



FLASH PRETENDS HE HAS BREATHED THE LIQUIGEN ATOM-GAS AND BECOME ONE OF ZIN'S ROBOT-SLAVES. ZIN STILL CAN'T BELIEVE HE'S FLASH'S MASTER. HE DECIDES TO TEST HIS POWER. "FLASH," HE ORDERS, "FALL TO THE GROUND!"



FLASH THINKS FAST, GUESSING THE AUTOMATONS WOULD OBEY BLINDLY WITHOUT TRYING TO PROTECT THEMSELVES. IT TAKES ALL HIS WILL POWER TO KEEP FROM USING HIS HANDS TO BREAK HIS FALL. "PLEASE, ZIN," RUBIA GASPS, "DON'T LET HIM GET HURT!"



"NOW I CAN RULE MONGO THROUGH HIM, RUBIA," ZIN GLOATS. "FLASH, GO TO THE SLAVE BARRACKS TILL I SEND FOR YOU."



THE ZOMBIE-LIKE VICTIMS OF LIQUIGEN-GAS DON'T EVEN SEEM TO HEAR FLASH'S QUESTIONS. HE IS SADLY STUDYING THESE LIVING DEAD WHOM HE MUST IMITATE, WHEN THE BARRACKS DOOR OPENS. "FLASH," RUBIA CALLS, "FOLLOW ME!"

RUBIA LEADS FLASH TO HER WING OF THE PALACE. "FLASH," SHE SAYS, "RELAX NOW... WE'RE ALONE." FLASH ASKS: "WHY DID YOU SAVE ME FROM THE SLAVE-GAS?"



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"BECAUSE I'M A FOOL," RUBIA WHISPERS. SHE CLINGS TO FLASH. "I DON'T CARE HOW YOU'VE TREATED ME, DARLING," SHE SAYS, "I CAN'T HELP LOVING YOU. I COULDN'T LET YOU BECOME A ZOMBIE... DALE'S DEAD, FLASH. CAN'T YOU LEARN TO LIKE ME?"

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