

## Twilight and Dawn

This story was written by Justin Kelley. All thoughts and comments can be sent to [JDKelley18@aol.com](mailto:JDKelley18@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.

### **Prolouge: The New Recruit**

Pain. That was all that he could think about. His mouth was dry and he felt like he was rolling. He tried to open his eyes, but the slightest twitch of his muscles caused new, sharper pain to run to his brain. He gave up in agony. He could do nothing but think. But that did him no good. His every memory was clouded and dull. He tried to shake his head and nearly blacked out for it.

"Good, you're awake. I thought you might have been too far gone for any help."

The voice pounded painfully in his head. He tried to focus on the words as the unknown person continued to talk.

"... quite a fine specimen. You'll fetch quite a price."

He heard feet shuffling close to him then to his side. He heard beeps and felt immediate relief flood into his body. His headache faded and his mind cleared. Slowly, the man opened his eyes. Everything was blurry. Something was wrong. He couldn't move. Try as he might, he couldn't move his limbs more than an inch. As he blinked, he saw a dull grey wall and nothing else. The voice was coming from his right, beyond his field of vision.

"No need to struggle. We have a limitation collar on you. You can only move as far or as much as we allow. Besides, you're not fully healed yet. Wouldn't want to go and open up any of those wounds back up."

"I... I don't remember coming on here."

"No, I don't think you would. You were a inch from death when we found your ship heading into deep space. We brought you on board to heal you and salvaged what we could from the ship."

"My ship!? What did you do to it!?"

"Don't get angry. You won't like the feeling the collar can make if you get too rowdy. We tore out the drive section for parts. The instruments are already spliced into our ship or sold at our last stop."

"So, I can't leave?"

"Oh, you'll leave. When someone wants to buy you, you'll leave."

"Buy me!? You mean..."

"Yes. You're now our prisoner. To be sold to the highest bidder, for whatever they want to do with you."

"I don't think ahhh!"

This new pain shot into his temples and made him feel like his head was in a vice. He couldn't breathe and felt his bones begin to separate from their joints. And as quick as it came, it left him. He had to spit out a mouthful of blood to breathe again. His vision didn't return until seconds later.

"The next time, I'll turn it up higher. Do as you're told and do not argue. Then you'll never feel that again. Understood?"

The man said nothing. He tried to turn his head and look at as much as he could. Other than the physical restraint on him, something else was missing. Something so inherent in his being that to suddenly not have felt alien and strange. When he tried to focus on things not in his vision, it came to him.

"My ki! I can't control my ki anymore! What did you do to me!"

"Calm down, unless you want another taste of what the collar can do. We discovered the power in your body as you were healing. And since we couldn't really control you if you were allowed access to your ki, we simply put that as a limitation on the collar. Whatever powers you had developed with it are useless. You're a normal human now. Well, with the exception of the third eye."

"What irony," Tenshinhan thought to himself. At six feet tall, Tien possessed a build heavy with muscle. Before the events of the last few weeks, he had been a low level fighter. But with his bid for power complete, he possessed power that outshone the Saiyans. But now, he was captured and denied his power. And worse, he couldn't sense his third eye.

"My third eye, what happened to it? I can't feel it or sense with it."

"No? It's still there. Good as new. I assume that you no longer being able to access your ki might explain your lack of feeling for the third eye. They must go hand in hand. I could remove it, or at least sew it closed."

"No! No, I want it."

"It matters little. On the auction, I'll simply cover it up. The scans show you're healed enough to leave the medbay. I'm going to allow you to walk now. If you run or try anything that I think is dangerous, I'll not hesitate to make you feel like your every cell is being ripped away from you, one at a time."

Stoically, Tien turned to face his captor. He was shocked when in front of him stood a small man with purple skin and a elongated skull. He wore a light brown robe with strange symbols on it that he assumed spoke his profession, either slaver or healer.

"And you are?"

"My name is Sububu. Your name would be...?"

"Tenshinhan."

"A strange name for a human. But, I guess you're not a usual human. Come with me, and I'll show you to the general quarters."

Tien walked slowly, trying to stretch out his muscles and find out how bad he had been injured.

"You're quite a marvel, you know. You were injured far beyond anything we had ever seen anyone live through. You must have had one hell of a fight."

"Yeah, you could say that."

And it had been. He had killed all of Earth's fighters until Goku was alone, on his knees in front of him. And then Vegeta came. He still didn't know how he had come back from the dead, but there he was. And with the sensu he had left on Bulma and Bra's grave, he was fully healed and had given the second bean to Goku.

The most shocking thing was when Vegeta reached Super Saiyan 3 to fight him. But their powers were still nothing to him. Gogeta, however, took his drained body to it's limits. He didn't think anyone could have survived the last attack he had given Gogeta. But right before he got into the Capsule Corps. ship, he was again stalled by those two pieces of Saiyan trash. And to add insult to injury, he picked the ship that's healing tank was destroyed.

"Here. You'll be issued one blanket and one roll. Find a spot on the ground and try not to cause too much of a problem with the gangs."

"You're throwing me in with the local rabble?"

"Of course. You're slaves, undeserving of anything better."

The door shut with a resounding finality and Tien was left standing there looking at it. He turned to find a blue skin woman with orange hair and tiny horns on her head in front of him. She had quite a few people with her. He noticed the collar around her neck, the same as everyone else he could see.

Tien tried to walk past her to the receptacle for his items when she shot her hand out and hit him in the ribs.

"What the hell was that for?"

"For not greeting your Mistress, dog!"

"Idiot! If you think I'll bow down to you, you must have lost your damned minds."

Before he realized it, Tenshinhan was looking down at the floor. He tried to push himself back up and felt a powerful leg press a foot into his back. He hit the ground again and noticed blood dripping from his mouth.

"I saw the blue lights on your collar, so I know you're also a ki user. And like most of us, you're a terrible fighter without it. I'd suggest you be more polite, or I may have Tudu here squish you into jelly. Tell me you're sorry and give your items to me, and I'll let you live. Beg for forgiveness, dog. Beg Mistress Ana for forgiveness!"

Tien forced himself up again and looked up. All of them were wearing the same grey shirt and pants he was, but noticed they all had a lock of their's leaders hair around their wrist. He figured it was how they told themselves apart from the rest of these maggots.

He looked up at her and figured that if she hadn't been so roughly kept, she might have been attractive. But, as she was trying to force him to act like some weak willed fool and they had hit him, he was going to really fuck her face up for it.

"These muscles don't need ki, and I've been a martial artist for over 30 years. You don't know the hell that's about to be unleashed!"

Tien dropped to his right elbow and kicked out with his left leg, knocking the man holding him down onto his back. He rolled to his back and used his momentum to leap up to his feet. With a lightning fast punch, one of the pink skinned bald creatures dropped to his knees holding his face.

"Get him!"

Tien kicked to his left and caught the pink guy's look alike in his ample stomach. He tried to follow up but was tackled from behind. He hit the floor hard, but had the sense to kick with his legs. A few hits to the stomach caused his attacker to let go. As soon as he felt the grip let go, he drew his legs up to his body and rolled forward. He got to his feet and turned to receive a large fist into his face. He went stumbling backwards and felt someone run their arms up under his and put him into a full nelson. He tried to break free but the one who punched him, one of those pink bastards, was in front of him. He began to deliver hard punches into Tien's face.

"Bastard!"

With a yell of pure anger, Tien kneed pinky then drew his legs up and drove both feet into his face. As he came back down to his feet, he threw his weight forward and threw the one holding him over his shoulders and into pinky's body. He stood up straight and ran towards their Mistress.

"Time to pay!"

The biggest of her gang, Tudo, had stayed behind to protect Ana. He was nearly a foot taller than Tien and his body was knotted with muscles. Tien jumped up when Tudo reached for him. He tried to stop himself in midair and forgot he had no control over his ki. In a few seconds, he felt his head hit the wall and he came down hard. He forced himself back up and felt a hit in his back drive him forward into the waiting hands of Tudo.

Try as he might, he couldn't free himself by sheer strength alone. Tudo was far stronger than Tenshinhan had thought. But there was the great equalizer. With as much power as his weakened legs could manage, Tien drove his shoeless foot right into the groin of Tudo. Tien felt the grip loosen and was quick to take advantage of it. He drove his left elbow into his sternum over and over. As Tudo lowered his body in pain, Tien drove his right fist under his chin in an uppercut that sent him sprawled out on his back.

Tien quickly turned and saw the two pink creatures looking in disbelief. The distance was covered in a few powerful strides and soon both fighting the three eyed human. Tien jumped at the one on his left and reached out with his arms and grabbed the one on the right's head. Kicking hard, he spun around in midair, twisting the head of the one he was holding. With a dull thunk, he hit the ground and Tien dashed at the one he had kicked.

Tudo got to him first, though. A hard kick into the back of the head sent him down and skidding. Tien went with the momentum and flipped up. He again used the fat fighter as a spring board as he launched himself towards Tudo. This time, he went straight upstairs, driving his fists and elbows hard into the face of his opponet. Tudo took the blows with only minor grunts and wrapped his powerful arms around Tien's body and began to squeeze.

Tenshinhan heard joints popping as Tudo continued to crush him. The fat one was behind, driving his fists into his kidney's. Ana was laughing as she slowly circled them, like a predatory animal, waiting for the right moment to leap in for the kill. Tien wasn't sure if he could win this fight, but he was sure he wasn't going to allow her the satisfaction of seeing him lose. He'd die, but he'd make sure he saw her dead by his hand first.

"Give it up, human. You're too weak to fight Tudo. I could have him release you, if you promise to serve me in place of the man you killed."

"Never! Ah! I'll never grovel! Never! Let! Myself! Be! WEAK!"

Tapping inner reserves of strength and anger, Tenshinhan forced his head against Tudo's. With each blow, the hold loosened. With a scream of primal rage, he forced Tudo's arms apart and dropped to his feet. He drove his elbow backwards into the man who had been pounding him relentlessly. With all the strength he could muster, Tenshinhan drove both fists into Tudo's muscled stomach. Tudo was driven backwards and barely kept his balance. Again Tien drove his fists home and again Tudo remained erect. The third time, however, he was knocked to the ground. Tien carefully jumped into the air and landed with his knees into his stomach. Tudo's mouth began to leak blood as he lay there, twitching.

"Now, it's your turn!"

Ana stood in shock. Tien had single handedly destroyed her entire gang. Except for one, she quickly realized.

"Sond, get him!"

"No way! He'd kill me!"

The fat pink man ripped off the lock of hair and ran into the growing throng of people watching the fight. Now that it was just Ana and Tien, several of the rival gang leaders were starting to grow very afraid. If Ana couldn't handle him, many of them might find a new rival, one that couldn't be put in place so easily.

"Bastard! I'll give you one last chance! Be my guardian like Tudo, and I won't kill you. I won't even make you grovel."

Tien spat at the ground and dashed towards her. She proved to be more agile and dodged his opening swing and drove her fist in under his and hit him hard in the ribs. She was a lot stronger than she appeared, Tien realized as the pain pulsed through his body.

Tenshinhan jumped up as hard as he could, this time ready for the ceiling. His

arms up, he caught himself and used his strength to drive himself down, foot extended at Ana. He almost connected, but Ana slipped to the side and caught his ankle and proceeded to spin on her heel, tossing Tien into the crowd. Tien tried to flip to his feet but again realized he had no control over flight. His shoulders rammed into someone who shoved back none to gently. He could already feel the bruises forming from their cheap shots.

Again Tien dashed at Ana, but this time he dropped to his knees and slid towards her at the last moment. She leapt up a couple of feet, but not high enough for Tien not to be able to catch her. He wrapped his hands around her ankles and forced her down. She hit the deck hard and found herself staring into the eyes of a man who had no soul. He stood over her, legs still in hand.

"Please, don't hurt me! I'll do anything! I mean it! Name it, and I'll do it willingly!"

Tenshinhan stared at her, his face calm and clear. He let her left leg go and reached out his hand as if to help her up. As she reached out, Tien's left leg came up and across his body and without so much as a look of feeling in his entire body, he drove his foot down onto the side of her knee. The pop caused the entire crowd to go quiet. The next sound was a shriek of pure pain as Ana bolted up and grabbed her leg. She looked and saw her foot touching her crotch and yelled even louder.

"This goes for everyone here! If anyone thinks I will take a backseat to anyone, you had better remember this scene! Four people, nothing! And you, if you ever so much as look in my direction again, and I find out about it, I'll break more than your leg next time. Do you understand me?"

Ana looked at him and nodded as she rolled around and moaned out in anguish. As Tenshinhan walked by her, he kicked her square in the nose, driving the back of her head hard into the floor and two streaks of blood to run down her face. Out of the corner of his eye, Tien saw several men descend on her, and heard her screams take on a tune of terror.

When his body exploded in pain, Tien realized the security guards running into the large common room. Tien saw other people around him dropping to the ground, no longer in control of their bodies from the intensity of the pain, but other than the unpleasant feeling, it wasn't causing him any serious problems. The guards noticed this and singled him out, cranking up the power to just his collar until Tien hit the ground, in no better condition than the ones he had noticed moments before.

"Teach you for thinking you can stand up to us!"

With a kick in the ribs, the guard walked away from Tenshinhan. He walked around and tweaked his control every now and then, ensuring that everyone was

receiving just the right amount of pain.

"Well, have we had enough? We going to act more like animals!? I'll turn this off, but if I hear anything else about fights again, I'll come back and "forget" I left it on."

With a sigh of relief, Tien stood up. He finished his trip to the feeder that dispensed his blanket and roll. He found a corner and threw the belongings of other people behind him. He saw down and closed his eyes and tried to rest.

Hours later, he awoke. Everyone was talking, and they seemed excited. He overheard the words "buyer" and "escape" enough to realize that his stint as a slave might soon be over. Looking around, he noticed the larger, stronger people to be anxious while the smaller ones tended to be frightened. He figured that some probably didn't have a very bright future ahead of them.

"You, new guy! Turn around!"

Tenshinhan turned and saw one of the guards from before. He saw a black sash in one hand and the remote to his collar in the other. He stared down at it then looked down into the eyes of the being in front of him and scoffed.

"Slave scum. Maybe you need a reminder of who's in charge."

Tien saw his thumb press a button and again his body was wracked with pain. He felt himself drop to a knee as he fought to breathe. He was barely aware of the guard cranking up the controls until he felt blood sliding down his face. His mouth open in a silent scream of pain, Tenshinhan fell to his side. The guard kicked him hard in the gut then dropped the sash down onto Tien's body.

"Now, I'm going to turn this down and you're going to put that on to cover up your freak head. If you so much as look up at me, I'll make you regret ever being born."

And just like that, the pain holding Tenshinhan faded away to an intense throb all through his body. He reached out and held back the bile as he put the sash on to cover his third eye. He spit out blood and tried to get up to a knee. In an instant his jaw felt like it was on fire and he was staring up at the ceiling.

"Listen up maggots. This here is what happens when you give us any kind of arguments. We're about an hour away from the auction site. Don't do anything that would leave him unable to be sold."

The officer laughed as he clicked the controller off. Tenshinhan was fast to get up, even as the pain bled away. Everyone around him stood still, looking at each other. Then as one, they rushed in.

Tien jumped up and over them and landed hard on his feet. He tried to turn but someone's fist met the back of his head first. He stumbled forward into the waiting hands of none other than Ana. Her face was streaked with new scars and her hair no longer grew on one side of her head. Two quick blows onto either side of his jaw set him stumbling back. He kicked back, anticipating someone to be behind him, but his leg was caught at the knee and he felt himself flipped onto his back. Before he could try and stand back up, Ana was in the air coming down at him. He managed to get both legs up in time to let her soft midsection land on his feet. She slid off choking for breath as Tien got up.

"Remember me!?"

Tien spun and saw Tudo knocking through several smaller beings. Tien tried to jump again but felt Ana's hand wrap around his ankle. He looked down then back up in time to see a large fist swing in low and catch him below the ribs. He felt the weight lift off his feet as he was lifted up. He wrapped his hands around Tudo's wrist and pushed himself into a handstand then dropped down, driving the back of his foot against the top of his head. He landed on his hands and drew his legs in and shot them out against Tudo's chest and used the momentum to get back to his feet and felt several small bodies leap onto his back. He tried to shake them off and felt sharp teeth and nails dig into his flesh.

"Bastard!"

Ana came at him fast and Tenshinhan was too slow to get anything in the way as she drove his entire body into his gut. He felt himself hit the wall and heard bones popping as the things on his back dropped off. Ana however still had plenty of fight in her and proceeded to let him know it. Tien blocked a kick and swept her off her foot and tried to break her knee again when two women from either side grabbed an arm and threw him into a throng of snarling slaves.

Tenshinhan was grabbed and drawn down and was knocked back out of the group in an instant. He felt himself picked up again and kicked against a wall. He was barely aware of the blood sliding down his back and face. He opened his now only functional eye and leaned against the wall and let them come to him.

Another human was the first to jump at him. The bottom of his fist driving against his neck took the fight out of him and he landed on the ground and skid to the side, not moving. He was scanning for Ana when he saw what looked like one of the two females that threw him. He tried a jab and was rewarded with a knee against his elbow, popping it out of place. Tien tried to grab his arm and felt a knee make contact with his groin. He saw the rest charge him as the world went black.

"Back again are we?"

Tien opened his eyes slowly and looked around. He could move his arm again, but it was sore. He tried to get up and fell back, holding his side. Some of his ribs felt like

they were broken and he had the strange sensation that something inside was hurting sharply.

"Hang on, I'm not through yet. Looks like you angered someone. I warned you against that. Your injuries were rather severe, but nothing I couldn't patch up. You're fit enough to go out on the block and fetch us a price. May the gods shine on you where you go next."

Tenshinhan became aware to his breathing coming easier after a few seconds and he could see Sububu making gestures for him to leave. He noticed he was in a new medical room than last time and the hall on the outside of the door was different. There were two guards there that grabbed him roughly and forced him through a series of halls and doors.

Tien was aware of a dull roar in the background and as soon as a door in front of him was opened in front of him, it was deafening. He saw people to the limit of his vision and people all around were yelling, holding up signs or moving about in some strange manner. He only had a second before he felt a shove drive him forward. He found himself at the line, next to Tudo. He gave him a quick glance and noticed the hatred and satisfaction burning in his eyes. He smiled down at Tien and turned his face out to the crowd. A light over Tudo's head went off and he walked forward, in front of a creature that looked like Sububu, but a different shade with a different splatter of spots.

"Our next piece of meat to be sold is a talented warrior. Truly a marvel of physical conditioning. Notice the large size, the slope of his forehead shows him to be a little on the slow side, but he will be completely loyal to whoever he is told to be. I will start the bidding at 10,000!"

Tenshinhan was surprised when no one voted for him. He saw the way Tudo faked a bad leg and how he extended his muscular stomach to look out of shape. His eyes were also blank and dull, nothing like he remembered them.

"Bah! Get that thing off the stage! I'll not waste my time looking at such rejects!"

The announcer looked down at the crowd. He rolled his eyes then told Tudo to go back. He gave Tien a quick glare as he took his old spot. The announcer looked over and noticed Tien and lit up the light over his head. When Tenshinhan refused to walk forward, a guard shoved him from behind.

"Move, slave, or we'll break you and drag you down to the mess area to be made into food."

"Notice the blue collar! A trained warrior, skilled in the art of ki manipulation. This powerful creature was found single handedly destroying entire ranks of Jitari soldiers! His efforts drained him, and he was quickly added to our collection, or yours, if

the price is right!"

Tien stood still and looked around the crowd. He noticed another guard on the other side of the stage and knew there were probably ki users in the audience that would be too happy to leave him a smoking pile of ash.

"Move!"

Tenshinhan glared at the announcer and crossed his massive arms. The little creature grew infuriated and reached to his podium and pushed a button. His collar activated, Tien hit his knees from the pain. Over the roar of blood in his ears, he could hear Tudo laughing.

"So weak, poor, poor pitiful freak. You should have learned your place; under your betters!"

"I'll kill you..."

"Doubtful, freak.

Tien heard his insults and snapped. He vowed to never be weak again, and he meant to keep that vow. Steeling his resolve, he reached to his collar and grabbed either side and began to pull. He felt the level of pain jump up to levels he had never experienced and he felt his grip on consciousness slipping.

"Stop! Stop now!"

"No... I am the most powerful being in the universe. Do you hear me? The most powerful!"

With a scream of rage and pain, Tien's arms bulged and he heard the metal shatter. The wave of relief was felt immediately, followed by an almost overwhelming sense of bliss as he felt his contact to his ki return. It was weak, but growing stronger every moment. He felt the guards coming from behind and he turned faster than they expected. He fired off a blast at the one to his left and dove head first into the middle of the other two.

"Guards! Alert!"

Tenshinhan drove his fist through one guard's arms as he raised them for defense and was rewarded with bone and blood splashing every where. He zanzokened behind the man he had fired at and fired another. The guard blocked the one in front, but the second shot hit him and sent him flying forward. The remaining guard powered up in a quick flash of ki and flew at Tien. The two began exchanging blows, even as the second guard began getting up and prepared to join the fray. Tien felt himself getting faster and

stronger with every second and noticed the guard growing winded and impatient.

"Not so easy when I can fight back, huh!?"

Quickly zanzokening backwards, Tien let loose with two more bolts of ki. Both guards set out their hands out to catch the blast and were drivin back as they fought to master the blast. Tien flew up and turned to the crowd. He saw some of them running but noticed most looking up like this was some staged spectacle for their behalf. He grew angered at the idea of being humiliated like that, even if it were only imagined. He unleashed a dozen blasts into the crowd and noticed many of the people throw up ki shields. He was content that some of the blasts landed where there were no ki users. He felt his own blasts coming back at him and turned to see the guards following them quickly. He batted the shots aside and again exchanged blows with the guards. He enjoyed the thrill of the fight, even if neither of them any longer had a chance in hell at defeating him.

Tien kneed the one to his left, causing him to double up on himself in pain. Spinning, he gripped his fists together and slammed them into the chest of the other, sending him flying away. Still facing away from the one he kneed, he back flipped and sent his opponent straight down into the crowd.

Looking down, he spotted Tudo staring at him in fear. Tien erupted in ki and flew down and landed in front of him. He reached up and easily snapped the collar.

"Well, well. Seems like I get to pay you back after all."

Tudo began to stumble backwards, raising his hands up in front of his face as if to ward off some kind of nightmare. He stopped when he felt himself run into somebody and spun quickly and saw Tien smiling. He turned back and saw Tien standing where he had landed, then slowly the image faded away.

"That's impossible! No one can move that fast!"

"Heh. Tudo, why don't we see who wins a test of strength now."

Tudo stuck his hands out to plead for mercy and found Tien's fingers interlocked with his. He was driven down to his knees so fast he didn't realize it and still tried to back away. When realization set in, he quickly tried to force his way up and found as hard as he strained, he couldn't budge Tenshinhan's arms. Sweat dripped from his body as he continued his futile efforts. He looked at Tien saw not even the slightest amount of strain.

"Please, I meant no harm! I was only doing what I was told!"

Tien looked at him and grunted his disgust. Tudo took this to mean he was forgiven and attempted to stand. Tien clamped down harder and broke his hands.

"No one crosses me and lives!"

With a lightning fast jerk, Tien ripped Tudo's arms from their shoulder sockets and let them drop to the ground. He kicked Tudo hard in the face, sending him flying out into the crowd. Tenshinhan allowed himself a chuckle before turning to his left. Guards were pouring out of the door, leading some of the other prisoners. They were being shoved and the ones with blue collars were being allowed at least a small amount of their ki back as they came flying at him.

Tenshinhan took to the sky and began swatting down the flies quickly. There were few ki users amongst them, and even less had any true abilities. He saw ki beams coming from the crowd, guards and a few of the prisoners at once. Tien flew down, dodging them and stuck his right hand towards the crowd. He felt their ki shields raise and let loose an attack that was sure to bring down more than not. He landed gently on the ground then drove forward on his feet.

His attacks came faster than their eyes could follow and all that could be seen was a mist of blood and bone as he devastated their ranks. He saw Ana there, her eyes darting, trying to keep track of him. With a yell, he tore towards her and placed his hand in front of face and fired. He turned and began tearing into them again as her headless corpse hit the ground.

"Enough is enough!"

Tenshinhan flew up and back and placed his hand into a diamond and aimed it down at the crowd of guards and slaves.

"Kikoho!"

The beam exploded from his hands and tore through the air, slamming into the ground and turning the two groups into a wisp of dust and smoke. Drained from the attack and without all of his power, Tenshinhan let himself gently float to the ground. He noticed a powerful energy spike behind and turned quickly.

"Relax. Relax. I had my doubts about you when they first brought you out, but anyone who can rip off one of their collars and then do what you did is worthy of enlistment."

"Enlistment? Into what exactly?"

"You don't recognize the symbol I wear," asked the man, pointing at a clenched fist on a red background.

"No, I don't. Should I?"

"I belong to the Human Liberation Front. We work to undermine the work of the Council of Man. I can promise you great rewards and power, beyond anything you thought possible."

Tien laughed to himself. The man in front of him was powerful, but nothing compared to him at full strength. But at the moment, Tien had no doubt he'd get killed fighting him.

"And if I refuse?"

"Why should you? You shown me that you have the right mentality and are a capable fighter. Think, the ability to cause pain and suffering to those who would make others weak and helpless. Besides, how are you going to leave here without a ship? You don't even know where here is."

The mention of weakness made Tenshinhan's blood boil. He nodded his head and walked towards the other man. He reached his hand out and the two shook on it.

"So, what should I call you?"

Tien thought to himself, then decided that his name was meaningless now. He had to be known, and feared.

"The Assassain."

"Quite a name for someone who hasn't proven himself quite that much. But don't worry, you'll get your chance. Come, let us leave. We're already behind schedule."

Tien walked with him through the aisles of dead buyers. Many, he noticed, were not killed from an attack from the front, but one from behind. He looked at the back of the head of his new comrade and smiled. He was already starting to like him.

Next chapter: **Rebirth and Revenge.**

I apologize for the long wait between this story and the end of my last story. It's been hard to get a computer and over the time my interest in writing dimmed. Fleshing out a story can be really hard, and I feel this story will suffer just like the first one; a lack of good detail until I get used to it again. Thanks for everyone supporting me, and as always, I'm open to suggestions and encouragement.

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