenshinhan to rise. He didn't have to wait long. With a loud yell, and a burst of blinding light, Tien floated up, and began to slowly move forward. Gohan zanzokened backwards, nearly 100 yards.

"Running already, are we? We'll have none of that!"

Tien began a mad dash towards his target. He drew back his right fist, and began to power up to deliver a haymaker that would knock him to Hell and back. But, Gohan stood his ground. Once Tien had covered roughly half the distance, he lowered his head slightly, and knitted his eyebrows.

Tien almost came to a halt, as he saw earth cracking as if something were running through it. Starting at Gohan's feet, it bore straight at him. He was too surprised to defend. The telekinetic shot hit him straight on, and sent him flying backwards. He managed to flip completely over, and land gingerly on his feet. As soon as his feet landed on the ground, however, Gohan concentrated his power even more, and sent a second, more powerful shot at him.

Tien raised his hands, and threw up a shield around his body as he felt the attack coming. It tore through more of the ground than the last, and traveled much faster. It hit almost as soon as Gohan created it, and sent Tien skidding backwards. Mounds of rock were piled up as he went. He came to a stop, and lowered his shield.

A light wind blew across the battlefield, moving away the dust. Gohan and Tien both looked hazy to the other. The intense heat of their power flaring was baking the air around them. And, as suddenly as it started, the wind died. Even nature was reluctant to disturb these two warriors.

There was a crack, and the ground where they stood exploded into thousands of tiny shards. The two fighters were gone in a flash, and met above where the ground was destroyed. They were locked, hand to hand, in a battle of power. They slowly began to sink, blowing the rock up into a crater. Gohan was slowly losing the fight, but he was directing the descent.

Soon, no light reached them. Gohan had his back to the ground, slowly being pushed deeper. Tenshinhan kept his eyes zeroed in on Gohan. Once they had pushed down more than two miles, Gohan began to fight back. The descent stopped and he pushed up on Tien's hands, forcing himself to stand up. The two stared at each other, into the other's eyes.

"Tenshinhan, I brought you down here for a reason..." Gohan's voice was strained, and it gave in places as he fought harder and harder with the human.

"What? Too ashamed to be put six feet under? Had to go a little deeper to cover your sorry ass?" Tenshinhan tried to come off sounding confident, but his voice was thick with struggle.

"No...above, I couldn't go all out. I realized it as I fought you. I was hurting the world more than I was helping it. But, down here, I can afford to rip out chunks. Above, the damage caused will be minimal. Heh heh..."

Gohan wore a febal smile. Tenshinhan tried to wrench his hands free, but found Gohan's grip too tight. He kneed Gohan's abdomen and head butted him, like he did at Drata, but nothing could break the grip.

"Farewell, Tien."

Tien squeezed his eyes shut from a bright light that suddenly filled the space around him. After a moment, he opened them up to see thin, pale streams of light coming from between his hands and Gohan's. Try as he might, he felt the ki rush right into his arms. He screamed in pain as he was sent flying backwards. He was knocked unconscious from the smashing rocks on the back of his body. Gohan hit his knees, and waited. He was breathing hard, and his body felt on fire. Soon, he heard a distant roar. Looking up, he realized it was coming from the tunnel that had newly been made.

Gohan stood up, and leaned against the back of the small room. He put his fists up, expecting a fight. Instead, he felt a torrent of salt water smash onto his body, forcing him against the wall.

Gohan peered through the water that stung his eyes, and down through the tunnel. Realization dawned on him. He had knocked Tenshinhan into the sea. But...that was many, many miles away.

Soon, fish and other small creatures were infesting the new swimming hole. Gohan, who's lungs were by now ready to burst, flew up. He felt as if he could hold his breath no longer when he finally reached the surface. The sun was bright, and a gentle wind from the south brung fresh air onto the battlefield. Gohan walked a few steps from the hole, and fell backwards. The grass around him was short and course, but it was soft enough for Gohan.

Now out of the water, the salt water in his wounds began to burn him. He sat up, and looked around. Away south, less than a mile, was a small pond of fresh water. Gohan took off for it. He landed straight into it, and spun around quickly. He raised himself after a few seconds. Water poured from his body, and soon blood came out to fill in the cuts and slices.

Gohan took no notice, and again laid down in the sun. He was breathing easier now, and a great weariness sat on him. Soon, he began to doze in the heat of the day.

Away, in the Capsule Corp. building, two hatches had opened up only recently. Trunks and Goten were drying off after being healed. They hadn't paid any attention to the other healing tank. Once they were dried, they turned, and saw Vegeta's face behind the glass. Both looked up, and saw the read out on his vital signs.

"Trunks, what happened to your dad? He seems really hurt..."

Trunks didn't answer. He was reading the very detailed report on the injuries.

"Broken leg...almost destroyed arm...collapsed lung...several tears in his heart...missing an eye...third degree burns over 93% of his body...cracked bones everywhere... it makes me sick!"

Goten looked over to Trunks' face, and saw a tear run down the side.

"He locks himself in there, and destroys himself! You're lucky, Goten. At least your father doesn't hate you."

Before Goten could say anything, Trunks spun on his heels. He quickly went to the elevator, quickly followed by Goten. As the doors slid shut, Vegeta stirred.

From the mouth, a great shot of bubbles rose. The scanners picked up an increased in resperation, heart rate and brain activity. Vegeta's eyes squinted shut. He shook his head around, and raised his arm, as if fending off a blow.

"Vegeta..."

"Who called me?"

Vegeta was found himself standing on a barren plain. As far as he could see, the land was charred black. He began to walk in the direction he thought the voice had came from, when he heard it again, behind him.

"Vegeta..."

The Prince came to a stop, and turned his head.

"Vegeta...do you wish to fight me..."

"Who are you?! Show yourself!"

"I am the one who has destroyed your allies..."

Vegeta laughed loudly, and turned around, to face the voice.

"Then I have no cause to fear you! In fact, you keep yourself hidden to avoid my wrath!"

This time, it was the voices turn to laugh. As Vegeta heared the hollow, empty laughter, he started to become angry.

"What is so funny?! I am here, in the open, and yet you hide! So why should you laugh?"

"Vegeta...I am all around you...you can't see me, because you don't know who or what I am. I am a shadow to you. A nightmare that survives into waking. Look closer, Vegeta, and see the body of your executioner..."

Almost instantly, the feeble light that shined on the black earth faded. In front of Vegeta, the darkness became deeper. Slowly, a human-like form came out of it. Vegeta peered into the shade, but couldn't make anything out.

"Well well...is this all you have? I was expecting so much more."

"It is more then you can deal with..."

Vegeta flew forward, and punched at where he thought the face was. The mist opened where he punched, and he drew his hand back. He lashed out with another punch, this time into the abs, and again his target was not harmed.

"Do you now see that you can not defeat me?"

Vegeta remained silent, and stood erect. A pale aura began to form around his

body, and his eyes came alive with anger.

"Do not provoke me, coward."

Vegeta exploded, shining through the darkness with light. It was a small victory. The darkness grew darker and deeper around the brightness.

Vegeta dashed forward, punching into the gloom with all of his might. He never punched close to the last, as the mist moved away from him. He never stopped, and as his rage burned stronger, he attacked even faster. After several minutes, he shot back, and fired several shots in front of him.

The black smoke exploded, and surrounded the Prince. He was breathing a little heavier than normal, but he wore his usual smug look. He let his power drop, and he pulled himself up straight.

He turned, and walked into the ebony night, when the voice boomed behind him.

"I did not give you leave."

Vegeta froze. For a moment, he didn't move. Then, his fists clenched down hard. Again he became angry, and turned to face the mist.

"I do not need it."

This insult shot the dark at the Saiyan, and caught him in the gut. He was picked up off the ground, and hung in mid air. Quickly, the mist roled away, and Vegeta hit the ground on his knees. Vegeta coughed, and rose to one knee.

"Bastard!"

Vegeta's body jerked up, as he screamed in rage, and let the golden fire cover his body. Vegeta kept the gold aura around him, and watched with a smile as he pushed the darkness furthur away.

"So, this is your true color? You run from a warrior who is greater? Pathetic!"

Vegeta forced his aura brighter, and charged into the voice. He rejoiced as he felt the ghostly material rip as his fists sliced here and there. After he turned everything to tatters of drifting mist, he powered up, sending off a sphere, burning the ground and everything else.

"Ha ha ha! I see you're no match for me."

A thin film of sweat was on his body, and his breathing was becomeing labored.

After such a small workout, this shouldn't have been happening...

"Are you done yet?"

Vegeta's eyes opened wide in disbelief as he saw the same form come together in front of him. Vegeta stepped backwards, and ran into him. Vegeta dashed to the side, and hit another. Around him, in every possible location, there was the demon, not moving, waiting.

"What kind of magic is this?"

"No magic, Vegeta. All here are as real as me and you..."

As that voice trailed off, another took the conversation up.

"You disappointed us greatly, Vegeta. We were hoping for so much more..."

"You're training must be wearing you out. You can't seem to keep fighting..."

Vegeta, hearing this insult to his honor, powered up again, preparing to fight. The shadows retreated uniformly. Gold light flared everywhere, and Vegeta began to fire off ki everyplace he saw the body of the shadows. The shots would make them break apart, but as Vegeta turned to hit another, they would recollect, and draw a little closer.

For how long Vegeta kept up this level of fighting, he didn't know. But soon, he had to stop. He hit his knees, and began to breathe hard. Peering up, and saw the mist come in for him. His spirit began to give, and the darkness seemed to grow more threatening.

He stood, and gave in to his last bit of strength. Electricity coursed over his body as his hair became longer. Everyone stopped, and Vegeta smiled. He began to charge his Final Flash, and let out a smug laugh.

"Goten, will you hurry up? There's no telling what's been happening why we were healing!"

"Sorry Trunks."

The two boys flew off from the ground. Goten had been reluctant to leave, as Bulma had made food. He had an apple in his hand, but didn't get a chance for anything else.

Outside, Trunks and Goten hung in the air, reaching out with their senses, trying to find anyone.

"Goten, I think Gohan is away over there."

The two tried to peer out, but couldn't see. Goten started to move towards his brother, but Trunks stopped him.

"Goten, that's close to his house. And he doesn't seem to be powered up. I'm sure he's safe. But we need to keep looking. We know what he's capable of now, so we won't get caught off guard!"

"Yeah!"

The two powered up to Super Saiyans, and took off west. Their eyes darted back and forth, but the two couldn't see the killer. They had no idea that he was just rising out of the ocean, bleeding and nursing a sore body.

"That little brat. How dare he strike at me like that. When I get back there, I'm going to see how much of his body I can rip open before he begs for me to end it."

Tien began to hide his power, and took off with full speed towards the battlefield. Tree were uprooted as he ripped through the sky. He plowed through mountains, and kept going. All three of his eyes were burning with rage.

"Gohan!!!"

The young man woke with a start. His body was warm from lying in the sun, but part of him had gone ice cold. The voice he had just heard sounded so familiar. The pain slowly came back to him, and he realized that Tenshinhan was coming back to finish what was started.

"But...do I have the strength left in me to finish this..."

He was soon put to the test, as he felt the ground shake as it's greatest threat came into view. Gohan powered up, and felt that he had lost almost none of his power.

"If anyone can hear my prayer, give me strength..."

With no other words, Gohan ran towards the star in the bright sky. He jumped up, and began to attack. His punches halted Tenshinhan, and for a moment, it looked like the rage would give. But, it came back stronger.

With no warning, Tien seized the sides of Gohan's head, and flew straight down to the ground, and spiked Gohan's face into the rock below. Smoke rose up as Tien grabbed the boy's ankles, and swung him through and out of the ground. Gohan tried to fly to an escape, but couldn't get the giant to let loose. Soon, he felt the wind at a great speed around his body and saw the ground as a blur.

Gohan let out a pain filled scream as Tien swung him with all of his might into a mountain. Massive cracks ran through it from where Gohan's body left its indentation, and it collapsed, throwing rocks and dust everywhere.

Gohan, finally free of his opponent's grip, stood up and looked across the rubble. Tien didn't move, and his pupils were lost in a blue smoke that poured from the sockets. White ki surrounded his body.

"Gohan...for the pain you've brought to me, I will give it back to you ten-fold."

Tien's middle eye open to its widest position, and began to pulsate. Gohan began to step backwards. This time, it was Tien's turn to use his telekinetic abilities.

With an explosion of light in his third eye, Tien moved a pillar of rock up under Gohan, tossing him into the air. Spears of stone jutted out of the ground, all coming to a point at Gohan's position. Though his body was too hard to be hurt by rocks, Tien was holding the stones together, so they continued to push without breaking.

Blood fell down to the ground, and ran down the spears. Gohan began to shed tears of pain when Tenshinhan let the rocks collapse. Gohan fell down without moving, and landed on the jagged rocks.

Tien walked over to the fallen warrior, and scooped him off the ground by the left arm. Gohan shot his right out, and caught hold of Tien's throat. He squeezed as hard as he could, and felt Tien choking. As Tien's grip moved from his left arm to his right, trying to pull it off him, Gohan raised his newly freed limb, and collected ki into the palm of his hand.

"Masenko!"

Gohan thrust the hand out so close to Tien's face some of his eyebrow hair touched his hand. Gohan's body moved forward as the blast sent Tien backwards, and pulling Gohan with it. He let go, and watched with joy as Tien bounced on the ground several times, and lay still on the ground, face down.

Meanwhile, Vegeta was fighting his own battle. In his second Super Saiyan form, the mist was being rent with every twitch of a muscle. His Final Flash had wiped out all the shadows, but they had come back almost right away. Seeing that ki attacks were harmless, he decided to go physical. Vegeta dashed forward and back, destroying anything in his reach.

"This is getting on my nerves!"

Dark beams pierced his chest. Six holes bore witness to the wound. Vegeta hit the

ground, and coughed. Blood poured onto the ground, and his hair slowly faded back to black. His body felt so tired and old. He tried to stand, and fell backwards. He propped himself up on his elbows, and waited.

He watched in fear and curiosity as the shadows formed a man-like shape. It loomed over him, a threatening figure.

"Vegeta...you know now you can not defeat me...as your body grows tired, mine becomes stronger. As your hope runs out, it feeds mine. All of your training, useless. You will need more strength to face me. The ultimate form...too bad you can't achieve it. What a waste. This is the end of you."

Vegeta pulled together all of his strength and will, and jumped up. He moved to attack again, but felt his body go cold. Looking down, he saw the shadow had pierced him. As his vision dimmed, he saw the darkness peel away, and that a flesh covered arm had implanted itself into his heart. He looked up the arm, and before he could see the face, his vision went out completely, and he let out a scream.

Vegeta came awake inside his healing pod. His body was on fire, and he felt all of his injuries. He reached up with his working arm, and ripped off the mouth piece. The pod drained, and the hatch opened. He tried to walk out, but fell on the ground. He forced himself to his knees, and crawled over to the wall.

"I see...that my training...has not been hard enough. I must try harder."

Vegeta stood up, and hit the ground again as his left leg buckled. He steeled his resolve, and stood again, with most of his weight on his good leg. He slowly made his way to the door, and ordered it open.

"I am sorry, Vegeta, but your body is in no shape to train. Please rest and heal."

"Computer, I am ordering you to open the door before I rip it open!"

"I am sorry, Vegeta, but it's for your own good."

The Prince pushed himself away from the wall, and dashed against the door with all the strength his body had in it. Normally, the door would have given with no effort. However, Vegeta didn't even make a dent. His tired body slumped against it, and slid to the ground.

"Mrs. Bulma? I'm afraid your husband needs your assistance."

"For the love of...I'll be right there."

Bulma went to the elevator, and went down. She was expecting to find Vegeta

ready for a fight with her over some silly little thing, but was taken by surprise to see blood over the floor and wall, and an unconscious Vegeta laying against the training room door.

"Mrs. Bulma, Vegeta still requires several hours in the re-gen tank. He wished to continue training, but I would not allow it."

"Good. Vegeta! Vegeta!"

Vegeta slowly came around, and looked up to see a blurry Bulma. He shook his head slowly and peered again.

"What?"

"Help me get you up! You shouldn't have gotten out until you were healed!"

Vegeta stood slowly, and allowed Bulma to get under his right arm, and help him back to the tanks. As he was sitting down into it, he began to speak.

"My training..."

"What about it?"

"Not enough...to save..."

With those words, Vegeta passed out. Bulma fit the mask onto him, and sighed as the hatch closed. She set the computer to clean the mess in the hall as she went back upstairs to clean up.

Outside, Goku too was restless. The same dream had come to him, but had ended different. The shadow could gain no strength from Goku, as his spirits never dropped. In his mind, he knew if he lost, everyone he knew and loved would be dead. He didn't stop until the shadows left, leaving him standing in the sunlight. But, something was troubling Goku. When he was almost defeated, the sun shone through and pushed the shadows back and healed him. Then, with the light's help, Goku won. He couldn't figure out how the sun could help him...

"Tenshinhan, are you ready to die?!? You've caused far too much pain to keep living!"

Gohan put a boot into Tien's ribs, and watched as he coughed up blood. He kept kicking, moving Tien slightly with each blow. After a few, he put his boot on the back of Tenshinhan's skull, and pushed it into the ground. Tien's hand gripped the ankle with surprising strength, and threw him off.

"So, I woke you up. Any last words?"

Tien pushed himself up, and felt blood pour out from seemingly all of his body. He could barely walk, so he slowly crawled over to Gohan. He put his hands on his stomach, and gripped a ridge of his abs with his finger tips, and pulled himself up. Once he had most of his body erect, he looked into Gohan's eyes.

"Just this: You're a fool!"

Gohan went to strike the human down, when he felt ki building up below him. He looked down in time to see golden ki slam into his stomach, ripping it apart as it sent him backwards.

Gohan was dazed, and before he realized it, he was already standing back up, waiting for Tien's next attack. He wobbled on his feet, and almost fell over as he raised his hands into a fighting position.

"How do you expect to fight when you can barely stand?" laughed Tien at the spectacle.

Gohan said nothing, and raised his right leg. He smashed it into the ground, sinking his foot in over half a foot. He did the same with his left. After he was secured, he powered up to the peak of the power his beaten body could give.

"So, that's how it's going to be?"

Tien dashed at Gohan and punched him in the face. Gohan was knocked backwards, but didn't move. He caught hold of Tien's wrist, and pulled himself back up with his right arm as he drove his left into the man's cheek.

Tien answered with an uppercut into Gohan's chest, and felt Gohan's palm as it smashed into his nose.

And so it continued for what seemed like hours. Every hit was answered with another, and blood hit the ground freely. Neither one would let the other give the final blow, so they struck over and over. Gohan had been pushed back dozens of feet, but he had yet to go down.

"I'm growing weary of this..."

Tien jumped backwards as Gohan punched. Without the rock in front of him, he fell and laid face first on the ground. Blood flowed freely from his mouth as he breathed.

"Well Gohan, I must say, you've done much better than I thought you would have. I will finally kill someone worthy of my time."

Tien put his hand out, and began to focus his ki. Tears ran slowly from Gohan's eyes as he fought to get back up. His body felt like it was on fire, and his head felt heavy. He thought of his friends, of his father, his mom, his brother...his wife and daughter...

"No..."

Tien stopped gathering energy, and listened. He saw as Gohan slowly pushed himself up, and raised his head. A fire burned in his eyes, and his brow was knitted in resolution.

"I said NO!"

Before Tien could react, Gohan thrust off with his arms and smashed into Tien's chest. He wrapped his arms around him, like the Saibaman had done to Yamcha decades ago. He locked his hands together, and began to gather what was left of his energy.

"Get...off...of me!"

Tien tried to shake him off, and to force his arms free, but neither worked. He tried his technique of redirecting physical energy, and panicked when it didn't get Gohan off of him.

As for Gohan, he gritted his teeth as he felt his arms, chest and cheek begin to blister and burn. But, he was ready. He would be leaving anyways. A few more seconds of pain wouldn't matter.

"I'll see you Tien...I'll see you in line for judgement!"

Tien screamed as he saw electricity flow down Gohan's arms, and form a circle that moved faster and faster. With a dash of fear and rage, he pried Gohan's arms loose right as Gohan detonated.

The blast flattened everything for hundreds of feet in all directions. Smoke hung thickly in the air, as a body was flung away from the center of the explosion and landed on the ground, no longer moving.

"GOTEN!"

"TRUNKS!"

The two yelled in unison as they felt the explosion behind them. They took off towards it right away, not knowing what had happened, and what could happen if they simply had stayed away.

This story was written by Justin Kelley. Any thoughts, send them to
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Next chapter: A Fatal Mistake.