

**Nil. Monitor World.**  
**The capstone of the Multiverse.**

HAWKMAN.  
FIREBRAND. LOOK AT  
YOU HERE, TWO LOST  
SOLDIERS SUFFERING  
WITHOUT A  
CAPTAIN...



...NEON THE  
UNKNOWN IS DEAD.



I TOOK HIS  
BLOOD AS I WILL  
TAKE YOURS BEFORE  
ASCENDING THE GUTS  
OF CREATION  
ABOVE.  
AND  
NEVER  
AGAIN...





"...WILL I LOOK  
TO THE DAMNED  
DARK BELOW."

# The World Forge.

QUENCH!

I KNOW  
YOU'RE HERE  
WITH ME! I CAN  
SMELL YOU!

NEON? WHAT  
THE HELL ARE YOU  
DOING HERE? YOU  
DEAD, TOO,  
BUDDY?

I--I CAN'T BELIEVE  
I'M SAYING THIS...  
BUT I'M HERE  
FOR YOU!

TAKE MY  
HAND!









SHUT UP AND  
THINK, QUENCH! WE  
BOTH GOT OUR POWERS  
FROM THIS SPOT! EVERY-  
THING RETURNS HERE  
TO BE DESTROYED  
AND CREATED  
AGAIN!

OUR BODIES  
DIED ABOVE, BUT  
SOMETHING'S LEFT  
OF US, SINKING TO THE  
CORE OF THE FORGE!



WHY WOULD YOU CARE ABOUT  
MY SOUL? IF I BURN UP...  
YOU WIN!



I'M HERE TOO!  
I'D BURN WITH  
YOU!

I CAN GET  
YOU OUT OF HERE, GET  
US OUT OF HERE...BUT  
YOU HAVE TO WORK  
WITH ME!

IT WAS NEVER  
ABOUT WINNING! NEVER  
ABOUT BEATING YOU...WE  
PERFORMED THE SAME  
RITE TO GET OUR  
POWERS!

I SAW  
CREATION, YOU SAW  
DESTRUCTION...BUT IT WAS  
THE SAME THING! WE BOTH  
SERVE THE WORLD FORGE,  
ALDEN!



WE'RE BOTH  
GUARDIANS!





STILL AN IDIOT, NEON... I DON'T HATE YOU BECAUSE OF SOME STUPID FEUD BETWEEN CREATION AND DESTRUCTION! I HATE YOU BECAUSE AFTER EVERYTHING YOU'VE LOST...

...YOU STILL SEE A POINT IN ALL THIS! I TRIED TO BLAZE THE UNIVERSE TO FORGET MY LIFE...

...YOU WANTED TO BUILD FROM YOURS!

NOT JUST MINE, QUENCH! THERE'S STILL TIME!

I DIDN'T REALIZE UNTIL MANDRAKK... UNTIL HIS STORY OF ENDLESS DEFEAT AND REBIRTH, THE MONITORS, SUPERMAN, EVERY CHAMPION THAT TRIED AND FAILED TO DESTROY HIM...

WHOOOM

...IT NEVER ENDS! YOU SOUGHT THE WORLD FORGE TO DESTROY MEMORIES OF YOUR OLD LIFE... IT MADE YOU AN EASY MARK FOR MANDRAKK! BUT YOU COULD NEVER HAVE SUCCEEDED!

SO YOU CAME HERE TO RUB IT IN?

I CAME HERE BECAUSE I'VE BEEN DOING IT WRONG, QUENCH! I SHOULD'VE BEEN LISTENING TO YOU. THE WORLD FORGE CREATED ME FOR A FIGHT...



...BUT DESTRUCTION WASN'T THE ENEMY!

IT NEVER HAS BEEN! AND I'M SORRY, QUENCH!



I'M SORRY! SO YOU CAN LET YOURSELF BE VAPORIZED HERE, OR COME WITH ME...

...AND LET ME PROVE IT!