

One Destiny

Bionicle

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Kapitel 24: Chapter 24: Ikuta Kaita

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Gali looked up one of the walls. "I wonder what this is supposed to mean. I can read it, but this is the old language of Metru Nui. Tupua, do you think, you can translate it for us?"

Ruby eyes wandered over the signs and slowly he began to translate.

"Caught in a body that's not my own ... need to combine with the one who's predestined from his birth ... when it's time he will know by heart who he really is ... survival is only possible with my own body ... otherwise everyone who's protecting me is doomed ..." He looked back to Gali. "Now it's repeating the same over and over the whole wall."

"What is this supposed to mean?"

"I don't know. A body that's not my own ... What body? And what's the real body meant to be?"

Tahu walked past them deeper down the hallway. "I hope we will know soon. The answer's lying somewhere inside of here."

After a few minutes of walking Pohatu turned to Tupua. "I don't believe it anymore myself that it was such a good idea to brake those last walls and defend it from inside instead of keep following the Ikuta. I mean, they couldn't get into here."

"You've seen it often enough. As long as they keep using Rahkshi attacks they're much stronger than you all could ever be."

"And same counts for now."

"I don't know. I just had this strange feeling too that we have to get in here. As if the final solution was waiting deep down in this cave. I always trusted my feelings, my instincts. Why should they betray me now?"

Suddenly the earth was shaking, first only slightly, and then it grew stronger. It wasn't a continuous earthquake, it came in intervals.

"What is this?" Gali shouted.

"I don't know", was Tupua's answer, "But I have this feeling we should reach the Emerald faster than ever before."

"Mata Nui ... look!" Sasha cried out. "What is this?!"

All heads spinned around.

Something giant was walking over shattered stones into the direction of the entrance to the chamber. It looked like a Rahkshi but it was walking too upright. Its body was black with a few red stripes on back and arms. The eyes were of glowing ruby.

"Ikuta Kaita", Gali whispered.

"But why is it more black than red?"

Tahu and Rui shared a gaze, their eyes widened in horror. They now had a clue what could have happened to the dead Onu Matoran bodies. It felt like this imagination would make their stomachs turn.

"Now we have even less chances", Pohatu said in a calm and objective tone.

The Ikuta now noticed the group.

"Toa ... Guardians ...", he hissed. His voice was sounding as if both brothers were speaking the same time. "Thanks to you. With your little help we are now able to destroy you and this damned island a lot faster." He slammed his claws through the walls causing several rocks from walls and ceiling crashing down right onto the Toa and the Guardians. Quickly Tahu activated his shield around them.

"Hey, this is unfair Die at least with honour if you already have to", the creature chuckled and now came closer with fast steps. Running was impossible in there for someone with his size."

"I ... I don't want to sound like a coward or something", the fiery Toa stuttered, "but this looks like we should get away from here fast."

They started running. Behind them a wall of fire was bursting loose followed by another earthquake. Even more boulders came crashing down. Tupua and Tahu shared their tasks in shielding the others from falling rocks. Against the raging fire they could do nothing. Without the shield only Tahu might have survived the burning wall and behind it the Ikuta Kaita was waiting.

"Down there!" Rui shouted.

They nearly stumbled down the stairs. The fire burst over their heads. The farther they ran down the darker it got. Behind them they could still hear the raging Ikuta but he couldn't follow them down.

"Is this still the right direction?" Gali panted.

They all had seen that the hallway still had been leading on straight.

"Sure", Rui nodded "Why would there else have been a little stairway down right in the middle of a big corridor?"

"Maybe to confuse people?" Lewa threw in, "Maybe there would have been another stairway up after a few more meters. Or a room to the left."

"Let's hope, Lewa's wrong and this is not a trap", Tahu said.

Pohatu sighed. "Still wondering how we can fight this ... thing ... I mean, two Ikuta, alone, without Piraka, no problem, even though they use Rahkshi attacks. But the Ikuta Kaita? No way. Not as long as we can't form a Kaita Nuva."

"I'm asking myself the same", Tupua said saddened, "I had never awaited that this would have been possible. I thought, that just ..."

A loud crash made them wince. It sounded as if the Ikuta was digging his way down.

"Oh no ... not again..."

A claw came crashing through the ceiling.

"Run!" Tahu shouted, grabbed Lewa's hand and dragged him away.

The emerald Toa still had been standing, unable to move, wide opened eyes stuck on the giant claw.

For a few seconds they stumbled through the darkness then it slowly got lighter again. It was a soft green light. Was it just imagination or was it really getting a bit warmer? Crumbling rocks were heard behind them.

They now entered a glowing green room. Protodermis pools formed the sign of Mata Nui and in the middle just a few steps over the floor there was floating ...

"Is this a Kanohi?" Sasha whispered.

It was an emerald green shining Hau Mata.

They slowly got closer. Could it be that this was the mysterious Master of all Emeralds?

Tahu suddenly noticed that something strange was going on with Lewa. He had started stumbling around like a drunk.

"Lewa, what is it?"

"I-I don't know ... I feel kinda weird ..."

His legs finally gave up carrying him.

Same happened to Rui, Sasha and Tupua. They all broke down to the floor.

"What ... is happening here?" the ruby Toa worriedly asked while he was kneeling down next to Lewa.

"The last protection ... is gone ...", Tupua pressed out while he tried to get back to his feet. "The Emerald ... it tries to keep alive Mata Nui ... and therefore it uses every energy resource it can get ... which means ... we Guardians are a resource too ..."

"And what exactly is this supposed to mean?" Gali asked unsure if she really wanted to know it.

"That if this isn't stopped soon, first we Guardians and then Mata Nui will die ..."