WELL, WELL! IT LOOKS LIKE GINA CRIPPLED THE ARMORY FORCE-SHIELD WHEN SHE ACTIVATED THE EMERGENCY SEAL ON THE NORTH BLAST DOOR!

SHE MAY HAVE SEPARATED ME FROM HERSELF AND CHEETAH WITH THAT MOVE, BUT SHE ALSO ACCIDENTALLY GAVE ME ACCESS TO ALL OF HER WONDERFUL TOYS!

EVERYTHING AN AMBITIOUS LITTLE GIRL LIKE ME NEEDS FOR AN EXTREMELY MESSY OVERKILL!!

GAUSS CANNONS... LASER RIFLES... DEATH RAYS...

GUR'SE
PART IV
MEANWHILE...

Ugh! Where am I?? What happened??

Take it easy, cheetah. You were stunned by my shock-rod. I had to drag you here to the infirmary.

My shock-rod is designed to use the victim's own bio-electricity against them.

I'm afraid you'll be paralyzed for at least another hour. My shock technology is very potent!!

Remind me to trash anything of yours that uses "shock technology" when I get up...

How's Gen??

I'm not sure... my scanners can't make any sense of his anatomy!

Well, he looks like he's okay, Gina. He's probably just sleeping. Hell be fine. I hear rakshasas are pretty tough.

Yeah, I guess you're right.

You know, cheetah... maybe I should give up all of this adventure stuff. Maybe I'm just cut out to be a bookworm. I mean, I'm making too many mistakes at this...

Nobody's perfect, Gina. Besides, mistakes are okay as long as you don't repeat them! (and you learn a lot by making them.)

Maa-ha! You've got a point there.

Bing Bing

Plus I'd have a hard time finding another job that lets me set my own hours and was this much fun!
WHAT THE--

IT WAS THE ALARA CHEETAH SHE'S IN THE ARMORY!!!

PING

ARMORY

18:32:07

WHOA! WHAT A WIMPY SELECTION OF FIREARMS!!

JINKIES! I DIDN'T COUNT ON THIS!

I THOUGHT SHE'D COME AT ME WITH HER OWN MUSCLE, NOT WITH PHOTON DISRUPTORS!

ARE YOU GETTING A BIT NERVOUS, OLDER SISTER?
I REMEMBER YOU SAYING THAT YOUR BRAIN WAS A MATCH FOR ANY CHALLENGE!

I DON'T PLAN ON CAPTURING HER, CHEETAH. SHE MIGHT HURT HERSELF TRYING TO GET OUT OF ANY OF MY TECH-TRAPS.

I'M SURE SHE'S BEEN INFLUENCED BY THAT CURSE WE PICKED UP IN THAT PERSIAN KING'S TOMB. SHE GOT HER LIFE, THE CURSE AND OUR ESSENCES FROM A SIDE EFFECT OF MY PLAN TO KILL YOU AND ME!

DRY--

18:32

ALTHOUGH ITS BAD OF THE CURSE. USING HER TO KILL US BOTH!

SHE'LL STOP AT NOTHING TO GET US. SHE'LL BREAK HER BACK GETTING OUT OF ANY TRAPS I USE ON HER JUST TO GET AT US!

I'LL HAVE TO KEEP HER BUSY UNTIL DAD SHOWS UP. BEING AN ARCH-MAGE, HE CAN DESTROY THE CURSE WITH A SPELL AND FREE HER MIND.

HMM... I CAN ACTIVATE THE ARMORY DEFENSES FROM THIS TERMINAL...
LET'S SEE, I'LL NEED THIS ONE OF THESE SOME BATTERIES.

HMMM...I HOPE MY ROBOTS CAN KEEP GINA DIGGER BUSY.

"AT LEAST UNTIL I'M READY FOR HER."

WHAT? SHE'S HAVING HER SECURITY ROBOTS B waived IN FROM THE TRANSPORTER ROOM.

I'D NEARLY FORGOTTEN HOW RESOURCEFUL LITTLE GINA IS.

BUT IT DOESN'T MATTER. I'LL MAKE SHORT WORK OF THEM JUST AS I'VE DONE WITH THESE TECH-CANNONS.

MISS ME? MISSED ME AGAIN!

AAHA!
THAT TINGLED. I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT SUCKER KICKED ME.

Feh!

HE'S NOT MAMA'S UNIT-5! UNIT-5 CALLED YOUR MAMA A SOCOLEXY!

HALT UNIT-2! SHE'S DEVIOUSLY LYING TO ESCAPE PASSIFICATION!

TAKE THAT! YOU DIRTY SKUNKAZOO! FULL POWER TO LASERS!!

TARGETING** FIRING!!

NOT ENOUGH FOR MY MAMA WILL YOU?!!

PLEASE STOP! ARGGH!!

GRRR... GRRR... GRRR...
WHEN! I'VE GOT TO REMIND MYSELF TO STRAIGHTEN OUT THAT LITTLE GLITCH IN THEIR PROGRAMS AFTER I DEAL WITH GINA AND CHEETAH.

BUT FOR NOW, I HAVE TO STAY FOCUSED ON MY GOAL.

GINA AND CHEETAH MUST BE KILLED.

GINA?!

WHY DO YOU HAVE TO KILL ME AND CHEETAH?

THAT QUESTION IS MOUTH, GINA. TIME TO DIE.

NO SCENT! YOU'RE A HOLOGRAM! YOU'VE ALSO GOT ONE OF YOUR FORCE SCREENS VIBRATING THE AIR AROUND THE HOLOGRAM TO SIMULATE SOUND.

YOU WANT ME TO WASTE MY AMMO SHOOTING AT YOU.

WHAT I WANT IS TO TALK THIS OUT.

WHAT GOOD WOULD KILLING ME OR BRITANNY DO?!
REMEMBER, MOTHER GINA, I HAVE CHEETAH'S AND YOUR MEMORIES IN MY MIND. I THE LIFE YOU BOTH LIVED, I FEEL AS THOUGH I LIVED, AND WITH YOU BOTH DONE I WON'T HAVE TO GIVE THAT LIFE UP AND START OVER.

IS THAT ALL?

THERE'S NO REASON WHY THE THREE OF US CAN'T SHARE CURLIVES TOGETHER.

IT'S NOT LIKE WE'RE STRANGERS OR ANYTHING

YOU'RE PARTLY ME JUST AS I'M PARTLY YOU.

BRITANNY WOULD FEEL THE SAME WAY

EVEN AS I'M LISTENING AND TALKING TO YOU, YOU FEEL LIKE A-A- SISTER I'VE ALWAYS KNOWN, BUT NEVER HAD.

HOW COULD THAT BE? I'M NOTHING TO YOU. I DON'T EVEN HAVE A NAME!

THAT'S EASY. BECAUSE YOU'RE HALF ME, GINA, AND HALF CHEETAH, BRITANNY.

WE CAN JUST MERGE OUR NAMES INTO ONE. JUST AS WE MERGED OURSELVES INTO ONE.

WELCOME TO MY FAMILY, BRIANNA DIGGERS.

I--

NO, NO! I CAN'T JOIN YOU.

BRIANNA? MY NAME'S BRIANNA?

YOU HAVE YOUR OWN NOW AND YOU SHARE MINE AND CHEETAH'S.

WHY NOT? YOU DON'T HAVE TO KILL US TO GAIN YOUR IDENTITY ANY LONGER!

I DON'T KNOW WHY I CAN'T. I JUST CAN'T!

THEN I'LL TELL YOU WHY YOU CAN'T. THE CURSE THAT ONCE PLAGUED CHEETAH AND ME NOW LIES DORMANT WITHIN YOU AND IS INFLUENCING YOUR FEELINGS TOWARDS US.

NOT IT CAN'T BE... I KNOW IT'S TRUE BRIANNA.

I ALSO KNOW THAT YOU CAN'T RESIST THE CURSE'S URGINGS.

AND THAT'S WHAT MAKES THIS HARDER FOR ME.

HMMMM... YOU HIT ME! YOU'RE NO HOLOGRAM!

I NEVER SAID I WAS.
Pak

That grappling line should keep you suspended for awhile.

I just have my scent molecules dampened by an ion field.

No! I dropped my laser cannon.

Mnnf! Why can't I break that grummy line? I may not be as strong as Cheetah, but two millimeters of cable should be nothing to me.

It's not cable, the grappling coupling bonds magnetically to you and the ceiling! It could support six tons if it had too.

Grrr! Drink blaxin' electric death!

Blbam!

Hey!

Y-you tried to kill me? If it weren't for my personal force-field generator...

Okay. If you really want a fight, I'll give you one.
“BAMF!”

“GRAAAH!”

“WE DAH!”

“Zoinks!”

“You gave yourself away mother, that punch you gave me let me know you’re using a one way forcefield.

I have your memories on how it works too.

You can come out.

Whoops.

Nothing can come in.

Transporter room! Code red! Get me outta here before it’s too late.”

THOOM
NO! SHE ESCAPED!

I'D FORGOTTEN HOW FAST HER TRANSMAT TECHNOLOGY IS. SHE'S CLEVER, BUT SO AM I.

WHOW! IT'S A GOOD THING I CONFIGURED THIS THING FOR INSTANT TRANSPORT.

COMPUTER, CAN YOU TELL ME WHERE BRIANNA IS?

ASSUMING REFERENCE "BRIANNA" IS BICOMIT IN NORTHERN SECTOR.

"BRIANNA" IS APPROACHING FROM CORRIDOR THREE AT HIGH SPEED.

BEAM MYSELF BACK TO THE GARAGE SO I CAN--

OPEN THIS DOOR, GINA...

NOW!

JINKIES! SHE'S HEADED STRAIGHT FOR ME. I'D BETTER GET BACK INTO MY TRANSPORTER.
HEH-HEH-HEH!

Ow!

PLUCK

NOTHING TO SAY FOR YOURSELF, EH?

WELL, THIS IS THE LAST TIME YOU UNDERESTIMATE MY INTELLECT!

DO YOUR "INTELLECT" FIGURE ON THIS?

KOOGY-KOO!

HAHAHA NO LIE! STOP THAT!

Tickle

Tickle

Tickle

JUST AS I THOUGHT! WE'RE BOTH TICKISH IN THE SAME SPOT!

HEEEHEEE! WHY YOU HANG!

NOW, FOR THE COUP DE GRACE!

WAM

GRR... JUST WAIT UNTIL I FREE MYSELF!

WUMP! CURSE OR NO CURSE... PLUCKING ME IN THE NOSE WAS JUST PLAIN MEAN.

YOU NEED TO BE TAUGHT A LESSON.

TRANSPORTER, FETCH MY BOWLING BALL FROM MY CLOSET, PRONTO!

COORDINATES 87-9-14.
GREAT! IT'S NO USE. THIS DOOR SEALS MAGNETICALLY.

INF!

IT'S BONDED TO MY ARMOR. I'LL HAVE TO...

GASP!

GNA STEPS TO THE LANE. IT LOOKS LIKE A FIVE-TEN SPLIT!

SHE COMPUTES THE ANGLE. NICE APPROACH. GOOD FOLLOW-THROUGH.

BOWL
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
RUMBLE

BEEP! TRANSPORTER EMERGIZED.

STRIKE!!!

POW

AND THE CROWD GOES WILD!
GRRR! I'LL TEAR YOU IN HALF FOR THAT!

I'VE HAD ENOUGH WITH CONSERVING MY POWER AND HOLDING SOMETHING BACK FOR BRITTANY!

ARRGH! SHE USED THAT TRANSPORTER AGAIN.

BUT IT DOESN'T MATTER. I'VE GOT A GOOD IDEA AS TO WHERE SHE'S GONE.

AND I'M GOING TO MAKE SURE SHE CAN'T ESCAPE ME WITH THIS THING AGAIN.

THE GARAGE.

HINNAH. BRITTANY'S MORE DANGEROUS THAN I THOUGHT SHE'D BE.

I'LL JUST CONFIGURE THIS ONE SO THAT IT RESTRICTS HER MOVEMENT. THAT SHOULD KEEP HER FROM HURTING HERSELF IN ATTEMPTING TO ESCAPE AND GET AT ME.

I'M GOING TO HAVE TO RESORT TO ONE OF MY TECH-TRAPS AFTER ALL.
JUST A FEW MORE ADJUSTMENTS AND--

A TECH-TRAP? NOT VERY NICE MOTHER.

YOU KNOW THOSE THINGS HURT!

TRY-TRANSPORTER ROOM! CODE RED!

CALL ALL YOU LIKE MOTHER GINA.

THERE’S NOTHING LEFT OF YOUR TRANSPORTER BUT DUSTY-BODY PIECES.

STAY BACK, BRIANNA! I DON’T WANT TO HURT YOU! DON’T MAKE ME USE TH--

WHOOPSH!
INTERESTING CHOICE OF WEAPON GNA. LET'S SEE HOW YOUR-HHHH-OIL-CAN STACKS UP AGAINST YOUR DEVASTATOR PACK.

WHICH I SNAGGED FROM THE ARMORY ON MY WAY HERE.

BUT, JUST TO SHOW YOU I'M A GOOD SPORT... I'LL LET YOU SHOOT FIRST.
OKAY, FIRE ONE!

WHUMP

Huh?! I'm not dead? Why isn't my skin burned?

Because I protected you.
YOU KNOW I'VE NEVER ALLOW HARM TO COME TO YOU GINA.

DADDY?? Y-YOU'RE BACK EARLY!!

IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT?

THE MAGE COUNCIL HAS JOURNELED THE MEETING AHEAD OF SCHEDULE.
MERLIN HAD A COLD TODAY...

ACKNOWLEDGED. IT WAS A CLOSE CALL.

YOU NEED NOT EXPLAIN, DAUGHTER. I SAID THE OIL-CAN

I DIDN'T KNOW YOU TWO WERE ALLOWED TO GO TO COUNCIL MEETINGS IN THE ASTRAL PLANE.

I THOUGHT THOSE MEETINGS ONLY ALLOWED ARCH-NAGAS AND SUCH.

YOU ARE CORRECT, FRIEND GINA. NORMALLY OUR LACK OF SKILL WOULD EXCLUDE US FROM ATTENDING ANY MEETINGS, BUT YOUR FATHER WAS KIND ENOUGH TO GIVE US CLERICAL JOBS. I'M THE TREASURER AND MY CONSORT TARK IS THE SECRETARY.

ANYWAY, MESHA MANAGED TO TELEPORT OUR FOE FROM DANGER GINA.

(SHE COULDN'T SAVE THE ARMOR, THOUGH.)

WHO IS SHE?

IT'S A LONG STORY MESHA.

THEN WE'LL SHUT THIS DIMENSION DOOR AND YOU CAN TELL US ALL ABOUT IT.
She's what happened when I tried to use technology to remove a curse on Cheetah and I got while exploring.

She's half me and half Cheetah, but she also has the curse. It makes her hate us.

I'll see if destroying it will change her feelings toward you there.

Hmph, I still have trouble programming my VCR.

Lunna, my head!

Inkies! You make it look so easy.

Don't feel bad, Gna. No one can be good at everything.

That's true.

Thank you, Gna. And I'll understand if you want me to leave. Especially after the trouble I've caused.

Leave? You don't have to leave!

I meant, every word I said back at the armory, you're staying with us!

 Brianna?

Gna, what have I done? I tried to kill you.

Forgive me...

It's okay, Brianna. We all know that it wasn't your fault!

I see you have much to discuss, daughter. So I'll be going.

Er, where's Cheetah?

In the infirmary, Dad.

Thank you. (And get some decent clothes on would you?)

Tark and I'll be going too.

We'll be in the kitchen if you need us.
Gina...!

Let's discuss this later Brianna. Right now I need your help getting the complex back to normal.

Then we gotta find you a room of your own and a computer of my own? Yeah, I guess.

Luh-

Luh-

And a car of my own?

...And a charge account of my own?

Luh-

Meanwhile...

Ah, this is where Gina said Britanny would be.

I'll just drop in and let her know that I'm back from the meeting.

What? She's gone...

And I detect arcane residue in the area as well...

*Britanny was transported away by magic. But who did this and where was she taken?*

Sleep soundly Britanny. For when you awake, my hospitality won't be pleasant.

Those elderich bonds should keep even your might restrained while my magic painfully removes former strife from your heart and soul!
I could easily do it now, but I wish to wait until you awaken.

If you freely give stripes back to me, I will spare you.

But, if you refuse to give back what is mine by right as the priestess of El Dorado...

Bring!

Huh? Who could be calling me at this hour?

(um... hello)

Ah... Priestess Tanya. Thank goodness you’re at your tower!

I’ve been trying to reach you all day!

Tanya, I have a favor to ask of you. Unless your work won’t allow you the time that is.

Anything for you, Stripe.

Stripe? W-what a pleasant surprise!

Ham, before we continue, who is that behind you?

I’m not interfering. Anything am I?

Say, who is that behind you? Oh never mind. Prince Stripe is eager to speak with you.

No! Not at all! I mean no one special.

Fade

Disappear
Hey!! Where's the infirmary? Where's Gina? Where am I?

AA... Uh... Hiya...

Well, anyway, when you find the time, I'd like you to go to Atlanta, Georgia, where Gina and Cheetah live.

Ask Cheetah if she would like to attend a festival this weekend and transport her here to El Dorado if she agrees.

Well, I uh...

Huh? A festival? Why'd I love to go mufin'!!!

Oh no!!! I just remembered I didn't get a chance to wash up for a whole two days!

I'm a mess! Don't look!

You're a mess all right...

Tanya! You've brought Cheetah!

Haha! You must have anticipated my request. How thoughtful!

You don't ever have to worry about your appearance when you're with me.

Your beauty can never be blemished in my eyes.
Tanya, please make sure Cheetah arrives safely tomorrow, and be sure that she is afforded every comfort while she stays at your tower for the night.

TILIGHT!

Say Thanna...

That's Tanya!

Whatever... do you have a bathroom in this dump or what?

Until we meet tomorrow. Goodnight.

Yes... the sublevels have access to a hot-spring with fresh water. You may groom yourself with my cosmetics there.

Thanks, I'll try not to make too much of a mess...

Conceited wench! If it weren't for Stripe...

This ruins all of my plans! I'll have to resort to something drastic!

An assassination!

And I know just the lycanthrope to do the task!

With the proper motivation, Cheetah's nemesis, Jetta the Were-Wolf will tear her to bits!