

CHAPTER II

"Sleuth And The nWo Returns - Revenge!"

The following morning outside the castle grounds we see Acorn with Hagrid staring up at a statue carved out of marble granite depicting the princess standing tall and proud with one hand on hips, the other outstretched and hand extended with one finger pointing. Sally cannot believe this work of art.

SALLY: Gosh, did you build this yourself, Hagrid?

HAGRID: I did, Acorn. <beams proudly> Sure took me a long time just to get the details properly designed.

SALLY: Wow, it does look like me. Uh, why do I have one hand reaching out and pointing to the sky?

HAGRID: Perhaps you are looking for something out there, beyond the stars.

SALLY: Okay, he-he...<laughs weakly> if you say so. Still, it looks real life-like, so to speak.

At the same time who should emerge from the HQ base but Kato, the snow monkey kung fu master who happened to notice the statue but since the sunlight was shining behind the figurine he could not depict its dimensions clearly.

KATO: Look out, New World Order!

SALLY: Kato?! <startled by his voice>

HAGRID: Huh, what-the?! <also startled>

Without warning the monkey raised his pulse laser rifle and opened fire, laser bullets thudding into the statue but bounced harmlessly off the granite surface like hailstones. Alarmed by this sudden attack, Acorn and Hagrid fled in opposite directions.

SALLY: Cease fire, stop shooting!

HAGRID: Holy cow?! <stunned> He just attacked the statue.

KATO: Hey, why are you running off like that? <confused look>

Only did it dawn on Kato that what he was attacking was not a terrorist threat to his leader. Sally and Hagrid looked back at the perplexed snow monkey warrior gawking at the statue, slack jawed and wide eyed before glaring angrily back.

SALLY: Grrmph, Kato?! Look what you done?

KATO: Oops, he-he...now I'm in big trouble here. <lowers his rifle to his side>

SALLY: You, you! <still glares> What were you thinking of, idiot?!

HAGRID: Yeah, idiot. <he too glares>

SALLY: Hey! <whirls on him> I did not give you permission to call him a stupid name, did I?

HAGRID: Whoa, calm down, boss. <backs up, holds up hands>

SALLY: Oooooooh! <snarls at him, starts breathing heavily>

KATO: My leader, I'm terribly sorry for my actions. I did not realize it was a statue, I thought it looked like a nWo mutant.

SALLY: Well...<turns back on him> what did you think it was, he? It was not a terrorist mutant but a dedication monument in my honor instead.

HAGRID: Yes, and it took me forever to create it for her highness. <glowers> Thanks a lot for nothing.

Finally the snow monkey noticed the statue for what it was, now looking battle scarred-damaged to be exact. Again he apologized.

KATO: Again I'm sorry, my leader for my actions to disgrace, dishonor you. <lowers head in shame>

SALLY: <takes pity on him> Apologies accepted, my friend, <smiles> you are forgiven. Besides, it was only an accident, no harm done.

KATO: Thanks, Sally. It kind of looked like a New World Order mutant.

HAGRID: No way, we sent those bad guys to the bottom of the lake long ago. And they're gone for good, right Acorn?

SALLY: <stares into far horizon> I wish I could believe that...

Meanwhile down below at the bottom of the lake is the silent hulk of the nWo starship where it failed in its attempt of returning to Mobius again. Onboard the vessel the leader of the Syndicate forces, Sleuth Dog is plotting his revenge against Acorn for foiling his plans of ruling the galaxy.

SLEUTH: The Galaxy Rangers think they have defeated us, and yet we survived!

Inside Mission Control, a new supply of magic has just arrived, so to speak. With their morpher rings nearly depleted of power, the Freedom Fighters get ready to recharge their powers so to be ready in defending against anything evil that comes their way. Harry, Hagrid, Hermione, Ron, Neville (who returns again to assist his Mobian friends) and Ginny man the recharging station by accepting each power morpher from each mutant warrior, inserting them into the charger units till a green light indicator shows that ring is fully charged 100% then return that morpher back to the Freedom Fighter Ranger. Plus they hand out bottled drinks of magic potions which they brewed themselves, guaranteeing it would protect Acorn and company against the dark arts of black magic in case they should encounter any Dementors that would try to drain all feelings of happiness-joy-love-laughter from that unfortunate victim.

HARRY: Hurry, hurry, step right up, boys and girls to get your once in a lifetime magic potion drinks that will protect you from black magic.

NEVILLE: Yes sir, my friends. <sounds like a barker-man> It will help you in defending yourself against the dark arts of evil powers out there in the known universe.

RON: Any lucky volunteers willing to try this special brew we cooked up, huh?

BUNNIE: Hey, I'll try some of that, sugar.

RON: Here you go, misses. <hands over a bottle> Free, on the house.

BUNNIE: Thanks, partner. <winks and tips her hat at him>

NEVILLE: Ho-ho, she likes you. <grins>

RON: Don't I know it already, he? <grins back>

AMY: I want some magic potion too, please? <gives pleading look in her eyes>

HERMIONE: Sure you can, Rose. <gives her a bottle>

AMY: Thanks, Granger. <smiles back>

HERMIONE: Anytime, Pinko Hammer warrior.

HARRY: Any other volunteers out there?

GEOFFREY: Give me some of that stuff, dude.

HARRY: Certainly, dude. <echoes him>

The wizards and witches continue passing out bottled potion drinks while recharging the morpher rings also, Hagrid supervising the project all the while as Sally, McGonagall and Dumbledore watch everything.

SALLY: Isn't that nice of your former students offering to help me and my teammates like that?

MCGONAGALL: Yes, after all wasn't it you who agreed to accept our help in the first place?

SALLY: Yes, how could I forget that. <smirks>

DUMBLEDORE: Oh, I hear you and Harry are getting along quite nicely together. <grins and winks> Rumors are circulating that the two of you are having a secret affair, he?

MCGONAGALL: They are what?! <startled look>

SALLY: HUUUUH?! <gasps> How, how did you know?

DUMBLEDORE: Oh, <shrugs> let's say I was secretly spying on you and Harry during that escapade when the two of you made love. <here he tries keeping a straight face and not laugh> I would not try to deny it, my dear.

For a moment, her highness could only stare speechless at what the head master told her. Even McGonagall herself looked speechless too.

SALLY: Okay, all right...<surrenders, gives in> I admit we are in love, yes, with each other. It started from the first time I laid eyes upon the young wizard and realized he was the perfect boyfriend for me. From then on, every chance we got to be together...<confesses> Harry and I secretly made love.

MCGONAGALL: I see, and you've been doing this without telling us about it?

SALLY: Yes, head mistress. I hope you are not angry.

MCGONAGALL: No, why should I be angry because you and Harry love each other?
<shocked>

DUMBLEDORE: Don't worry about me telling anybody else, Acorn. <promises her>
Your affair with Potter is safe with me. <again he winks>

SALLY: Thank you, sir. <sighs in relief and bows>

All of a sudden, out of nowhere came the holographic form of Nicole as she flew into the HQ base, an alarmed look on the female lynx's face!

NICOLE: *Master!...I just saw a blond-haired wizard on a broomstick flying away from headquarters...a familiar blond haired wizard wearing green-silver-black clothing to be exact...*

HAGRID: Uh-oh, it has to be that bully Malfoy, up to no good again.

SALLY: Good grief, not him again, ooooooh! <snarls in anger> You didn't happen to notice Professor Snape with him too, Nicole?

NICOLE: *Negative, leader...<shakes her head> it was only Malfoy, but I have no idea what he was doing here...*

DUMBLEDORE: Possibly spying for the Empire if I'm not mistaken.

The very mention of Malfoy made Harry, Neville, Ginny, Ron, Hermione and Luna Lovegood all look up in stunned disbelief.

NEVILLE: Oh, no. You don't suppose the Syndicate is back in business again?

GINNY: This sounds really bad.

LUNA: So what do we do about it?

HARRY: Boss? <calls to Sally>

SALLY: <playfully sneers his way> Yeeees? <then grins and tries not to laugh> Tee-he-he, I'll get you for calling me that, right?! <points finger at him>

HAGRID: Oh, really Acorn, <he too grins> come off it. He's only asking for your suggestion of what to do.

SALLY: Very well, Freedom Fighters transform ASAP!

NICOLE: *Sound off and transform...*

One by one the mutant heroes of Mobius raise their rings to the air but as they call out their vehicular forms to change into, something starts to happen! All of a sudden, cries of pain and shock fill the air as the anthromorphic animals flinch-grimace-convulse-contort in agony while lurching about, bent over and clutching their chests, looks of pain on their faces as though about to hurl or puke.

HERMIONE: What's going on here? <stunned> What's wrong with them?

NEVILLE: Oh, no! <alarmed> They're all sick.

RON: Holy cow?!

GINNY: We didn't do anything to hurt them, honest.

LUNA: So why are they acting that way, huh? <confused>

HARRY: Professors?

DUMBLEDORE: Be calm, Potter. We must get these sick mutants to the hospital wing at once for treatment to this ailment.

MCGONAGALL: Affirmative, get them to the hospital immediately!

SALLY: No, oh no! <now she is scared> My Freedom Fighters, my warriors...oooooh! <frightened>

In minutes, the sick rebels were transported to the hospital wing inside the castle ASAP. Simultaneously it was Fangs, Hagrid's pet who sniffed curiously at the bottles of potion, some lying opened on the floor, their contents pooling on the floor in puddles. Immediately the dog drew back and growled, hackles raised defensively and hair bristled along its back.

HAGRID: What is it, boy? You smell something foul?

NICOLE: *Aye, he does detect something bad...perhaps I can collect samples of the magic brew, so to speak and analyze it at once so I can formulate an antidote or cure...hey-hey, stay back, Fangs, stay back! <warns the black dog>*

Fangs growled, but whined nervously and backed away from the hologram bodyguard who went to work collecting samples of the mysterious brew. Harry and friends stared in shock and helplessness at what just took place to their friends. Just

then one of the vixens, Krystal approached her highness who turned to face her as the shaman addressed her leader.

KRYSTAL: Your highness, <inclines her head> I believe that Malfoy human was on a mission to sabotage, I mean, assassinate us all. Somehow he must've slipped undetected into the base when we were not here and hid a dangerous substance within the magic potion the wizards created for us.

SALLY: And you believe that is what happened?

KRYSTAL: Yes, I saw him sneak into the complex and followed him without his sensing my presence. I watched him slip or pour an unknown concoction of sorts into the supply of potion drinks, then escape before anyone saw him.

SALLY: Ooooooh, grrmph! <gets angry> How dare he, that stupid, no-good bully attempt such a foolish act to assassinate me and my team?!

KRYSTAL: Therefore we must find the secret of the Syndicate poison and bring back a cure.

Her highness agreed to this idea of finding out exactly what the Empire was up to, if they were indeed back in business, so to speak. But would they be successful in rescuing the lives of their fellow Rangers before it was too late?!