

Sae... Love or hate her, she's a nutcase. Though she has her own reasons to be a crazed bitch. This is one of longer stories I wrote. 60 pages. Be prepared.

This story is also very old, probably 15 years old at least based on 2015.

[Sae arc] [1] [Mosaic Passion] [8711]

Rev 2.3

Year 8711 ...

"Yes, I am aware of that."

Vnil O'ren was on a phone. He was talking to authorities of the Bau. He came to the planet, Heaven of order, in order to seek a good spot to build a Bau division. But he was facing difficulties because the local family, the Natvill and the Swiftwind were objecting the Bau.

"Yes, I know that. Do you think I am a fool?"

He hung up the phone violently and went to the balcony and looked down.

He didn't have any intention to go on with his work. He knew it wouldn't work, at least that was what he thought. Unlike the Sol system, the awareness that the Bau was a strong and dominating clan was non-existence in this Andromeda cluster. Furthermore, people's mindsets were different. People in Andromeda cluster cared much less about clans.

Therefore, he decided to play around until the Bau summoned him back.

Just like any other cities, Heaven of Order also had a red district. Vnil went to there for some sightseeing. He soon noticed a lot of prostitutes as he entered the red district. Since he wasn't a bad looking man, some women attempted to score. He wasn't interested in having sex however. While he was walking through the street filled with prostitutes, he noticed a child. At first he thought the child was just somebody's daughter, but he soon realized the child was also a prostitute.

"My word," he mumbled and muttered. "A child?"

He approached the child who was seducing an old man, apparently a customer for her.

"Hey, kid," He held her little arm, pulling her away from the old man with a subtle but forceful way.

The girl glanced upon him and said, "Sir, if you want me, there is a line."

Her voice was clarifying.

"Hey, I am not here for that. Do your parents know what you are doing?"

She nodded and pointed at a saloon behind her. "She is the owner of that saloon,"

"Oh...crap." He frowned. It was one of very famous saloons called "Mosaic love".

He turned to the old man who was going to "rent" her and spoke to him in a threatening voice. "Old man, fuck off."

"What." The man was drunk. "I was here first, man."

He used his ESP power and electrocuted him weakly. "Bug off."

"All right, all right, geez," The man walked away reluctantly while silently cursing and swearing.

The girl didn't seem to mind as long as she had a customer. Therefore, she turned to Vnil. "Ok, I guess I will please you then. Honestly, I like you better than that old geezer anyway."

From how she sounded, it looked like she was used to this.

"What is your name?"

"Sae."

"Ok, Sae, I am not here to do ...um, well, you know."

Sae crossed her arms. "What, you are not a customer then. I am going to look for a customer. See you around, dork."

He held her arm, retaining her from walking away. "Wait, I will still pay the money."

"Oh." She turned around to face him and beamed a professional smile at him. "No problem then. I am yours for ten minutes. Do whatever you want to do for me but only for ten minutes. If you want more minutes, you will need to pay more. My rates are..."

"Hang on, hang on, little missy." He pulled out a cash card out of his pocket. "Will this be enough?"

Sea's eyes widened. "Three thousand credits?!" She jumped joyfully. "I am yours for a whole day!" And she added, "I can handle bondage, oral, anal"

"Ok, ok, stop," He was sweating. The girl was really a professional. "Let's go eat something first."

He looked at Sae's clothes. He realized she was wearing barely anything. She was wearing a large white T-shirt and that was it. But the shirt was long enough for her to cover her lower body to knees. He even wondered if she was wearing panties. The T-shirt was at least big enough for her to cover all private parts.

"I will buy you some new clothes first. Come with me."

"You are paying right? Just to make sure."

"Of course..."

He had a hard time going around with Sae because she was wearing nothing but a top, people were staring at him. He did manage to get her a pair of shorts and a tank top. He wanted to buy a normal shirt and pants, but she insisted a tank top and shorts.

Amazingly, she seemed to have learned some etiquette. She knew exactly how to behave in a high grade restaurant.

"Where did you learn all that?" He asked while looking at her eating like a lady.

"From mother."

"Is she," He wondered again. "Really the madam of the saloon?"

She nodded.

"..... What is her name?"

"Tanweer."

He frowned. Tanweer was the madam of the saloon. It seemed to be sure that Sae was Tanweer's daughter. Tanweer was known to be the queen of the dark side on the red district. What interested him more was who the father might be and why she did decide to have the baby. It wasn't really his business in the end however.

He asked her if she knew what she was doing. Sae didn't seem to realize that selling body was a job that was normally frowned upon. Perhaps, it was understandable since she was working to sell her body from early life. She was seven years old at this point, a normal human neither an ESP nor a hyper human.

After the meal, he took her to a park and had a long conversation. It seemed she was smart. Although she had no knowledge of moral values, she did know very interesting things such as the current flow of stock market and political news. He asked how she knew all the knowledge. She answered that she overheard from others. It seemed that the men Sae dealt with worked in political or stock market area.

He wanted to talk with her more, but she said the time was out and left at once. He was gazing aimlessly in the park. It was a whole new experience. He had never thought he'd actually have fun talking to her.

Two messages were waiting for him when he returned to his inn room. Those were from the Bau, wanting to know the status of his given task.

He sent a brief reply, saying it was going well. He was lying obviously but he didn't care. The next day, Azazzel O'ren contacted him. He talked as if he knew Vnil was lying. Knowing he could not get around Azazzel, he confessed that he had been doing nothing and told him what he had been doing, including his encounter with Sae. He expected to be laid off and be recalled back. However, out of blue, Azazzel came up with a plan.

"A way to defeat the Swiftwind and the Natvill on this planet?" Sae twisted her head weakly as Vnil explained his situation.

He nodded. "I was wondering if you have met any customers of yours that might have information."

He bought Sae again for few hours. It wasn't for sex obviously.

She chuckled and said, "If you buy me a cute bandanna, I will help you."

"A bandanna?" Vnil wondered why she wanted a bandanna but didn't ask.

"Sure..."

She stood up. "Get it ready by tomorrow morning." Then she began to run. "See the news in the morning!" She was gone.

"Huh."

Vnil was having a quiet morning tea on the balcony of his apartment. He had a holographic monitor floating by him there also. Apparently, he was reading news and spotted interesting ones.

"Insiders of the Natvil and the Swiftwind were found in a saloon..., they were apparently having...."

Turning around, he glanced at the bandanna he bought last night on a desk.

"Thanks for the breaking news. I've successfully made a deal with the local government."

Sae chuckled. "No problem, no problem."

Vnil and Sae were in the red district, not far from the Mosaic Love saloon.

"The night is young," She said.

"Huh?"

"Do you think this is a hellhole?"

He hesitated to answer.

"I think you do," She said with assurance in her voice.

He still said not a word however.

Sighing weakly, she shrugged with a grin and told him, "When you listen to the prostitutes, they always giggle, chuckle and smile."

He looked at the prostitutes. Just like she said, no one had a grumpy face.

"But smiling doesn't necessary mean they are happy," She exhaled a short laugh.

"They are strong, stronger than you might think."

He was surprised. He opened his eyes wildly and looked at Sae. The colorful lights from neon signs created a deep dark shadow and covered her figure.

He believed he just heard something he could never hear from a normal seven years old prostitute girl.

No, it wasn't a girl. It was a woman, a young woman.

She got off from top of a garbage can and waved her hands at Vnil. "Night, I am off working." And she disappeared into a group of prostitutes.

As soon as he got back from the street, he immediately made a call to Azazzel O'ren. He showed an intention to bring Sae with him and educate her.

He believed she had a very good potential. However, Azazzel was skeptical about his proposal. Most of all, he did not like the fact that Sae was a prostitute.

The day came and Vnil was subjected to leave the planet. Although he felt a bit bitter to leave Sae in the dark side, he had no choice. He had bought her for the last time and brought her to the shuttleport.

Sae was wearing the shorts, tank top and bandana he bought for her. She didn't look either beautiful or spectacular, but she was cute.

"Good luck with whatever work you do," She beamed a innocent smile at Vnil.

He grinned. He no longer felt Sae was just a seven years old prostitute. He patted Her head still.

"You are indeed the daughter of Tanweer."

Tanweer earned her fame for helping out other prostitutes. When she earned trust of many "broken" prostitutes, she opened the saloon, Mosaic Love. She wasn't exactly known for being kind however. She helped out broken prostitutes only because she had needs for them. She was known to be cunning and calculating.

He felt as if he was seeing another Tanweer, only in a smaller frame.

'I suppose everyone has their own ways to live. Perhaps, Azazzel was right. I should leave her as she is...'

He left the Heaven of order with some regrets.

Year 8717

Sae was taking a shortcut after finishing a job. The alley was narrow and dark. Since she had been using the path for years, she had no problem navigating. Suddenly, out of nowhere, three men who looked like street thugs appeared in front of her. And two men showed up behind her.

She seemed to have figured out what was going on immediately. Someone sold her out which wasn't uncommon.

She knew basic defensive moves, but it was no use against five men who appeared to be hyper humans. Next thing she knew was that she was raped fifteen times in a row and they suffocated her to unconsciousness.

'How much time passed...?'

Sae tried to move. But she was unable to. She was also completely naked, so she felt cold. She soon realized something was very wrong.

The liquid under her..., she thought it was just some water. It turned out it was blood. She managed to move her left arm and place the arm on her stomach. The arm... simply fell into something, something wet, sticky, and cold. Her internal organs were exposed and separated from her body, she realized. Below her breasts were completely ripped apart. It was a brutal scene and it was certainly too brutal for a teenager to see her own body mangled like so.

She panted for sudden fear of death. However, she calmed down soon unexpectedly. She took a deep breath and recalled memories.

Year 8713

"You have morosis..." That's what a doctor said. Sae recently felt drowsy and sensed some strange taste in her mouth. Therefore, she went to see a doctor.

"Morosis? What is that?"

The doctor sighed. "It is a very rare illness that makes you sleep more and more, eventually making you unable to wake up. It does not kill you. It simply puts you to sleep."

"What do you mean it puts me to sleep? I won't be able to wake up?"

"You will sleep more and more progressively. And at one point, you will never wake up."

“Never wake up..., meaning death?”

The doctor made a pause before he answered. “There is not enough research on the illness. Whether you can have dreams while sleeping is uncertain, but when you are unable to wake up, you will eventually die of starvation.”

Sae didn't say a word for a while. It was sudden, the impending death was.

"How much time do I have?" Her voice was calm as if she hadn't grasped the gravity of the situation yet.

"It progresses fairly slowly." The doctor gave her a moment of silence. "You have approximately seven years, give or take few years."

"Seven years..., isn't that a long time? Shouldn't I get some kind of treatment?"

"I am sorry but there is no known treatment for this."

"What? What are you saying? There is no illness we can't cure, I thought?"

"Morosis is a relatively new illness that was discovered only few hundred years ago. Only less than a hundred die from it per year, so there hasn't been much researches."

She felt as if she was showered with icy cold water. She was sweating cold. Time everyone had plenty, it was no longer for her. Seven years of time was all she had. She did not bother to seek any other doctors. Being a prostitute, guts were all she had.

Even so, she'd have nightmares every single night. She was going to die.

Year 8714

"I've never considered you as my daughter. You are a result of my mistake. Don't try to go over my head. If you do, I will personally finish you."

That was what Sae's mother, Tanweer, told her.

As her limited time passed, she became more cunning and cold. Desperation and fear struck her which was vented through her job as a prostitute.

It was only natural that she became more and more famous in the dark side.

Back to year 8717

As Sae finished recalling her memories, her last bit of breath was released. She stopped breathing and her eyes lost its focus. Her consciousness was fading. Through the mist of her fading consciousness, she sensed someone was looking at her. Her eyes lost its visions but not completely.

She was tired of being chased by fear and desperation. She didn't care who it was. She just let herself go.

"...Can you hear me?"

Sae was speechless. She was dead already.

The person who was looking down bit his finger and let few drops of his blood fell on to her cold dead body.

Her vision suddenly came back as if a dark room had just been brightened, and her body struggled as extravagant agony smote on her.

She screamed out loud, as loud as she could possibly can. She was screaming so hard and loud that she soon coughed with blood.

"Argh.., Ah...," She trembled from the agony afterwards for a while.

After several minutes, her trembling died off and she was staring aimlessly. She felt extremely peaceful. She touched her stomach. The wounds were healed completely.

"... Who are you?" She asked the one who was staring at her. Her vision came back, but it was hazy still. She was unable to make out who it was, whether it was a man or a woman. Everything was unclear.

Whoever it was threw a rag on her to cover her naked figure. "My name is Cecil Klisis."

She rose her upper body and used the rag to cover her breast. "What have you done to me? I should be dead by now."

"I dropped few drops of my blood on you. Your psychical body should not be bound by time for a while."

She was speechless and was vacantly looking into air, perhaps trying to understand what Cecil had just said.

Cecil asked, "Do you feel something inside you?"

The answer was obvious. "Darkness," She replied firmly.

"Don't be driven by the darkness. Obtain control of the darkness."

"I don't care...."

Cecil turned around. "We will meet again one day, probably on Earth."

"...Earth?" She scoffed. "I can't go there. Apparently, my ID is not good enough."

Prostitutes were not allowed to enter Earth. And Andromeda colonists weren't allowed, either.

Cecil threw an ID card to Sae. "Use that ID. It will let you go through."

She said nothing but did pick up the card. It was an ID guard for foreign guests. He turned around and disappeared into darkness of the narrow alley.

'I feel like crap....' Sae was in her room. It was a small room she barely visited ever. Since she normally spent her time in customer's house or hotel, she never really needed to return to her room. The room barely had anything but basic furniture such as a small bed and a closet. The bandanna, tank top and pants that Vnil bought for her were on the bed.

"What happened to me...?" She arranged the clothes properly and put them in the closet and she tried to get some sleep on the bed.

However, she couldn't get a sleep. She didn't feel tired at all. She wasn't tired or at least that was what she thought.

The more she concentrated to sleep, the more she felt awkward.

"Damn it!"

As soon as sun came up, the first thing she did was visit the doctor she saw before.

"Oh my Goddess..." The doctor was speechless.

"Huh?" She was curious of the result. She certainly felt fine despite of her disease.

The doctor cleared his throat and looked up and down at Sae.

"The Morosis is harmless to you now. It appears you've become a host for it."

Of course, she had no idea what he meant.

As if the doctor read her mind, he tried to explain and his voice was slightly shaking for some reason.

"I believe you are the first case of this. The Morosis will not harm you. It thinks you are their house."

He suddenly held Sae's hands and said, "Would you please let me examine your body?"

She forced her hands off the doctor's hands.

"What are you talking about?"

"Your blood, your current condition, you may be the key to the ultimate cure for Morosis. You could be the cure for those who die every year."

The doctor was using sympathy to convince Sae. However, having been living on an edge for her entire life, sympathy was one thing she could ignore easily.

"Get your hand off me, you perv!" She was leaving. "I don't care about their death."

"Wait!" The doctor chased her down. She found it annoying and thought out loud in her mind that he should be blown away. And then the doctor was actually blown away from her violently all of a sudden.

She raised her eyebrows and gazed at the doctor who was in agony. She then ran away.

Sae ran and ran. She was going to run until she was exhausted. Ironically, she was not getting tired, not at all.

'Have I become a monster?!'

"Ahhhhh," She screamed out loud in a middle of street. But no one around her cared or even stared at her.

It's been few days since then. Somehow she had noticed that she had been stalked. They wouldn't appear and get her, but few people had been shadowing her.

It was bothering her. Furthermore, it appeared that her mother had put a bounty on her secretly.

Sae was eventually surrounded by about ten men in a narrow passage. She had this experience before, so she was calm this time.

She looked around. There was no way out. They appeared to be professional.

"What's the occasion?" She asked calmly.

"We need you dead," One of them answered in a husky tone.

"Do you take counter offers?"

"No." It was another firm answer.

"Who are you associated with?" She crossed her arms, "My mother?"

They did not answer, so she figured she guessed right.

"What if I leave this planet? You guys seem to be professional. I will leave this planet quietly in few hours." She didn't want to fight. She was no longer afraid of being killed also. Since she had no fear at all, she was calm and was acting very mature in the situation.

"We cannot believe you." they were closing in slowly.

"Then you get me out of this planet. And tell my mother that I am dead. Send me anywhere you wish."

Normally, they wouldn't have listened to anyone who was begging for their life. But, in Sae's case, she wasn't exactly begging. She was like proposing a solution in a calm manner. And she was right that they were professionals. They had no pleasure in killing. If they could, they let their targets disappear without killing.

"All right," The man with a husky voice put his gun away from Sae. "Follow us quietly."

They led her to a shuttle port and bought her ticket to planet Dawn. The planet Dawn was one of few planets that were located on edge of the nebula. It was also safe haven for hardened criminals to get away from civilizations. Irregularly, some transport vessels from inside of the nebula would come. In other words, it was a remote planet where ordinary people didn't want to go.

Sae had no choice. "Thanks," So, she took the ticket.

"You were the most interesting target we've encountered so far, fearing no death and calmly making a proposal. And all of this coming from a kid." The man with a husky voice patted her head. "I feel unfortunate that you have to go to a living hell. But it will be better than being a corpse."

She grinned. "In a living hell, prostitution should be in a high demand."

The man with a husky voice gave her a bitter smile. Leaving her memories behind, she left Heaven of order.

"So, that is Dawn ...," Sae mumbled while gazing through a thick window in a transport. There were several passengers aboard the transport. They all looked pale. She was the only one who had a decent outfit. She was wearing the bandanna given by Vnil. Unfortunately, her tank top and pants were left back home.

As soon as she departed from Dawn shuttle port, she immediately sensed some people's stare at her. Ever since she was resurrected by Cecil Klisis, her senses were enhanced greatly. She could eavesdrop others from miles away if desired.

"Six men are ... staring at my breasts and butt." Sae whispered to herself as she hurried to elsewhere. But a matter of a fact was that she had nowhere else to run. She was forced to come here without any kind of preparation. She didn't even have any credit. Her job was selling body, but finding someone who could afford to pay for her service was in question after seeing how bad it was on the planet.

She inhaled and looked up. What she first saw was a crude rugged tower that appeared to be made of metal pieces. It was the only tall structure she could see. The rest of buildings were less than three-story.

She felt insecure. All she knew to protect herself was few simple brawling. She quickly ran to a narrow alley between two buildings. She had many stalkers on Heaven of Order. Therefore, she knew better than anyone in how to get away from those kinds. As soon as she entered the narrow alley, she quickly ran through there and turned left and went into another narrow alley. After repeating it few times, she finally lost the men.

She leaned her back to a sandy wall with a long sigh. "Phew..., geez..." She wasn't sweating at all though.

She decided to dump her current clothes. They were too noticeable on Dawn. Firstly, she stepped on her bandanna several times to get dirt on it. Secondly, she lured a man into a narrow path and knocked him down to take his ragged clothes. They were too big for her, way too large. But she managed to fit herself in. It was smelly and all, but she sensed no more sights on her.

Living condition on this planet was far below standard. It had been few days since she got here, and she hadn't seen anyone with decent clothes. She was sure that no one would be able to afford for her service. She had to find another way to make some money. The only advantage she had was that she wasn't getting hungry. Ever since she was resurrected, she hadn't felt any hunger and her period stopped also.

Few weeks went by. She hadn't found any way to make money. There was no shop to get a part time job, either. She couldn't even get an errand.

A month went by. Sae hadn't had any luck still. She couldn't imagine what would have happened to her if she could feel hunger. She was walking down on a street when she saw a group of people who appeared to be a gang was beating an old man. The old man was holding a dirty bread in his hand and was eating them fast even while he was being beaten. It showed how desperate people were on this planet.

'A gang...'

She thought she finally found a way to step up in this messed up society. She approached the gang and spoke loudly. "Hey!"

They looked where they heard her voice, but she wasn't there. Well, actually, they had to look down.

"What do you want? Get lost before we beat you up, too!" One of the men threatened her.

"Take me to your boss," Sae sounded arrogant. And it was her intention to sound like that.

They laughed at her. "What are you a lunatic?" But then they realized her voice was high-pitched, an indication that she was a female. Their eyes changed and she knew exactly what kind of eyes; they had hunger for sex.

They were about to gang up on her, but she stuck out her hand forward. It magically made them stop.

"Sure, you can have me, but promise to take me to your boss."

They looked at each other. One of them said, "Our boss is out of town right now."

She crossed her arms and spouted. "Then forget it."

They booed. For some reason, it seemed she tamed them. One of them told her in desperation. "Our boss is not in town, but our vice-boss is. She's as powerful as our boss."

The fact was that Sae was running out of her options. This was her very first chance and could be very last chance, so she decided to take on her chance. After almost two hours of intensive gangbang sex, she was taken to their hideout. There, she was given a new suit of clothes and some food. She ate the food not because she was hungry, because she missed the tastes of food. When she was almost done with the food, a woman came into the room she was locked in.

She was tall and looked mature. She figured that the woman was another sex machine for the men in the hideout.

"I heard what happened. I must say you have some guts." The woman told Sae with a sneer.

"You are?" She asked her with food in her mouth.

"It's none of your business. I want you out of here after you eat that food."

She threw a bag to Sae. Inside, there were her original ragged clothes.

"I am not leaving until I see your vice-boss or the boss."

"Are you crazy?" The woman raised her voice. "Do you know what you've gotten yourself into?"

She nodded innocently. "Yes, I do."

The woman narrowed her eyes. "Don't tell me you are experienced? You look so young."

Not only was she experienced, she was once known as the best.

She grinned back at her with a cunning look.

The woman looked shocked for a moment. "I see. I guess you haven't had an easy life, have you?"

"I am not sure about that. I don't know any other kind of life to compare to." Then she continued eating.

"I am Amenda. The boss you are looking to meet is Amon, my older brother."

"Oh," She finished the bread and cleaned her mouth. "They told me there is a vice boss. Can I meet her?"

Amenda chuckled. "The vice boss they told you is me."

"Oh. How does this gang work anyway? I've been on Dawn for about a month now. I found no way to make money."

"Why do you need to make money?"

"To get out of here of course."

She let out of a short laugh. "Money won't get you out of here. You will need connections." And then she yelled out an "ah". She realized that Sae was also trying to make connections.

She looked back at Sae and there she was chuckling. Amenda crossed her arms and leaned her back against a wall next to door. "How old are you?"

"It's improper to ask a lady about her age."

"I don't think you are older than how old I think you are."

Sae chuckled again. "You are probably right on that."

"And you are a prostitute?"

"Yes, I am."

Amenda sensed no hesitation or any kind of shame in her answer. She found it amusing and had a thought crossed her mind. "How long have you been a prostitute?"

"I don't know. I've been doing it as far as I can remember."

"You do know it is bad thing to do, right?"

"In what way is it bad?"

"Selling your body isn't bad thing?"

"If my body is the only thing I can offer, how is it bad thing? Furthermore, I don't think you have the right to judge me right or wrong from your position."

Amenda narrowed her eyes. Sae provoked her just now. She wondered if she was really hearing that from a teenage prostitute.

"Fine."

"Fine," Sae talked right back. "Tell me about your gang though."

"Fine, we are a gang on surface and actually we are traders inside. We need to be a gang to survive on surface. It's just like how you got here. We beat up people and secure our territory."

"I didn't see many women. Are they treated like how I was treated?"

"There is no law on this planet. Women are usually treated as sex toys. I suppose they are hiding for their own sake. I am surprised you haven't been raped already by others and were taken a hostage."

"I have my ways," She chuckled. She did have her ways. She had a lot of stalkers back on Heaven of Order. She learned ways to lose them. "Would you like to hire me?"

"What can you do?" Amenda sneered.

"I can fight."

Amenda didn't reply. She was considering. A small body with right skill would make a very agile fighter. But her fear was that she might be bluffing, so she decided to test her.

"Sure, if you pass a test."

Sae nodded. "All right."

Before Sae could even finish her nodding, Amenda threw a fist at her face. Sae was very used to sneak and surprise attacks, so she dodged and evaded Amenda's fist with ease by jumping off chair she was sitting on.

"Well, that hurts," Sae muttered as she landed on ground violently with her hips.

"So, you are agile at least," Amenda smiled.

"I can bend like a sheet of steel as well."

"And that helps with what?"

"Nevermind," Sae giggled.

Sae was hard to read, Amenda thought. She seemed to be awfully relaxed. It seemed clear that Sae wasn't an ordinary person.

"I won't test you anymore," Amenda claimed, "Instead, I will let my brother deal with you."

"Goodie, awesome. I handle guys better than gals."

"He should be back in few weeks. Until then, I want you to work for the gang temporarily."

"Work? What work?"

"Can you cook?"

"Nay."

"Learn then."

"Alright."

Amenda was somewhat concerned that Sae didn't seem to be taking anything seriously. Her appearance was a kid's as well as her behavior was although her words carried weight from time to time.

For weeks, Sae had been in charge of food. Her first attempt ended up miserably, burning down almost an entire kitchen. She became gradually better at cooking, and she was slowly accepted into the gang.

When three weeks passed, the gang leader, Amon, returned.

"Welcome back, bro," Amenda proudly welcomed her brother who imposingly entered a hall flanked by four bodyguards.

Sae had a good look at Amon. He didn't look like a gang leader. He rather looked like a businessman. It didn't take long for Amon to spot a new comer in his gang.

Pointing at Sae, he asked others around him.

"Who is this?"

"Sae, the name is," Amenda replied, "A new comer."

"A kid?"

"She seems to be capable and smart."

"Hmm...," Amon scratched his chin carefully. "I will believe your perception and judgment, sister."

So, just like that, Sae was formally accepted into the gang officially.

The gang did not bear a name, but people seemed to refer them as "The Goons". The Goons claimed a small portion of the only city on Dawn. The city, being the only city on the planet, did not bear an official name. Most of time, it was referred as "the city" or sometimes it was called "Dawn".

The gang was relatively small compared to other gangs in the city. However, due to Amon's business senses, the gang had held a firm position over trades. In fact, the Goons controlled the most vital commodity, breads.

Amon did not show any interest in Sae, and he was not present most of time. All Sae had been doing for past nine months was cooking and sometimes cleaning. She did not complain though. Although her new life and role were less exciting than what she had before, it was peaceful and easy-going.

Sae grinned sarcastically as she thought she was having peaceful time. Her nine-month of peaceful life was about to end when Amon was urgently carried back to the base by his guards. He had gunshot wounds on his back. Sae was watching him carried to somewhere.

"What's going on?" Sae got a hold of a gang member who was busy running around.

He told her that Amon was trying to make a big deal successful, but he was betrayed.

Amenda acted as a doctor in the gang. After looking after her brother for hours, she came out of his private room. She looked tired.

"What's going on?" Sae asked Amenda who just came out.

Amenda did not answer Sae's question. Instead, she asked a favor.

"Amon was going to attend a big deal, but he cannot now," She explained. "I want you to go on his behalf and finalize the deal."

Sae trusted Amenda, therefore she had no reason to refuse. She figured that Amenda did not want to talk about her brother's condition.

She was given seven gang members and a briefcase of money for the trade.

"Be careful out there. They may not have good intentions," Amenda added.

Sae and her gang went to the said site. It was an abandoned building in downtown. Another gang was waiting for them. They were a group of over thirty thugs, armored and armed fully as if they were going to a war.

"You are the dealer?" A thug spoke out while Sae and her gang was preparing to make the deal. "Is this a joke?" Other thugs started to laugh after him.

Sae was used to such comments, thus she proceeded with the job without minding. She stood in front of her gang who were guarding her as well as watching their surrounding for any unusual movements.

She put down the briefcase on ground carefully and slowly. "Here is the money," She declared.

The thug who made fun of her earlier walked forth and inspected the money, who appeared to be the leader. He glanced at Sae few times as he inspected the money.

"Good," He said. "Full amount is here including the girl."

Sae twisted her head. "Including the girl?"

There was only one female in the whole area, and that was Sae. The gang leader made a clicking sound from his throat. At the very same moment, a plasma discharge sound roared from what appeared to be a high-precision rifle.

"Uh-," Sae felt something on her left chest. It was a sharp pain. As she looked down, she saw a hole on her jacket. She slowly uncovered the portion where the hole was. There was another hole on her shirt.

"What's the meaning of this?" She demanded while looking down on her chest.

The opposition gang leader looked at her and lost his words. She was supposed to be killed in an instant. The sniper's bullet went through her left chest, heart, directly. Yet, there she was standing with a gun wound on her left chest. Instead of pouring blood, Sae was radiating hatred toward the gang.

"I said," She raised her already high-pitched voice. "What is the meaning of this?"

"Uh...," The gang leader tried to speak.

She turned around violently and looked at her gang.

"What the hell is this?!" She demanded, yet no one replied to her as they looked at each other with confused eyes.

She already figured out the answer. Apparently, she was sold out. She wasn't exactly sure what the deal was, but she was to be killed by them, and that was a part of the whole deal. It was just that she had crossed no one on Dawn. Unless ...

"My mother again?" She mumbled.

Another shot was made while Sae was thinking. A second hole was made on her left chest. Sae narrowed her eyes and frowned. She felt strong urges to kill them.

"Darkness..., isn't it?" She said to herself. "Darkness... Such chaos..."

'Chaos ... in your hands...' A strange, heretic, voice echoed not in her head but from her heart.

"Chaos in my hands?" Sae followed the echo, and soon after that the echo in her heart started to sound alike a chant ..., a faint chant... that started to ring her ears and head.

Both of her arms were beginning to be enveloped with a dark aura. The thugs in the area had no idea what was going on. All they could see was Sae mumbling few words vacantly.

"Let's kill her," One of the thugs said. "I don't know what happened to her wounds though. She may be an ESP."

Other thugs agreed with him and approached Sae with their plasma knives drawn out. Sae was looking down and was standing like a drunken person but she suddenly stood firm. Her eyes were weakly glowing.

"Time for all of you to die," She said faintly. A thug who was nearest her was killed then. His chest exploded. He simply exploded for no apparent reason after Sae ran into him. She repeated it to other thugs, and all of them exploded, spouting blood, ribs, and their internal organs.

She killed even the thugs from the Goons. She knew they probably had nothing to do with the dealing and they weren't probably even aware of the deal, but that did not matter to her. She just wanted to kill everyone, including the sniper. The sniper was in an abandoned building nearby. When he saw Sae rampaging and killing everyone, he abandoned his position swiftly and escaped. When he was about to exit the building, he saw Sae blocking the only exit.

The sniper reacted quickly. He loaded his rifle, aimed at Sae's forehead, and shot her. Sae recoiled as she was shot in her head, but she regained her balance quickly and ran into the sniper. There was a vivid burnt bullet hole on her forehead. In the end, the sniper died as his chest exploded along with his heart.

Sae was looking down on the messy corpse. Her breath started to become calm down. She touched her forehead and found the bullet hole closing slowly. The holes on her left chest were already gone.

"So..., I am a monster."

She grabbed the suitcase. It was full of cash cards. She believed that she could buy a way out of this planet with such an amount of money. She also went through all corpses and looted them. She found few pistols and lots of plasma knives. She took two knives and three pistols with her and, of course, the suitcase.

Taking the suitcase with her would expose herself to dangers, so she hid the suitcase elsewhere and took only handful amount of cash cards. All of her senses were extremely perceptive and she made sure that no one was around when she hid the suitcase.

She knew where to go for a ticket. There was a famed pawn shop near the shuttle port. The shuttle port itself did not sell any tickets because it was a well-known fact that almost no one on Dawn would be able to afford any tickets. Instead, there was a pawn shop nearby where one could purchase a ticket in exchange of valuable goods. However, the pawn shop was run by the major gang on Dawn. The gang called themselves the Beholders and claimed that they were watching over everyone in the city. They held majority of the city under their control. The Goons acted often on their behalf when it came to trading.

"Hmm..."

Sae was looking at the pawn shop. It stood out from other building because the shop was the only place that had neon signs in the area. There were also two muscular guards by its entrance.

As Sae approached the entrance, the two guards moved and blocked the entrance.

"Sorry, kid. No kid's allowed."

She was not going to argue that she was not a kid. Instead, she pulled out few cash cards.

"Interested?" She said to them.

The two guards looked at each other and looked back at her. "What is your business?"

"My business is private, but I assure you that it is genuine."

The two guards looked at each other again. "Fine, give us the cards and we will let you enter."

Sae was skeptical if they would keep their words, but she had no other choice but to trust them. After she handed them the cards, the guards verified them and moved away from the entrance.

"You may proceed," One of the guards said.

"Thanks."

As soon as she entered the pawn shop, she was bombard with loud music. It was also fairly dark. An ordinary person would have a hard time seeing. It wasn't a problem for Sae however. She could clearly see.

The place looked basically a pub with countless stuff hanging on walls. There were tables where various items were filed. Sae couldn't identify most of them. She walked toward the counter. There was a man behind barred walls. He was counting cash cards casually, nodding along with music.

"I've come to ..." Then Sae realized she couldn't hear her own words. Therefore, it was unlikely that the man could hear her. She considered few ways to grab his attention. She pulled out all of her cash cards in possession which seemed to have failed. She took off her clothes and became naked, which didn't seem to work.

Finally, she stared at him and recalled the moments when she was betrayed by the Goons. Her eyes started to glow weakly.

The man paused counting his cards and lowered volume of music.

"Who are you? He asked.

"I am Sae."

"Alright, Sae, what is your business?"

"I've come to purchase a ticket that will lead me out of this hellhole."

The man looked up and down at her. "You are serious, I can tell. But I wonder if you have what it takes."

She pulled out a cash card.

"That ain't enough," He responded.

"A hundred of these," Sae responded.

The man twisted his head, confused slightly. He wasn't sure whether Sae was serious in her offer.

"I am serious," She assured.

"Bring me the cards, only then I will talk."

"No," Sae shook her head. "You prepare a ticket for me. Only then I will prepare my payment."

"No deal then. Leave."

"Fine," Sae turned around and started to walk away from the counter. When she was about to open the door to outside, the man called her.

"Wait."

Sae turned around slowly. "Deal then?" She said.

The shop keeper claimed that he needed three days to come up with a ticket that will get Sae out of the planet on their next transport. The Beholders had complete control over the only shuttle port on Dawn.

The deal was to exchange a hundred of cash cards for a ticket. Of course, Sae had been through enough of mistrusts to expect a scam. Still, there were little choices for her. She just had to go with the flow and hope for the best.

During the three days of wait, she hid herself in a dumpster. It was also where the suitcase was hidden. She stayed there during the wait and had done nothing which might attract attentions.

Three days passed, and she crawled out of the dumpster slowly at dawn. She had the suitcase with her along with two knives on her waist and pistols attached around her upper arms. She appeared as if she was partaking in a war.

She stood before the pawn shop. The two guards weren't present which was unusual.

"God..., don't you hate this." Sae looked up at the sky. The sky wasn't blue. It was colorful however due to the planet being in proximity with a nebula. She had a feeling that she'd fall into a trap as soon as she walk in. She hated that she had no other choice but to walk into a trap straightforward.

She opened the door and walked inside into darkness.

Her vision adjusted for darkness instantly, and she spotted familiar faces, a lot of them in fact. Amenda was there along with her gang. The shop keeper was still behind the barred wall but he was armed and armored.

"So..., " She shrugged. "This is how it turns out." She glared at Amenda. "Why did you sell me out?"

Amenda was wearing a night-vision goggle. "I don't know what you've done and how you came here, but someone wants you dead pretty badly."

"Indeed," The pawn shop keeper added.

"Was it Tanweer?" Sae asked, "The client."

"Yes," Amenda answered. "So, I guess you know your sins."

Sae recalled her memories. The only "sins" she could recall was being born by the woman.

"The woman placed a big bounty on you," Amenda said.

"It wasn't just big. It's huge," The shop keeper added. "Wait, it's more than huge. I don't know the word for it."

"One hundred tickets," A thug added, "She offered."

Sae placed the suitcase gently on floor and slowly pulled out her two knives, wielding it on each of her hand. She didn't have any training for close combat, but she felt like she could do it. It was a strange urge of confidence she was receiving from her guts.

"I guess all of you want me dead?" Sae asked the obvious question.

"Sorry, girl," Amenda said. "It's nothing personal."

Sae closed her eyes briefly. She liked Amenda. She felt like she was a big sister while she was with the Goons.

Sae opened her eyes slowly and held her knives tight. "I guess... there is no other way to resolve this..." Then, she ran toward the thugs.

The fight lasted good fifteen minutes. Sae dominated them all eventually. She did not kill any of them, which was why it took longer.

Everyone was down on floor, and that included Sae as well. She was leaning against a wall in a corner. Her knives were bloody, but her knives spared lives. The keeper of the place seemed to have disappeared however.

Sae spoke with a sigh. "How... do you like that?"

"How in the world...," Amenda blurted out, "What the hell are you?" Amenda was bleeding from her waist, but it wasn't a serious wound.

Sae let out of a laugh and said, "That doesn't matter. I am victorious and that's what matters."

Amenda was trying to understand what Sae was trying to do. "Are you going to kill us?" She asked.

"Sure, if that is what you want." Sae looked around. "The dude's gone."

Amenda looked around as well. "It seems so."

"Who was he?"

"He is the steward of the Beholders. He's a pretty high ranking officer. He fled, and that means..."

One of Amenda's thugs spoke after her. "Our lives are forfeit."

"Mind explaining?" Sae asked.

Amenda covered her waist wound as she raised her upper body. "Argh," She groaned. "When we sold you out, we failed to kill you. That was our first failure. This is our second failure. The Beholders will not give us a third chance. They will hunt us down."

Thugs who Amenda had brought started to murmur.

"You may run," Amenda spoke since she knew what they were thinking. "The Goons are done."

A few thugs rushed out quickly. Remaining thugs were walking out slowly. There were only Amenda and Sae left eventually.

Sae stood up and approached Amenda, giving her a hand.

"No, thanks," She responded. "I don't need your pity."

"If you believe your life is forfeit, then lend me your ability," Sae spoke.

Amenda scoffed. "Yeah, right..."

"I will help you to defeat the Beholders. In return, you help me get out of this hellhole one day."

Whether Sae was being truthful or not, it was an interesting proposal. Amenda believed that the Goons were done for. She could attempt hiding and try to save herself and her brother, but it would become an awful life to bear. In fact, death sounded more appealing to her.

"You saw me fight. You know I am strong. It doesn't matter how many I have to fight, I won't be defeated."

Sae knew this because she realized that she could not be killed.

"You can't be serious." Having a hard time trusting Sae who she tried to kill, Amenda looked away from Sae's hand. "Just leave."

"Are you giving up?"

Amenda was silent.

Shrugging, Sae blurted. "What a coward."

"Everyone on this planet is a coward anyway," Amenda replied. "It is just a matter of how cowardly."

Sae changed the subject. "Do you know who Tanweer is?"

The change of subject took Amenda by surprise. "What? Oh, no, not really."

"Do tell what you know about her please."

"All I know is that she placed a huge bounty on you and asked the Beholders to seek you out. They found out that you belonged to the Goons, so they asked us to take care of you."

Amenda seemed to be speaking truth. Besides, she didn't have a reason to lie at this point.

"What have you done to the woman anyway? It must be pretty bad if someone wants you dead and even chases you to this damned planet."

Sae, again, considered what she had done wrong to Tanweer. And, again, the only sin she could think of was being born by the woman.

"She is my mother," Sae said indifferently.

"Pardon?"

"You heard me."

She laughed weakly as if she was hearing a bad joke. "You can't be serious."

"I am though."

"You are saying that - your own mother - wants you dead. Are you her step-daughter or something?"

"Nope," Sae shook her head. "I was born from her womb."

"That is ... messed up."

"I ask you this for the last time," Sae declared with a grim voice. "Choose to aid me or I can end your future suffering right here right now."

Amenda started to calm down and narrowed her eyes, considering her options. The Goons were done. That was for certain. The first priority was securing safety of herself and her brother. For the purpose, she needed someone, someone strong.

"Fine, I will help you but you must help us with fleeing. We haven't got much time now. The Beholders will soon raid the Goons."

"I agree. Can you run?"

Amenda had some deep wounds on her waist. She attempted to stand up. Frowning and groaning with pain, she stood up. "I can run. I can't let these wounds stop me now. This is no time for that."

Sae and Amenda left the scene and rushed to the Goons' hideout at once. When they arrived, Amenda was pale and had lost quite a lot of blood.

"Amenda! What happened?!" Amon and his men rushed to take on Amenda who was about to collapse, then he noticed Sae. "I see," He added, realizing what happened.

"I've ... failed," Amenda said in a labored voice. "We must ... flee, bro."

Amon's guards took a few steps back when they heard her.

"Run, run for your life," He declared to them. "I won't blame you."

His guards informed others in the hideout. Everyone evacuated the hideout soon after. Amon was performing first aid on Amenda meanwhile. When he was done, he looked at Sae.

"I guess we are stuck with you now, huh," He remarked bitterly.

Sae replied with a shrug. "Pretty much. How is your sister?"

"Just some flesh wound, nothing big."

"Yeah...," Amenda replied with a lingering groan. "I am fine. We must go."

They both knew that there was no time to slack.

Amon and Amenda expected everyone to be gone because that was how things worked on this planet. When they turned around to have the last sight of their hideout, there were two people as in two real persons.

"What are you two doing here?" Amon shouted at them. "Run while you can!"

He didn't know who they were. They must have been pretty new ones. There were a male and a female.

The male spoke up. "We... would like to stay here."

It took him a few seconds to get what they, or he, meant. Loyalty was not something that was commonly seen on the planet. He started to suspect that they may be spies from the Beholders. It was Sae who put sense back into him.

"Heh," She snickered. "Of all your followers, only these two are the real ones."

Amenda chuckled together with Sae. The Goons had roughly eighty members.

Amon supported her sister to stand up. "You two..., what are your names?"

"We are siblings just like you two. You took us in, you provided us with good food. We'd like to stick with you. My name is Flovien. This is my sister, Karen."

"We won't be able to provide you with good food anymore. We will be on run. Seriously, run while you can."

"Life won't be much better out there, won't it? We might as well go to the end with you."

There was no time to argue, Amon thought. They must flee. That was their first priority.

"Fine, whatever you want," He prated.

"So, where are we going?" Sae asked.

Amon and Amenda looked at each other briefly before Amenda spoke. "There is a hideout we used before setting up the Goons. We are going there."

"A hideout 'we' used?" Sae twisted her head in curiosity. "Who are we?"

"Just me and Amon, it was long before we created this gang," Amenda added. "It should have essentials if it wasn't found and looted."

"Flovien, Karen," Amon called out. "Gather as much food as possible. You have 5 minutes."

The siblings quickly disappeared into storage area. In 5 minutes, Flovien and Karen were carrying two backpacks full of canned foods. Amon was carrying a plasma file and a RPG on his back. Amenda was carrying two luggage cases full of money and a portable computer. Sae was told to carry nothing as she was to act as a guard.

Amon made his final check and ordered everyone to leave the hideout through its backdoor. The city was basically full of abandoned buildings and corrupted sewers. The city was built inside a dome in a circular manner. In middle of the dome, there was a tall, 121-story, tower that was currently occupied by the Beholders. Where the hideout for the Goons was in an outer area where average height of buildings was three-story. Average height of buildings became progressively taller as it neared the main tower. However, nothing was as tall as the tower.

Over 90% of buildings were abandoned, and majority of them were being used as hideouts in a way or another. It was pretty much impossible to seek out someone

through such a densely packed area. The only effective way was by using a bio-signature scanner which could easily be fooled.

The gang made their escape silently and swiftly. When they entered an abandoned building far away from the Goons hideout, they heard an explosion.

"Looks like they are doing their job," Amon pointed out.

Amenda took out her portable computer and initiated scanning the area. "A lot of bio-signatures here, let's keep going. It will be hard for them to spot us in this area," She said.

It was likely that they were spotted by unseen eyes already, but barely anyone on the planet cared for anything even if the Beholders would put a bounty on them.

It took them four hours of careful proceeding to reach their final destination. It was a remote area where average height of buildings was two-story. Population density was extremely low as well. Amon pointed at an abandoned two-story building. It was just like any other buildings in the city. All of its windows were broken, and the building seemed to have suffered great wear & tear.

"I am detecting no one in the building, which is good for us," Amenda informed everyone before they'd proceed.

"To the basement," Amon stated, "Carefully."

There was a door to the basement. However, it was behind debris of construction materials. One could hardly spot the door and it would be impossible to reach the

door without specialized equipment. However, Amon simply walked toward the debris; it was a holographic image.

The door to the basement was locked digitally. As Amon entered a password, heavy door slid sideways. The basement was basically a base. It had various computers in a small network designed to jam the area to counter scanners. It also had a few storage compartments below where food and water were stored.

"This place doesn't look like it's been abandoned," Sae commented. "It's almost as if it's being used regularly."

"True, Amenda has been keeping this place in check," Amon said. "We had this place in check just in case."

"Only brother and I knew this place. It should be safe for a while," Amenda added.

Amon approached a console. "I am activating an additional holographic wall now," He stated. "It will create a fake wall in front of the entrance."

"It looks like a lot of planning went into this place. This place is equipped better than your hideout," Sae said.

"There were only two of us back then. We needed these masseurs to keep ourselves safe," Amenda replied.

They had a quick meal. After the meal, Amon was teaching Flovien basic operations of the consoles throughout the basement. Meanwhile, Amenda was showing Karen an emergency escape route. Sae, on the other hand, was leaning her back against a wall and was slacking.

After a few hours, they seemed to have calmed down from the venture they just had. The basement was too large for mere five people. Sae worried that it might scratch sanity in these people if they stayed here for too long. The basement was powered by a primary and a secondary generator. The primary generator was connected to a sewer underground where it was generating electricity from hydropower. The secondary generator was operating the same way as the primary generator, but its location was different.

"Man, this is literally a military base. Where did you get enough credit to accomplish this?" Sae was in awe. This couldn't have been easy to make it happen.

"A long story," Amon replied.

"All we got is time while stuck in here," She made a point.

Amon and Amenda's parents were forced to flee to this very planet when they were still infants. Their parents never told them why they ended up on Dawn, though it wouldn't be hard to assume few scenarios. Their parents were unable to adapt to the new life style on Dawn and passed away after only few years when the siblings could barely take care of themselves.

Fortunately, Amon and Amenda held together remarkably well on Dawn. What little assets their parents left for them was safely stored and was used to build a hideout. They had to mature quickly and they did. Amon showed a talent for trading and he soon formed the Goons at age of seven. Amenda worked alongside of Amon, assisting him to establish a firm ground on Dawn.

For next 20-something years, they had done fine. They were acknowledged by the Beholders as one of their sub-gangs and the Goons was given a clearance for small scale trading.

Everything was going relatively well for them until Sae came along.

However, Amon seemed relatively content about how the situation turned up and showed no anger toward Sae.

"I wasn't going to be a Beholders' dog forever," He stated, beaming a bitter smile at the others, "I am a man and will go as high as possible."

"So you want to defeat the Beholders?" Sae asked, also smiling.

Amon and Amenda's silence answered her.

"Well, I am invincible. Use me."

Amon laughed weakly, he was still thinking that she was just joking. Then Sae grabbed a plasma pistol from her waist and aimed at her head. It was so sudden that no one knew what was happening. Before anyone could realize, she made a shot. It was a plasma pistol, so it didn't make any resounding sound. An electrical charge was all that sounded the confined area.

"What the?!" Amon shouted out from the surprise and turned to his sister. "She killed herself!"

Amenda grinned. "I guess she really wanted to make a point."

Amon looked at Amenda. "What?"

"Look at her."

When Amon looked back at Sae, who should have been dead, was still there aiming the pistol on her head. What seemed to be her brain was spattered all over the cold concrete floor.

"See? I am invincible."

She clearly made a strong point.

"Use me," She continued. "I suppose you have a plan in your mind? I don't think you'd just rot here until you die of age."

Amon was silent; perhaps he was trying to find out whether she was

"I am a one-man army that can't be defeated."

He indeed had plans, but Sae wasn't a part of it, at least not until this moment.

"I do have one condition before helping you out. Are you willing to listen?"

Still silent, Amon gave her a careful nod.

"I help you out to be on top of the food chain on this stupid planet. In return, once you conquer this damned planet, let me out of here. That should be an easy task to accomplish once you become the ruler of this planet, no?"

That was where the deal was made. That was where everything began to change on Dawn.

In far future, Flovien stated that it was a one-side agreement between Sae and Amon because Amon never gave her an answer. Silence was all he gave to her. However, Flovien stated that he did not blame Sae for what she did because what she did was perfectly justified. He stated that he understood her situation and accepted the outcome that changed Dawn.

The Goons emerged to the surface soon after the deal was made, and Sae was actively hunting down members of the Beholders. No one could stop her because she could not be killed. She had rockets blasted on her back and survived. She had sniper shots through her head numerous times and still survived. At one time, the Beholders arranged a plasma bomb and lured her into a trap where they detonated the bomb; she still survived.

She made it clear that she was working for the Goons and her fierce and brutal prowess started to change political balance on Dawn. People started to join the Goons either out of fear or admiration. Amon quickly restructured the Goons accordingly.

In early stage of Sae's rampage, the Beholders paid little attention to her and the emerging Goons. When they realized that they were dealing with a monster, it was already too late to change the whole situation. The Goons had already become a formidable opponent, and people on Dawn started to believe that a revolution was coming and that the era of the Beholder was gone. People wanted to overthrow the Beholders and they joined the Goons.

With Sae fighting on front, the Goons joined her battle and declared war on the Beholders three years later.

And a decade passed, the Goons had the Beholders on its throat. It took many years, but finally the Goons was about to complete the revolution. With only their HQ left, the Beholders was making their last stand. Unfortunately, leaders of the Beholders had already fled out of the planet and only a small portion of loyal members led by a high ranking officer were defending their HQ.

Sae stood before the mighty tower of the Beholders. Its gigantic view shot through the sky; it was 121 stories tall. It stood in the middle of the city and was a landmark of the planet. It had defensive turrets which were disabled at the moment due to lack of power.

It was surreal to see Sae was standing in front of countless men from the Goons. She was leading them. She was their leader. The small, 10 year-old looking, girl was a leader of over seven thousand battle hardened criminals.

No longer did they look at her as a bitch to sexually abuse, no longer did they bother her. They all saw how cruel she was when she massacred her enemies.

They respected her and at the same time feared her.

Flovién and Karen stood right behind her. They became Amon's trusted officers and were right below Amenda in the chain of command. Flovién and Karen had both seen great battles and their scars showed. Flovién had lost an eye, and Karen had lost her left arm.

Everyone was quiet. Sae was in full command and she did not bother demanding surrender. Amon had always let her do whatever she wanted. This was no exception.

"Today, the Beholders will finally fall! That tower will be ours!" Sae bellowed. She rose her right hand afloat and paused for few seconds.

'It will be over soon at last...'

'It took so long...'

'Too long...'

She dropped her hand and charged forward.

The Beholders fell on that day.

Celebration lasted for days and, for the first time of history on Dawn, free food was given away. People welcomed the Goons and its leader Amon.

Amon ordered relocation of the base to the former Beholders' HQ and praised Sae's achievements. He even stated that she was a Goddess for the Goons. He did everything possible to please her.

But Sae was not happy. She wanted to leave. That was why she chose to be a ruthless man slaughter for over a decade. Although she didn't speak aloud, she was waiting for Amon to grant her a free ticket out of Dawn.

Therefore, she waited quietly and patiently.

For over a year during a period Dawn became stabilized.

But it did not happen.

Amon never mentioned the free ticket out of the planet. Running out of patience, she asked Amenda which she replied, "My brother has changed..."

Yes, he had changed.

Revolution may have been successful, but nothing was changed. The Goons became the next Beholders. And that was it.

Finally, she decided to confront Amon himself in his chamber which was located on 121st floor of the tower.

"You promised!" She shouted out of desperation. "Keep your words! Let me out of this hellhole!"

There was no response from Amon who was looking down on Sae from above. His guards aimed their plasma rifles at her. The chamber was consisted of two open floors. The upper floor was where Amon and his elite guards were at. There was no physical means to reach the upper floor without proper tools. And Amenda was on the lower floor with additional guards.

Betrayed again?

Yet... again... ?

AGAIN?!

She noticed Flovien and Karen approaching from her rear. Everyone was fully armed and armored.

Tears flew through her cheeks. "Damn it!" She clenched her fists. "Why!" She yelled, "Why?! Why does this happen to me always?! Why am I always always always betrayed in the end?!"

Amenda shook her head in shame; it wasn't directed at Sae. Rather it was directed at herself and her brother.

Sae bit her teeth and her body started to shake in anger ... or sadness... or something else. Her tears had stopped and her eyes were glowing red.

"So be it."

She said firmly.

"Fuck this, so be it!"

She concluded.

"I tried. I really did. I tried to trust this fucking world, but this world ain't returning my trust!"

Hot energy was flowing through her entire body. It was so hot that she had a hard time resisting the urge. Her arms started to leap in dark cloud-like substances.

A strange, a very surreal heretic voice that sounded as if it was coming from the darkest corner of the Hell itself, echoed in her head.

'Darkness in your hands...'

The voice chanted the hot urge inside of her body. She just could not resist it.

Inhaling deeply, she shouted, "Darkness in my hands!"

Her hands to elbows were fully enveloped in darkness and she ran toward whatever was there; she no longer cared who or what was blocking her path.

“Ahhhhhhhhhhhhh - !”

It was as if she was dancing. Whatever her dark fists touched, it exploded in the most brutal ways. Gun shots were doing nothing to her as the shots were simply blocked by an unseen field.

“I WILL DESTROY YOU ALL! EVERYTHING! EVERYONE!”

Amenda was the first casualty. She chose to be killed by Sae first which she didn't hesitate to do. Amon seemed emotionless even when his sister's chest exploded and she became two large pieces of cold meats.

“Kill the target,” He ordered with a cold voice.

She killed almost everyone in the chamber, including Amon himself. There were only handful of survivors and that included Flovien. His sister, Karen, was brutally killed however.

With bloody hands, Sae walked slowly toward remaining survivors. However, she did not kill the survivors. She felt too tired to bother killing anyone anymore. She just wanted to leave Dawn once for all.

She simply had a look at survivors who were in fear and turned away from them. When she passed by Flovien whose wounds weren't great, he told her in a labored breath, “I am sorry that this had to happen.”

He really did mean it. He also noticed significant changes in Amon but could do nothing to stop him.

She didn't reply and simply left the scene. She left the planet on the same day by taking over the only shuttle port by force.

And Flovien became the leader of the Goons soon after.

As she set auto-pilot to Freebie, she sat back deeply in pilot's seat and shut her eyes.

She wanted a legitimate way out of Dawn. As she battled the Beholders, she came to realize that, if she wanted, she could have just overtaken a shuttle port and steal a transport. She resisted her urge to just do that and wasted time by helping Amon.

She wanted a legitimate way out of Dawn. She wanted an accomplishment and wanted to be proud of it.

In deep down below, she wanted to tell her mother, "Look at me! I got out of the planet!"

Tears flew through her cheek.

"Damn it... Damn it..."

She did not stop at Freebie and went straight to Heaven of Order. A decade was enough to have changed a lot of things in her home city.

She had plenty of credits that she took from Dawn and she used one third of it on new clothes. She preferred adorable clothes that were comfortable. She ended up with dark brown hot pants with long leather boots and wore a blue turtle neck sweater. Over the years, she lost the ID card given by Cecil klisis and she also lost the bandanna gifted by Vnil O'ren on Dawn. Personally, she couldn't care less anymore.

She felt dull and empty inside. It was as if a rather large part of her mind was bitten away by continuous betrayals. At the moment, she had only one thing in her mind; it was to kill her mother in order to put a period mark on a phase of her life. The only reason she cared enough to properly dress was that she learned

through experience that people had a great tendency to judge others by appearances. She chose to avoid being treated inadequately.

Her search for where she used to work, the night club bar that her mother ran, ended absurdly when she found out that it didn't exist anymore. Apparently, the madam of the place passed away and the property was seized by the government since she had neither relatives nor a written will.

“What the hell...”

She stood vacantly before a love hotel where [Mosaic Love] used to be. She was in red district and she was soon approached by a couple of men, asking for a service. Her answer was simple; she killed them brutally with bare hands.

'I kill because I can and get away with it!'

For many years, her hatred toward her ill-intended mother had been growing, and it didn't help by facts that her mother still intended to get rid of her when she was thrown into the living Hell. The more she was betrayed, the more she thought that it was her mother who was the ultimate cause of her betrayals.

At one point, she started to believe that everything was her mother's fault and she swore repeatedly to kill her with her own hands.

But her mother was gone apparently. The flow of time had taken her away from the land of the living. Her hatred had lost its target; as a result, Sae became enraged and went berserk. She lost herself and started to kill anyone in her sight.

The police soon arrived only to find what they described as “Hell”. Sae had apparently murdered over fifty people when they arrived, and the manner she had killed them was brutal.

“We have an ... ESP on rampage here!” A policeman shouted at his communicator. “We need backup ASAP. Call the military!”

They could not determine whether Sae was an ESP or a hyper human. She was a hybrid, but they didn’t know yet that hybrids existed.

Her dark aura had fully enveloped both of her arms. Anything her hands touched exploded violently. When there were no more people in the area, her attention turned to the police.

“F, Freeze!” Policemen shouted in their defense which was simply ignored as Sae killed them.

When the police came to a realization that they had a serious problem, Sae had already claimed over ten policemen. The police immediately called the military for backup and over one hundred armed personnel arrived at the scene.

Breathing heavily, Sae glared at the armed personnel. She laughed hysterically as she looked at them. She was no longer herself. She was completely consumed by her own darkness.

“Surrender!” A heavily armored man demanded over a microphone.

“Like hell I will!” Shouting, Sae jumped on them. Gunfire proved to be futile.

Eventually, military equipment was called in; Tanks arrived in the red district and fired at Sae at will although all it did was destroy nearby buildings. She wasn’t even scratched.

“What the hell are you?!” A soldier cried out as his chest was brutally exploded by her fist. Tanks also exploded in flames when she punched them with her darkened fists.

She was unstoppable.

The military asked the council to approve usage of orbital strikes. It was their last attempt to take Sae out. It would also mean total probable destruction of the entire area. The council denied orbital strike. The council, instead, approved the military to use agents.

Agents were private servants for the government. They were entirely composed of skilled ESPs and hyper humans. However, none of agents could last a battle against Sae for more than ten seconds. When over fifteen agents were “killed in action”, the council approved usage of an orbital strike.

The military withdrew from the area at once in preparation of an orbital strike.

With nothing to kill, Sae stood alone in the bloody mess. She vacantly stood still. Scent of blood dominated the area.

She suddenly sensed a presence behind her. Even before, she had a chance to look behind, she was knocked away by a sneak attack. No attack had much impact on her, but this time it was different. The strike felt heavy and sharp.

She passed out just as she was struck down on the bloody ground.

The first thing she saw when she opened her eyes were a ceiling. A deep gray wooden ceiling, it was. It was easy to tell that the construction of the ceiling was exquisite and high-grade.

She couldn't figure out what happened. She couldn't figure out how much time passed, either.

After having looked at her surrounding, it appeared that she was in an ordinary room. She wasn't in a jail or in a hospital.

"You are finally awake."

A familiar voice sounded in the room. She couldn't figure out who it was though.

"There is a set of clothes for you in a corner by the door. Dress yourself and come down. I am in the garden."

That was when she realized she was completely naked. Dressing herself up with a pair of pants and a T-shirt, she found her body to be extremely light. It was as if heavy weight had been lifted off her shoulders, wrists, and ankles.

She was apparently in someone's manor.

"Greens..." She mumbled involuntarily when she saw plants for the first time in her life.

Greens were everywhere in the manor.

"Welcome."

Pointing at the person, Sae exclaimed. "Ah, you -!"

"My name is Cecil Klisis."

She finally remembered that he was the one who saved her.

"Do you remember what happened?"

"Uh..."

She couldn't remember how she ended up here...

“Wait, greens...” She looked around. “Greens! Does this mean I am on Earth?”

“Correct.”

“But how?”

“You were completely consumed by your own darkness. I had to put a stop on you before you would have killed everyone on Heaven of Order.”

Pains stung her head. Although hazed, she started to recall fragments of her darkest moment.

“Yes...,” She responded weakly. “I went to Heaven of order to find my mother...”

“But she wasn’t there. In fact, she died of age,” Cecil continued. “Have a seat by the way.”

Cecil was apparently having a tea in the garden.

“Am I on Earth?”

“Yes, you are.”

After Sae took a seat, she looked above.

Deep blue sky. Oh, yes, she was on Earth.

“So, I am really on Earth. I thought people like me weren’t allowed to set feet.”

“True, but you are here anyway.”

Sae snickered. “True.”

Both of them said no more for a while, and they went on their silence for an hour straight.

For the hour, Sae recalled her darkest moment. She recollected her memories fully and understood what Cecil meant by being consumed by darkness completely.

At that time, she lost it. She had completely lost herself but wondered why she felt so light when she woke up.

“Your hatred, or darkness, has cleansed you,” Cecil said as if he read Sae’s thoughts.

Startled by the sudden speech, she jumped up and down slightly. “What?”

“Your hatred, or darkness, has cleansed you.”

“What does that mean?”

“It means what I said.”

“I don’t get it.”

“It will take time to fully understand. For now, you should rest. You deserve a break.”

Looking at the deep blue sky, Sae responded, “Fine, whatever.”

Since then, Cecil did not bother her at all. In fact, he didn’t even see her for a while. Sae was free to do anything but wasn’t allowed to leave the manor. If she really wanted however, she could have easily left since there was nothing that’d stop her. She complied nevertheless and stayed within the manor.

She noticed a child was also roaming around the manor. The child introduced herself to be Maeve. Her weight was about the same as Sae although Sae was much older. Her physical growth stopped when she was saved by Cecil.

She requested to see Cecil one day and she was called to the garden.

The garden was the heart of the manor. The manor was built around it. The garden was just large enough for a small pond, few trees, and few flora beds.

“What is it?”

As usual, Cecil was having tea when Sae arrived.

There were few subjects that had been bothering her although she had completely forgotten about it until recently.

First of all, she asked why she became a monster.

“By monster,” Cecil replied casually, “I suppose you mean immortal.”

She gave him a nod.

“I do not possess healing abilities. I do, however, possess an ability to lock objects in time.”

She was confused rightfully so.

Cecil continued, “What it means is that, when I spared few drops of blood on you, your physical status was locked. You were still alive at that time and you would remain locked to being alive no matter what.”

“For how long?”

He gazed into his tea cup he was holding. “I don’t know,” He eventually replied, “You were my first test subject.”

Although shocked, she wasn’t angry or anything. She expected as much.

Sighing deeply, she vacantly looked at the garden. “Well, it looks like I am stuck being a kid for a long time. I suppose I will learn to cope with it somehow.”

“As far as your combat ability is concerned, I have nothing to teach you. You’ve mastered your own style. However, what you do need to be taught is maintaining your status of mind.”

Recalling how she lost herself, she inclined to agree.

“But how?” She asked.

“Travel the world. See the world and feel it. Darkness is easy to learn and master; it’s active. Light, however, requires a progressive learning; it’s passive.”

“Travel the world and do what?”

“Whatever you want to do. You can be anything except for being a heroine.”

“Why can’t I be a heroine?”

“Because you can’t die. A hero needs to die in order to remain a hero.”

Sae snickered. “I guess that’s true!” She replied cheerfully.

“When you get to know the world enough, you will begin to understand why you were betrayed back on Heaven of Order as well as on Dawn.”

“Do you want me to leave now?”

“No, stay here as long as you like. Once you leave though, you won’t be allowed to come back.”

Sae couldn’t care less why she was betrayed. Even though such memories were painful, pain was something she learned to cope with as she went through her rough life.

Why did Amon betray me?

Why did my mother attempt to kill me so badly?

“This will be my last meeting with you,” Cecil declared, “Before I leave here, I would like to give you something.”

He explained that it was actually a skill named imaginary blade.

“What’s that?”

“A skill that has passed down in my family. My family has always been small numbered and had to always battle against many. This skill was meant to make a person to be able to fight many people at once effectively.”

Once he was done explaining, what seemed to be a sword appeared floating around him. There were seven blades floating. The blades were half transparent.

“This is actually an ESP skill, but you should still be able to learn this,” He said.

“I don’t need such a skill. Why do I even need to learn it?”

“A gift, I said.”

“If I refuse the gift? I don’t want to bother learning a skill that I am never going to use.”

“You may not need it, but this skill is not what it appears to be. It helps to regulate your powers since evenly distributing powers to numerous summons isn’t an easy task to accomplish, let alone control them.”

Sae recalled Cecil telling her about learning to control her mind.

“I guess I should give it a try then.”

It was a bright sunny day. Sae was leaving behind the old fashioned manor. She had a small backpack with her. As gentle breezing wind embraced her tiny figure, she beamed a smile and inhaled a deep breath. The air tasted nothing like what she breathed back on Dawn and Heaven of Order. She couldn’t pinpoint how different exactly, but –

“It IS different,” She proclaimed.

Inhaling another deep breath, she shouted this time, “IT IS DIFFERENT!”

She made no hesitation and took a transport to Freedom colony. She knew that she wouldn’t be able to come back to Earth ever again. She was fully aware.

In fact, she would never return to Earth, never.

Her endless journey had just begun.

/End