

I Eat Radioactive Bars....Instead of Pickles

Chapter 1: The Trial of Lady Shadow

Lady Shadow stood in front of the council, pregnant. Nine months pregnant to be exact. It was her way of creating a super baby before they possibly drained the super powers out of her body and soul. Section 22 of the code says: “No youngling will be knowingly drained of super powers, no matter the allegiance or past crimes of the parents”. She knew that if they drained her permanently her legacy would live on through her son. The ultra sound was one of the best days of the past couple months. Champion of the Southeast United States, and her husband, Mister Alpha, who was watching from the gallery, was there the day of the ultrasound. The young child, who they haven’t found a good name for yet, was kicking mightily at Lady Shadow’s uterine walls. Her walls could fade in and out of existence making easier to keep them from breaking from the mighty blows her son would deliver. Apparently he had inherited her husband’s super strength.

Seven council members sat in a row. Lady Shadow stood on an elevated platform at the mercy of the slinging of there sharp questions. Mister Earth, head councilman of The United Justice Protection League, was the first to speak.

“Before we began your inquiry Lady Shadow we will instruct you of your charges.” Mister Earth was frank but warm to her, almost like he wanted to add an okay at the end of his statement, just so he could make her feel better. “There are 100 counts of reckless endangerment of the innocent by a super hero.” A minor charge in the court usually, but when stacked together became damming, she had been a very naughty girl. “There are two counts of attempted murder of a super hero. Finally, seven counts of conspire to overthrow the world government.” Lady Shadow then thought of how bad it

was to try to take out American Hero and his sidekick Mister Goodie Two Shoes. “How do you plead?” Mister Earth’s voice snapped back to attention.

“I plead not guilty by reason of nefarious mind control.” She said in her warm smooth voice. Mister Alpha sighed loudly and then checked around him to see if anyone had heard him. Mister Earth asked his first question.

“Tell me about your connection with Dr. Nefarious. She nodded and began to explain her on again off again relationship with the Super Villain. This ultimately included the story of how Mister Alpha and she met.

“Mister Earth she is delaying these proceedings.” Mistress Winter spat. “She is attempting to derail this inquiry.” Lady shadow had snapped back to attention after having one of her ‘mommy wonderings’ about what happened to the world.

“I am sorry Mistress Winter, it’s this whole pregnancy it makes me weak and forgetful, I surely did not mean to...” Lady Shadow was abruptly interrupted by Lady Shadow.

“Do not address me, witch.” Winter said. An audible gasp sounded throughout the gallery. Mister Earth butted himself into the conversation.

“I realize your personal interest in this case Mistress Winter, but you will show restraint like the rest of the council members. We will not get out of order in this inquiry. Am I understood?” The council members shook their heads in unison in agreement.

“Now do you need a break Lady Shadow, or can you begin now?”

“No, Councilman, I can start I will try not to delay again.” She did a subtle bow and began her story. “It all started with an abusive father, who I can now forgive after so

much time apart from him, and his subsequent death..." She started explaining her path down to the dark side of the super human's rise.

Lady Shadow could see an eye battle going on between Mister Earth and Mistress Winter, but decided it would be better to continue than speak up about the fore mentioned battle. "Will we not be using the hologram sensor today Councilman Earth." He looked back at Lady Shadow.

"Yes, of course if you choose to use this device it is perfectly rational." Mister Earth was back in his warm voice again. Councilman Energizer if you will provide the power for the machine, please." The Energizer with olive tone skin stood up from his chair, seated second from the right, which was in order of seniority. His long black hair wisped back behind his ears as his brown eyes were being engulfed by red. In fact, when using his powers his whole body began being consumed by this red aura of energy. He charged for only a few moments. ZAPP! A bolt of red came bursting forth from his sleek muscular arms. They were ripped to the point where you could define all his muscles but not quite see all his veins.

A large metal disc on the floor, with a large hole in it, began to spin clock wise. First, the machine started at a slow rate and then gradually grew into deadly speeds. The machine then projected a white energy into the room.

"Please place the Helmet of Memories onto your head Lady Shadow." Councilman Earth stated. A helmet with all sorts of electrodes attached was floated over to her by another Council member, who happened to be telepathic. She grabbed it when it was close enough to her body.

She placed the helmet on top of her brown silky hair. It rested like a princess' crown on her head. She tried to remember what they had taught her about the helmet. She tried to remember what one of the teachers in Leagues Academy of Super Humans. At first it was fuzzy, but then she gradually cleared the cob webs of ten years out of her head. She focused some of the shadow energy into her head. A technique that super humans called Chi Transition. An image of her father in a lab coat appeared and then started fracturing in half. His face began to mess up like a jigsaw puzzle. His legs zoom into the audience like one of those old 3-D movies. A large baby inside a room replaced the image of her father.

The baby turned his head around to the Council and addressed them. Researchers until now believed super babies had speech at exactly nine months; it seems that they were right on the money

“Excuse me for my intrusion but I must ask you; why do you persecute the one who is about to free me from my prison?” Flash backs of the Astral Baby ran across the faces of everyone. Astral Baby destroyed and sank half of the United States after it felt threatened by a human man on methamphetamines. He was only calmed down by a giant rubber pacifier, and told “Wabah booo boo, everything is going to be alright.” To which he responded. “What do I look like a baby?” Then Astral Baby made piercing cry, which made all the dogs in the world permanently deaf. After which he was further calmed and shot prompt back into space.

“Your Mother stands trial accused of wrong doing against this world.” Earth spoke.

“Oh, I see, and where does my say come into these proceedings? Am I to be disposed of if she is to be found guilty? Are my powers to be drained as you have said to her? I want my mother now.”

“You can not stand witness to her crimes but you can speak to her as your caretaker. Laws on the books forbid this council from aborting you or draining your powers, what you do with your life is your own choice. Your mother will not be executed if that is your worry, she shall merely be drained of her powers. Let us continue young one and see for your self this trial’s fairness.” Mister Earth felt sympathy for a young boy with only one super parent to raise him, but then again he had an obligation to the public.

The giant baby disappeared from the holograms field. Lady shadow Chi Transitioned once again. Fredrick Duskwood, a man of medium build and unkempt brown hair, appeared on the screen followed by an image of a teenaged Lady Shadow on a steel table. On her teenage self, strapped to her wrists, were leather wrist restraints. Fredrick had a maddened look on her face as he plunged a needle into her arm. Teenaged Lady Shadow’s eyes glowed dark violet after the injection had been administered. Another memory arose. A mighty battle was raging, with a super human that no one recognized at first.

Everyone in the gallery took a hard long look and began murmuring. “Yes, that is me and Lady Shadow fighting it out as teenagers.” Everyone scanned the Council member to see who had spoken those words. It was none other than Mister Earth. “I will be a witness to this memory as the truth.” Large digital rocks flew across the court room. Teenage Mister Earth gave a loud booming punch to teenage Lady Shadow, which silenced the murmurs of the crowd. “In accordance with rule 72 of the Council I will

temporary pass command of the Council to the secondary watcher of the Earth, councilman Energizer, use wise judgment my friend.” He stepped on a platform at the end of the elevated table that flew him around to face the Council.

“Respond after my question Mister Earth. Do you solemnly swear as an upholder of Order and Peace on this Earth that you will tell the truth?” Energizer asked staring down his friend determinedly.

“I do swear upon punishment of power extraction that what I am going to say is the truth.” He responded.

“Then proceed with your testimony on this battle.” Energizer said.

“It was July of 2026 I believe? Am I right Shadow?” His tone raised an octave from deep to tenor and felt calming. Like a warm breeze rushing your face.

Shadow’s face turned ruddy red as she responded. “Yes a few years before the break out of the plague. My father had tried to turn me into a weapon for the U.S. government, by injecting me with a gene growth hormone.” She sank her head the warm cozy feelings left her body, flying out into the atmosphere.

“Yes, you had just about beaten me right here.” He pointed to a moment in the battle; she tried to freeze frame but could not.

“I have will aid you Lady Shadow.” The telepathic Councilman spoke again.

“That is most appreciated Councilman Tritis.” Mister Earth responded instead as to not rile up Mistress Winter. “I will continue...” he waited for Tritis to bring the moment back. “...now, here I was taken by my true parents and given the strength to defeat this evil version of your self.”

“Yes I remember all I was thinking about was killing you,” She shutter at the memories of that long night and continued, “that goddess had complete control of my body, soul, powers, and mind. Council I offer to you my pattern of control, from a project controlled by my father. To a goddess tapped into controlling me, my normal human life was cast asunder by these evil influences. I know if I was given the chance to mature without such abusive controls I would have been a part of this League.”

Mistress Winter seemed the only one to roll her eyes at this notion. Energizer spoke to the collective council.

“Does anyone have questions on this part of Lady Shadow’s testimony or Mister Earth testimony?”

“Yes, I have a question for Lady Shadow,” A aft man with green eyes and blonde hair dwarfed by the fat on skull raised his voice, “I seem to recall you mind controlling Mister Earth during one of your encounters.”

“Yes, that is true.” Nods and glance went up and down the Council’s table. “But again I emphasize the path I was put on by my father was that of evil.”

Mistress Winter stood for her question. She had long blue hair. Her eyes looked as blue as a glacier from the artic, and the looks she gave matched that coldness. Her skin which once had been light and fair had turned blue with sparkling flecks of white, from the using of her powers. Her figure had been a little more curvy these days something she added on to her ‘I hate old age’ list. She wore a blue ceremonial robe with two waves embroidered on the robe to indicate her protection of the world’s oceans, lakes, and rivers. “I have just one question.” She cleared her throat like an old nun. “Why did you promote such trash into this league if like she said she was on a path of evil, Mister

Earth?” Whispers grew loud in the gallery. Energizer slammed a gavel shaped of energy down onto the table.

“Mistress Winter you will refrain from name call or will be thrown off this Council for the rest of this inquiry. And I will have order in this meeting room.” His voice projected loudly and Mistress Winter shrunk back into her chair. Energizer had shown his worth to Mister Earth. “Even though her language is off color she did ask a valid answer to which you must respond to Mister Earth.

“I saw and felt love in her heart and I thought if I could just get through to the part that might love me. Well anyways my assumption turned out to be right. After the battle we were both beaten and broken. “

Lady Shadow finished the story. “He knew that I had a good heart waiting to be released. He did release the goodness that day with a kiss on my lips.”

“Then why do we see you later on teaming up with Dr. Nefarious?” Lady Winter screamed from her seat.

Energizer shot back at Mistress Winter. “You will not broach subject yet reached in the testimony. Mister Earth you may resume your seat at the Council Table.” Energizer moved back to his rightful spot as the platform brought back Mister Earth. He resumed his seat.

“This meeting is adjourned for the day, all parties will return to their designated sleeping quarters. I would like to thank the supers who came to oversee the fairness of this trial. Mistress Winter you will meet me in my quarters and we will discuss your behavior at this meeting today. Lady Shadow you are free to go home. We will send a summoning robot when we request your presence again.”

Lights in high vaulted room came back on brightly. This cut off Lady Shadow's concentration and temporarily made her lose her vision. Being of shadow powers her eyes had gone from regular human eyes to that of a raccoon. Her husband Alpha spoke up from the gallery. "Request of the council to raise the lights back on slowly next time, her eyes cannot adjust to such levels of light."

"Duly noted, Mister Alpha we will keep that in mind." Mister Earth said as he exited guiding Mistress Winter to her chiding. Lady Shadow grabbed on one of the rails of her platform as the helmet floated off her head and back to Tritis' hands. Alpha came to the aide of his wife as the platform floated ten feet down to the ground floor and the gallery. He helped her out of the League's building until they finally came to their hover car in lot forty one A.