

DO I TAKE  
PLEASURE IN  
WHAT I HAVE  
WROUGHT?

PING

NO. IT IS  
**NECESSITY**. PURE.  
METHODICAL.  
**BEYOND** TRIVIAL  
EMOTION.

I AM SIMPLY  
**REGAINING**  
CONTROL OF  
MY REALITY.

V-VICTOR--?

HE'S  
NOT--

HE'S **GONE**.  
DARKSEID'S **DONE**  
SOMETHING--

THAT'S  
**NOT** CYBORG  
ANYMORE...

BUT I WILL ADMIT SOME **SMALL**  
PLEASURE OBSERVING THEIR HORROR  
AS THEIR **IMBECILIC** PLANS UNRAVEL  
AND THEIR HOPES **DISINTEGRATE**.

SO **BLAST**  
HIM! HE'S **CYCLING**  
WEAPONS--

PING

X'HAL **NO**,  
AZRAEL! WE HAVE  
TO **SAVE** HIM!

HE  
CANNOT **BE**  
SAVED...



# THE DARK ARISES

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...YOUR  
REASONING IS  
**WRONG-HEADED,**  
STARFIRE.

CYBORG  
**IS SAVED. HE HAS  
FULFILLED HIS *DESTINY*  
AND TAKEN HIS PLACE AT  
MY RIGHT HAND AS  
A *NEW GOD*.**

IT IS A DESTINY I HAVE  
**CONSTRUCTED.** I GRANT  
YOU. USING THE TOOLS  
OF **HYPERTIME,** I HAVE  
**REFASHIONED** VICTOR  
STONE'S PAST TO BRING HIM  
TO THIS MOMENT AND MAKE  
HIM RECEPTIVE.

BUT IT IS  
**NOT FALSE.**

IT IS REALITY  
AS **I** HAVE  
ORDAINED IT.



STARFIRE ATTACKS ME. SHE IS **ENRAGED** AND UNABLE TO **MASTER** HER ANGUISH.

SHE SEES **ME** AS THE VILLAIN HERE.

THIS WILL **HURT** ME. **BRIEFLY**. I AM NOT YET AT **FULL POWER**.

BUT I AM **GLAD** OF HER WRATH. HER SEARING FIRE PROVES SHE IS READY TOO.

TURN HIM BACK!  
TURN HIM BACK!

→GNHH←

I AM DISMAYED YOU STILL UNDERSTAND SO **LITTLE** OF WHAT IS TAKING PLACE.

I EXPLAINED **EVERYTHING**, AND I DID **NOT** DISSEMBLE.

THE ONLY SUBTERFUGE WAS ON **YOUR** PART, JUSTICE LEAGUE. YOUR **CHILDISH** PLOT TO ASSIST ME IN THE BUILDING OF SEPULKORE AND THEN **TAKE** IT FROM ME.

HELP ME!  
WE HAVE TO STOP HIM! WE HAVE TO--

DID YOU REALLY THINK I WOULDN'T **KNOW** WHAT YOU WERE CONSPIRING TO DO?

CYBORG...



