

Another Day

By Flashthehedgehog

Submitted: July 31, 2006

Updated: August 25, 2006

*Here's the sadistic side of my creativity. I've only just got into the whole emo thing and this was my 1st story which I wrote in January, but then was deleted, then recovered, then deleted again. So I thought hm..that's a little gay.
*

Provided by Fanart Central
<http://www.Fanart-Central.net>

1. Another Pint of Blood

Morning...

I don't know when a day ends and the next begins, the only clue is the different shade of blue in the sky every 14 hours or so. (Of course that's a guess, I can't be bothered to look at the time, it makes the day so much slower for some reason.)

I didn't have a home, I couldn't live properly. Last night I slept in some child's, tree house. I was surprised to see bed sheets still up there, as there were cobwebs everywhere else. (I was weary of spiders crawling over me in the night.)

As much as I tried not to, I couldn't help thinking that now, technically, I was a tramp! Forced to live in other people's homes and shoplift. And I was supposed to be the one to help the humans. There was me, robbing from them. How I wish I was back at my real home, I longed for Maria.

I felt a stab in my heart as I said her name. People,(namely Amy and Rouge) had told me time and time again that it wasn't my fault she was killed. But it was. I knew it was, and no-one, not even Rouge could change that.

Even though I didn't live anywhere, I would try to prevent looking scruffy. I didn't want anyone's sympathy. I went into supermarkets and took things like toothpaste and deodorant. I might not be one of these humans, but I still had the hygiene of them. I also took food and water with me, and then I'd just run off. Those humans who call themselves the police, they'd never catch me.

I was staring towards the city today, thinking. I was thinking about how all these people thought that I was one of the bad guys. I didn't know myself to be honest, but I wasn't as bad as the Doctor....was I? If only there was some way I could show these humans that I was the one created to help them, no matter how much I loathed them.

I looked up at the sky and saw an aero plane, but not just any aero plane, it was Tails. What was he doing? Was he collecting the Chaos Emeralds? I was daydreaming for about a minute, before I realized what he was doing. He was coming down to me. I tried not to look too surprised.

Hey Shadow! What are you doing here?

What kind of a question was that? You can't just invade someone's privacy like that. (I had learnt this when I asked Rouge what she was up to on the Doctor's airships sometime ago. She glared at me, obviously not wanting to tell)

I replied What's it to you!

Well I'd of thought you would be where all the smoke is, just for a second I thought you

were the one that caused it.

He gave me an anxious smile, he must of thought that would offend me, but I've heard it all before. Although I scowled at him, for the fun of it all.

What are you talking about? I don't see any smoke.

Tails looked at me in a sarcastic tone and then a surprised look on his face appeared. He must of thought that I was joking, but then he saw that I really wasn't getting it.

Then look behind you!

I looked, and sure enough, the city behind me was invisible due to the amount of smoke that was around there.

What happened? Why didn't I notice it?

We were just informed about it at the Headquarters. Sonic's gone off ahead. He's probably already there by now. Do you want a lift?

No thanks Tails.

I was already late as it is. It would take forever to get there if I was flying, no matter how skilled Tails was at it. But on the other hand, Sonic could be helping the humans and then I could find and destroy the cause of this catastrophe and that would prove I'm no enemy on this planet.

When I got there, there was this massive container in the shape of an egg. I smirked. It was Eggman. I could finish him off no problem. But I felt like I had seen this ship before. I waited, preparing for the robots to come out, but there was none. I investigated, I found a hole in the ship, and the shape of this hole was a perfect circle. There was another one in the exact same place and shape on the other side. No collision on earth could do that. Suddenly I heard Tails plane land behind me. Surely he would be able to tell what causes this hole to appear, but he looked as baffled as me. I didn't know what to say

Where's Sonic? I suddenly said. He jumped a little.

He said he's gonna help the citizens, Do you know what happened here?

I was about to ask the same question I hesitated, not sure whether to tell him... But I recognize it

Tails looked at me in an apologetic way. What was wrong? Why was he looking at me like that? I closed my eyes, trying to remember where I last saw it. But my memory was blank. I opened my eyes, looking at the hole. Every time I closed my eyes I felt closer somehow. But when I opened them again, I had never been more far away.

Chapter 2 coming soon

2. Another Star is Pierced

This story includes Snowdrop, a character made by super_shadow_hedgehog380

Tails had gone back to his workshop to find out about this ship. He asked me if I could keep an eye on the ship until he got back.

I don't do anybody any favours, especially when it comes to Sonic and his friends.

He sighed and then walked off to his plane, I watched him fly off into the horizon and then looked at the ship again.

I wondered if the night was going to solve the mystery of this, but on the other hand, I knew that reporters and police would eventually arrive and if I was still there at the time, then they would of all suspected me. Yet again my mission to convince the humans that I was good, would be foiled by the polices conclusions.

Nightfall came and I decided to hide in the branches of a tree while the cameras were filming, and tourists took pictures of the ship, even one of the policemen started getting his mobile phone out, ready to take a picture, until his partner nudged him in the elbow. I thought to myself these people aren't afraid of what's to come, either that, or they are trying to hide their fear.

The next day, another usually peaceful morning came. I had slept on the branches for the night, when I finally gave up on the thought that something might come out when nobody was around and the smoke had cleared. I stared at the sun, thinking if I had anything to do with this ship.

Suddenly I slipped on the pillow of wet leaves that I rested on last night. I fell right on my head and clicked my neck. My eyes were closed as the pain in my head began to thump to the beat of my heart. I heard breathing, I thought it was my own, but when I eventually opened my eyes I saw a pair of white and black shoes standing in front of me.

Erm... I quickly got the right way up to see who this person was. A little too quickly actually. I heard my neck click again. I tried my best not cry out ouch in front of this person.

She sucked in her teeth, That looked like it hurt, why were you up there?

Oh err..I was..looking for something.

What a stupid thing to say, I could feel myself blushing so I turned round quickly. Why was I blushing? I hardly ever felt this way, the last time I remember me blushing was when Rouge held my hand when we were facing Dr. Eggman. Speaking of which, where was he?

Looking for something in a tree? She was really getting to me. One thing was for sure, she wasn't dumb.

Look this isn't anything to do with you, who are you and why are you stalking me?

Me stalking you? And there was me thinking that you were spying on me. Of course now I know that you're not a spy, and neither are you a good one.

I started walking away at that point. But I knew that she would come after me.

What's your name then? She made me jump, but I tried my best not to show it. I decided to tell her.

My name is Shadow. I knew I didn't have to ask what her name was, she would say it anyway.

My name is Snowdrop. See?

That's a.....strange name I was going to say weird.

note=no offence super_shadow_hedgehog380^~^*

So, yours is even stranger

I'm not in the mood for fights or competitions, if you are then leave me alone.

Whoa, take it easy, I was only having a laugh. She thought afterwards Besides, you started it.

So what are you doing, following me?

Well, I thought that you were just as curious as I was about that weird egg looking ship that we were near by.

I stopped. Do you know what that thing is?

No, not really, though it does look familiar.

I was shocked. I had thought exactly the same thing.

Do you remember where you had last seen it?

I saw it in a newspaper clipping in the city library, the date the newspaper was was, oh about 50 years ago.

50 years ago! Why was that so familiar too? Even if she was a little irritating, she proved to be of help.

Come on!

Where are we going?

To the city library, we gotta find that newspaper!

Just thinking about what was on the headline of that newspaper was tearing me up inside. I ran faster to try and get it out of my head, but it wouldn't stop, even when Snowdrop was shouting at me to slow down, I took her hand and carried on, faster. Worried that we wouldn't find it in the library. Someone might of kept it for themselves. That someone could be Eggman, keeping it a secret. He had to be in this somewhere.

Chapter 3 on its way.

3. Another piece of the puzzle

We found the city library eventually. Snowdrop had guided me there when I slowed down in the heart of the city. We walked up the steps and I followed Snowdrop to where she saw this newspaper clipping. I couldn't get over how big this place was, and everywhere there was books piled high. How could anybody know what to look for when there were so many books to choose from? I myself was a good reader, though I had never been in the library. When I went into the supermarket my eyes flicked in the direction of the headlines and they were always negative. But I also read Maria's books when I was on the ARK. At 1st she read to me as I couldn't read some of the longer words, but I soon began to learn how to pronounce them and asked her for the meanings. On nights, when I walked past houses in the freezing cold I sometimes overheard mothers reading to their children. Then, I would close my eyes and imagine myself in that bedroom, listening to Maria's voice. But anyway...I'm daydreaming and I should get back to the story

When I "woke up" I was sitting down with Snowdrop with a book in front of me.

Well don't just sit there, look for it!

I shaked my head, retracing what she said. How am I supposed to find this clipping if I don't know what it looks like?

Well it had a headline like.. Eusten, we have a problem, and then a sub heading like, disaster at Space Colony ARK

ARK! I couldn't stop myself from saying it out loud. People started staring. I looked around, just a little embarrassed. I saw 2 people that I knew as I was looking. Espio and Tails. I expected Tails would be here, because I thought him as a bookworm, though I was surprised to see Espio. I bet they both were surprised to see me.

Something wrong, Shadow? Snowdrop sidetracked me from their stares.

It's just...Oh look I'll tell you later, lets get out of here

But I thought you wanted to read i-

Look lets go!

When we got out of the library, it was already night time. I needed some fresh air. My memory kept coming up with images of me and Maria on this strange space station, this space station was the ARK.

Are you gonna tell me why you suddenly dragged me out here in the freezing cold?

I..I needed some air.

What a pathetic excuse

It was an excuse in a way, but that didn't stop me glaring into her eyes.

Look, just leave me alone, ok?

Not until you tell me what's going on

...

I didn't trust her enough to tell her the whole truth, we only met a couple of hours ago.

C'mon, tell me, maybe I can help

Hah, how can you help when she's dead?

Who?

The only one I loved. Maria.

There was a groan from the clouds up above. A storm was coming.

Oh great. Just what we needed. A thunderstorm. Then she looked at me.

What?

You're crying

Of course I knew I was crying on the inside, though I couldn't bear to show it on the out, though I couldn't deny it. I closed my eyes and let the tears fall down my cheeks. When I opened my eyes, she looked so sorry for me. She also noticed my ears had gone down and she started to come toward me. I let her hug me and the tears started falling again.

Come on, let's get outta the cold

The rain had started tipping it down as soon as she said that, but I thought that as a coincidence at the time. I had no knowledge of her powers yet, but something told me I was about to find out.

Before I knew it, I was outside a house. I assumed it was hers.

Wha-Where are we?

Outside my house, I thought you would of gathered

I smiled

Well, it's mine and my flat mates. Come inside and meet her. We went in and I saw a hedgehog that looked just like me, except she was female.

Note *This is Marcia from Marcia-the-Hedgehog Keep up the good work Marcia*

Hey Marcia, this is Shadow, we bumped into each other when I looking out for... *raises eyebrows*

I was confused but I decided I wouldn't ask until later.

Umm, hey Shadow, we look so alike

Aheh....yeah We looked so much like each other, it was scary. Was it a clone of Eggman's?

It turned out Marcia and I had a lot in common. We both liked Rock music. We both loved Tomato Ketchup and we were both searching for something. Had she been programmed to have the same memory as me? I knew I shouldn't ask her such personal questions.

Umm.. Are you...human?

She looked baffled

Yeah...why did you ask me that?

Well it's just, never mind

Why did I ask her?!

Excuse me for just a second

She went out to talk to Snowdrop.

So, how are getting along with him?

We were getting on great

Were?

Yeah, he's just asked me if I'm human. I was about to ask him the same thing.

Why do you say that?

Well we looked so alike; one of us can't be real

Sure you can, don't worry when we find Dr Eggman we will ask him about Shadow

Ok

Don't worry about it, from what I can see; Shadow's suffering the exact same problem as you

Oh?

He started crying when he mentioned someone named Maria

Do you know who she is?

Not properly, but I think I may of seen her in the newspapers, she was on that Space Colony ARK, and that reminds me, Shadow walked out when I said about it.

It doesn't mean anything to me

No I didn't think it would, can you keep an eye on this, and I'll go talk to him

Snowdrop came out of the kitchen, I was sitting down on the sofa, with my eyes closed and my ears listening to the rain outside. I was glad I was inside for the night.

You ok now?

I think so

So are you gonna tell me what was going on back there? I hesitated, but she waited patiently.

It's ok you don't have to-

Maria, she was the closest friend I could ever have, she was on the ARK, where I was created. She was killed by GUN. I tried to save her but it was too late, I escaped with her promise, and I am trying to for fill it, but at the moment they're not interested.

Who are they?

The humans! They think I'm a villain. I'm not. At least not any more.

It's ok, you don't have to say any more. She noticed that my voice was getting slightly higher. We heard Marcia call from the kitchen.

Tea will be ready in 5 minutes you guys

I didn't know I was eating. I decided to ask Snowdrop about her powers

Hey, Snowdrop. Do you have any powers?

Yeah, I have ice powers, and the ability to freeze time

Note *I added another power for Snowdrop, hope you don't mind super_shadow_hedgehog380 ^-^*

And it's not called Chaos control?

No, It's not called anything, I just do it, I got that power from Marcia I was confused and Snowdrop could see it in my facial expressions.

We were enemies and we had a battle, she used Chaos Control but she accidentally transferred some of that power to me. She uses her powers very rarely.

I guess I'm more used to my powers

We stopped the conversation there. I had to find out about Marcia. She was so familiar to me. Maybe the Dr would know. We had a conversation going when we were eating, (chili dogs and chips, with loads of ketchup ^-^) but it died down when Snowdrop started asking me some more personal questions. I decided I had told her enough for one day.

When we finished eating I started making my way towards the door.

Shadow, where are you going?

I thought I'd make myself scarce

Oh Shadow, you know you can stay here

I knew alright. I changed my mind about staying for the night. Besides, I liked to be alone No thanks, I'd like to be by myself

I shut the door; there was no way I could go back now.

Maybe he heard our conversation earlier

Maybe, don't worry, I'll find him tomorrow

How will you know where he is?

I have a hunch

I started walking in the direction of Espio's house.

Chapter 4 on its way

4. Another Ass Kicked

(Yes the title is a bit random)

Oh Shadow, it's such a nice view from here

Yeah

You know...when I was a little girl, my mother died, and I had to come up here

...*looks sorry for Maria*

I didn't mean to worry you Shadow, it's just...I don't remember anything like the beaches. Grandfather said that I had to come up here so the researchers could cure me. But I don't know what he wanted to cure me of

Did you ever ask him?

No, and he wouldn't of told me anyway

....my purpose here is to protect you, and I will do just that

Shadow, you don't need to protect me, but, I have one favor.

What is it?

Shadow...

SHADOW!

Wha- Someone karate chopped me

What do you think you're doing here Shadow?

This would hurt the next day, this person was Espio and I decided to put him straight.

I was tired. So I broke in and slept here for the night

You're getting nicked my friend

Hah go ahead; I'm not afraid of those idiots

He seemed a little uncertain at that point. I made a run for it.

Come back here!

There was no way I would go back there again; even I could easily get away from the police. I don't quite know what made me want to spend the night in Espio's garage but I couldn't let that riddle my mind right now, it was not important anyway. I felt hungry. I had managed to survive for days without food, but since I ate yesterday at Snowdrops' house I thought how much I'd missed it. Food did keep me from thinking about Maria for some reason.

So I went down the local store and brought some breakfast. Well, actually I stole it but anyways...

I went on top of a building and started eating when I saw Sonic rushing down the motorway, so far there was only one other hedgehog apart from me who could run like that and it was him. I started thinking about him for a change. He was probably off to fight the doctor, though as far as I know he hadn't done anything bad, which confused me. I had to go back to the library again and find that clipping. That held part of my memory.

I found the library and ran to where Snowdrop and I sat yesterday, though of course she wasn't there now, but she would be soon. I saw Tails again on a table. From what I could see he was reading about constructing planes. I smiled and went over to him

Hey Shadow!

Hi...

....er..are you..looking for something

Nothing of your interest, listen, can you do me a favor?

Er sure, as long as it's nothing to do with destroying the world, aheh

I decided to let him get away with that one

Sorry, anyway, what was your favor?

Can you build me a plane, not a fast one, one like your Tornado?

Sure, you can have the Tornado if you want

In that case, you can paint that black and red instead of blue and yellow I was not having a plane in Sonics' color.

Sure thing Shadow, but, if you don't mind me asking, what do you want it for?

To be honest I wasn't really sure myself, something told me I needed to surf the air and not the ground

Oh, just a new hobby

Ok well meet me at my workshop in about 2 hours

I nodded at him and went back to finding this clipping.

It had gone about 15 minutes and still no sign of it. I heard a buzzing sound above me and I wanted to hit this annoying thing.

Even more annoying than the Crazy Frog

Hey Shadow, what are you doing here?

It was of course Charmy

I can ask the same thing, you probably can't even read yet

That was uncalled for, and anyway I'm getting books for Espio, he wouldn't come down here today, he said that you would be here, dunno why.

I laughed in my head. Was that asshole afraid of me?

Well don't look at me, I don't know what he thinks about in that tiny brain of his

Suddenly he dropped a book. But he didn't notice. I opened it quickly and (coincidentally ^_~) I found what I had been looking for. I felt relieved. If Charmy hadn't dropped that book I would be looking for it for hours, not even knowing that Espio would be reading it at his own place all along. Hell, he might even have kept it.

Well, gotta go, see ya later.

Er...yeah bi And thanks for the book I was thinking. I went to the table and started reading it.

Eusten, we have a problem!

Tragedy at Space Colony ARK!

GUN soldiers were sent up to the Space Colony ARK yesterday to find and destroy all evidence leading to the Ultimate Life form commonly known as, Project Shadow. This included Professor Gerald Robotnik, (the man who had the idea of Creating this catastrophe) all of his researchers and even his granddaughter Maria, who is an orphan and forced to live there.

Forced? This can't be!!

Professor Gerald insisted that he had been working on a cure for his granddaughters' medical disease. This disease is known as Neuro-immune Deficiency Syndrome, which has been shortened as NIDS, the opposite of AIDS. We weren't able to confirm what the disease does, but the professor said that if he did not do something soon, his granddaughter would die. We were not convinced as one of the researchers swore on his life that they were working on something besides that. The Ultimate Life Form, which would be created for the sole purpose of saving mankind, could also, have the power to destroy it.

This fitted in perfectly with my personality, even though I didn't want to believe it, I

moved on.

The professor said that he wasn't the sole creator of project Shadow. He confirmed that an alien source known as the Black Arms had "made a deal with him" and donated the blood to create the Ultimate Life Form. The leader was known as Black Doom.

I knew this, Black Doom and I had fought to the death. He had said to me that he was my biological father and I felt more confused than ever.

GUN was not able to track the Black Arms as they had no idea where they could be located, the professor wouldn't say anything about their presence either. This is just one of the reasons why we killed him.

Also they did not find the prototype of the Ultimate Life and were close to exterminating the real Ultimate Life, which they aren't confirming what species it is.

They said that Maria had ejected the Life Form into Earth through one of their transporting capsules. Luckily, GUN were able to capture the capsule containing the life form and store it on Prison Island

"We will do everything we can to make sure that this creature never comes out."

They didn't do a very good job of keeping me locked in did they? And yet it was Eggman who saved me. Maybe I should be working for him.

I turned the page and there was something else relating to me, but the date was more recent, it was 6 months ago. I started reading it briefly.

Ultimate Life Form escapes Prison Island

Dr Eggman, who is confirmed as Professor Gerald's grandson has released the Ultimate Life Form out of its suspended sleep. We can now confirm that the species is a hedgehog, looking a lot like the Hero Sonic the Hedgehog, with a few exceptions. He is black with red stripes on his quills and skates instead of actually running. If seen in night, the public cannot determine if it is Sonic or the Ultimate Life Form, codenamed Shadow.

The Doctor plans to assist Shadow in his mission to destroy the world, and Sonic is so far no match for Shadow, there was a fearless battle last night, as GUN troops were trying to capture Sonic, mistaking him for the Ultimate Life. Shadow has stolen four Chaos Emeralds so far from Museums and jewelers stores. We don't know what the Chaos Emeralds full power is, but we caught footage of Shadow disappearing into space and coming back in a few seconds to give Sonic a crushing blow during the fight.

We recommend the public to stay indoors at nighttime, as we have not received no sightings of Shadow in the daylight.

So, that was why the public thought me as a criminal. Eggman used me for his own purposes. I had found everything I wanted now, there was no time to sit and wait for Snowdrop to come by. I don't know why I was waiting for her. I suppose I wanted to apologize for the other night, but I had to collect my plane first.

Yes Chapter 5 is coming, don't worry, lol. Only Joking ^-^’

5. A waste of my time (not literally ^-^)

I couldn't believe it. The truth was right here on paper and my heart was telling me it was true. I wanted to forget about it. I wished I had never met Snowdrop in the 1st place. But I had and there was almost no way of turning it back. But I would never know why Maria had been killed. So there was an advantage I suppose.

I had my eyes closed while I was walking, letting my ears hear out people so I could dodge them. But someone went straight into me. It was my fault, kinda, but I wasn't gonna try and control my temper.

Watch where ya-oh It was Marcia, though I struggled to remember her name.

Shadow...

Marcia! I'm sorry, I didn't mean to...

Don't worry about it. Shadow...where did you go last night. It might not look like it but I was really worried about you.

I smiled, Nice to know I'm cared for

Oh Shadow you know you are, you just don't want to believe it.

Maybe she was right.

Shadow, tell me what is going on, Snowdrop told me what you said to her and I just couldn't stop thinking about you.

I need to find out the truth for myself

The truth about what?

I can't tell you right now, I'm not sure I believe it.

Well how about asking the doctor?

Clearly you have never had a deal with him, he always lies. Never trust him.

I didn't want anything to happen to her; she seemed too close for me to let her go.

Shadow it's getting late, you should come back to our house.

No thanks, I'm planning to avoid Snowdrop at the minute

Why? She's a nice person

I'm entitled to my own opinion, ok?

Yeah...sure.. I seemed to have made her upset. I suppose she was confused why I was trying to avoid Snowdrop. She knows too much, and she would tell me what she thought would happen in the future. And that gave me a feeling that it was bad, so I didn't want to hear it.

Well, let's go to your place This caught me by surprise and shock. I couldn't tell her I was practically living on the streets. What would she think of me? I had to think of something quick.....got it, though I know I'd regret it.

Come on, let's go to Eggman and ask him about Maria

But..I thought you said never to trust him

I didn't say we were going to believe him, I just want to hear what he says. She seemed to have bought it.

o...ok

are you scared?

No

Good, then let's go

We searched for Eggman's secret headquarters. For a genius, he really wasn't that smart at placing his HQ's. Either I or Sonic ended up finding them. He had yet to build a metal that was waterproof so he could hide underwater. He was aware that me and Sonic could not swim. And being honest, I was a little scared of water. I feared of drowning in it.

We started walking to Tail's workshop, Marcia hardly knew Tails and certainly didn't know where his workshop was, she was also unaware that we were going to fly to Eggman's base, as it more than likely was going to be in the sky. I had been holding Marcia's hand at 1st, I wasn't sure if she had the same speed as I did, but she caught up with me pretty well, I noticed she had a slightly different technique in her skating.

Shadow, I have a question to ask the doctor too, do you think he'll answer it?

Depends on what it is, though I'll make him answer it. Is this the 1st time you have seen Eggman?

I've seen him on the T.V, when he 1st attacked Station Square, I haven't seen him since.

Really? He's done much more recent things since then.

Such as?

Er...he built a fleet of ships and used it once to take over the world and the second time he was trying to destroy me and....Black Doom. I was telling her more and more stories that I really didn't really feel like talking about.

Black doom?

Yeah, Black Doom's my biological father, he was trying to destroy the world and Eggman wanted to as well, so we had a pointless air fight over who would take over. At that time I was on Black Doom's side. That might of answered her next question. But she came out with another one.

Where are we?

Well, this is Tail's workshop, you know him?

Vaguely

Good. Earlier I asked him to build me a plane; I thought I should check out some of the higher places, such as the mountains for chaos emeralds. And we might need this to find Eggman.

Ok

Tails must of just finished working on all the technical gizmos on the plane. He had built an extra seat in for me, I guess just in case I had anyone else with me. On this case I did.

Hey Shadow, I would of built in a Chaos Emerald tracker, but I think you can sense them anyway, right?

Yeah, why have you built 2 seats?

Well, I thought you might wanna have some flying lessons.

Wait a minute, you're planning to fly this thing up to Eggman ship and you don't even know how to fly?

I have flown before Marcia. I flew on creatures, the black hawks, they were tough, so this will be a breeze.

Ok ok, just don't try any stunts, because I'm not 100% confident that you can fly this

I had flown before, not just on a black hawk, I also started flying on the Space Colony ARK. Maria persuaded her grandfather to make an aero plane for herself and me, though I was confused why. And where we were going to fly it. Her grandfather taught her to fly and she was a quick learner. It wasn't an ordinary aircraft like the one I was about to fly now, it was like the X tornado, only much more mechanical and compact and we managed to fly to around the moon. That day brought so many emotions to both of us.

We started the engine and sped onto the runway, we were up in seconds and it was an

incredible feeling. We saw Tails becoming a spec on the ground.

I wonder who that other hedgehog was.

We had to go above the clouds to find Eggman's fleet of ships. And I knew that he would spot us.

That's Shadow! But what's he doing in Tails plane? *Eggman*

We made a rough landing on the main vessel. I was a little shaken up and dreading to know what Marcia looked like. I turned round and took her hands away from her eyes.

Have you had your eyes closed all this time?

Did we land? Are we safe?

Well, don't expect to be on Angel Island when you open them.

She smiled and opened her eyes. She stared at her surroundings. There were endless towers of cannons and searchlights, and we were standing on steel that stretched for miles. We heard Eggman's voice echo around his ship

All units, Intruders! Capture them alive and bring them to me at once, failure is not an option.

With only minutes before Eggman's robots would start stampeding in our direction, I looked at Marcia

I hope you're good at kicking @\$@ as I think you are.

Don't worry about me; you'll see my moves sooner than you think.

I was looking forward to watching her face my clones. I found out that Eggman had been doing nothing but improve his Shadow Androids. We saw a black shadow forming in the distance of his ship.

Shadow, do you see that? What is it?

Those are the robots

As the androids got closer, I saw Marcia's eye's widen. Here was a battle that she would not forget.

Note. I'm not very good at action scenes

The 1st 10 robots came towards me in a formation. They assumed that I was the strongest and Eggman wanted me the most. I jumped in the air and spin-kicked them all onto falling on the ground, but they recovered quickly and attacked me again. I rapidly punched all of them and looked at how Marcia was doing.

She was home attacking all the robots and dented all of their armor, but they still kept attacking her. Eggman must have been busy improving the designs. My hands turned indigo and I threw an energy ball right into the android's stomach, forcing it right back, straight into a fleet of other robots. I cheered and threw another ball straight into the air. The robots were looking straight at me, with still no expression in their faces. I smirked at them and within seconds my energy ball had shattered them all to pieces.

I heard another blast and faced Marcia. Both her hands and her feet glowed a greenish color and energy fire was rising from her. Her eyes had changed from ruby to emerald, and her quills were rising above her. I knew what was coming up...

Chaos Blast!

I shielded my eyes while pieces of metal came towards me and cut my arms and legs. I felt my ear being ripped severely from one of the android's metal arms, and tightened my eyes to try and control the pain. Now it was my turn to show her what I was made of.

My hover boots started up and I rose to the air. I started glowing all over and got ready to teleport.

Chaos Control

Within seconds I had destroyed most of the Androids that were attacking me and almost all of them which were attacking Marcia. I thought she should have a little more fun before we moved on. The time started again and Marcia kicked the androids until they fell.

It's been a long time since I fought like that. Beads of sweat were on her forehead.

Don't tell me you're tired out already, we have a long way to go yet.

No way. Come on.

Well, do you want to go the easy way or the hard way? I was standing just above an air vent and signaled for her to look down.

Well obviously, go down there.

I crouched down and managed to slip my hands underneath this vent so I could lift it up, I closed my eyes, ready, and then my hands were crushed and I let out a scream of pain. One of the androids had stamped on the air vent with Marcia trapped in his arms.

Find out what happens next on Chapter 6

6. Sacrificing

(The titles get more random, don't they?)

Every time I was inflicted with pain, memories would rush back into my head. As my hands were being literally sliced off by this machine, I saw endless occasions, where me and Maria were together on the ARK, and Maria once said that she had to go and work on something. There was nothing I could do. Next time I see that vision, I will ask her what this was.

Eventually I ripped my hands out of the vent, and looked at my gloves; they were dark red and soaked. I eased them off, with my hands stinging continuously. I searched for the cut and I saw white. The bone. I was a little taken back. I didn't realize how long my hands had been under there.

I couldn't use my hands to free Marcia, so Chaos Control was out of the picture. Instead I transferred all the chaos energy to my legs and spin-kicked the bastard so his head came off. The rest of its body started bleeping. This was a sign for self destruction.

Marcia, you gotta run! That things gonna self destruct!

I can't get outta its grip

The robot self destructed before my eyes. This time I couldn't shield myself from the robot or Marcia's death. Why was everyone taking away the people I started caring for? I stood still watching the flames rise. It gave me a feeling of hell. Maybe that is where I should be.

WHY!!!!

My knees fell to the ground and I burst into tears, my head started to thump and I started feeling dizzy. I couldn't care less. My Chaos emerald was on the floor shining in the reflection of the flames. I had broken my promise. What use was the Chaos Emerald to me now?

I couldn't stand it any longer. I couldn't stand feeling that God was picking on me. I started running into the fire, but someone hulled me back. This person started running towards the Chaos Emerald.

CHAOS CONTROL!

Did Marcia survive? Those were the last words I thought before I fell unconscious.

So many things had happened on this journey alone. I woke up, feeling a thump in my head. I didn't want to open my eyes; I feared what I might see. I wish I didn't wake up, that meant I would be dead and I would be with Maria.

Hey, Shadow. I was starting to think you'd never wake up.

I knew that voice. It was Snowdrop. I tried to sit up, but my headache forced me to lie down again. I opened my eyes and looked at my surroundings. I was in Snowdrops house. There were blankets over me and pills on the table next to me.

Have you been feeding me pills?

There ain't no other way your gonna recover so you'll have to like or lump it.

ergh...how long have I been out?

About two days, what were you and Marcia doing up there?

Marcia! How could I forget? Is she ok?

Don't worry about her Shadow, she's fine. Just a couple of cuts. Nothing compared to you.

I moved my hands a little. They ached on every finger I moved. I tried to get a closer look at them, but I only make out bandages. I looked at my reflection in a window and saw that my fur was all tufted up, and I also spotted that my ear had been stitched back to my head. I felt weak.

Shadow's ear was literally cut off by a robots arm in Chapter 5

I wouldn't try and move around if I were you, most of your fingers are broken and it's gonna be hard to beat Eggman like that.

How would you know?

Well, you weren't doing particularly well against those robots.

What are you talking about? Me and Marcia...wait a minute, how do you know what we were doing.

Shadow. You're gonna have to do better than that to get me off your back.

Humph

Well, grunt all you want, I saved your @\$@ up there, I want some credit.

Where's my Chaos Emerald?!

I'm not just gonna give it to you like that, you gotta get some manners.

I don't have time for this

You don't have time for anything. And I certainly don't have time to argue, so shut up!

I kept quiet then. Since when did manners come into possession of something you already own? Snowdrop was becoming more like Rouge every time we met. Understanding and caring. But at the same time she was annoying and always wanting something from me. Maybe I should stop hanging out with the opposite sex. I thought of all the guys in our species. The only one, who I thought I would be the closest with, was Knuckles.

Actually come to think of it, the Master Emerald had the power to rejuvenate *this means heal* any being. If I could somehow get up to Angel Island, I could heal my wounds in no time and then for fill my promise to Marcia. But with my hands literally broken, I couldn't grab the Chaos Emerald and get outta here, and besides that, I was too weak to use Chaos Control. There was only one person who could help me. And she had just come in to my bedroom so I didn't have to call her.

Marcia, you came just at the right time.

Shadow, if it's about going up to Eggman again in your condition, then I am gonna pin you to this bed.

Heh. I'd like to see you try. Anyway it's not about Eggman

It's not?

Why do you sound so surprised?

Oh well.....never mind, anyway you were saying?

Well, I need to go to Angel Island. The Master Emerald can heal my wounds much quicker than them healing naturally. Then I will have to fight Eggman again.

Why?

Well you wanted him to ask a question, right?

Yes

Then we will do just that. And besides my planes up there and Tails isn't gonna be happy if I say I flew my plane right into Eggman's ship. Now are you gonna help me out here or not.

Yeah ok. Where's your emerald?

Well..that's another problem. Snowdrop took it and doesn't plan to give it back unless I start acting nice.

That's not your style. I'll get it back, no problem.

She left the room, knowing that I would just nod in a way of saying thanks, and that's exactly what I did. She was right. I wasn't a villain, but I was in no mood to be polite to

anybody. All I could think about was Marcia. I heard her and Snowdrop talking downstairs. At first it sounded pleasant, but then they started shouting and I started to enjoy it.

It's HIS Chaos Emerald Snowdrop; he has a right to be mad at you!

It's not just about his attitude, I wanna know why he has been avoiding me, and he didn't even thank me for saving his life.

He's just afraid of what might happen if you follow us around.

Us?

Yes. Us. Me and Shadow. He's worried that you might get hurt.

And what about you? Isn't he worried about you?

Well, yes he is but it's not the same, besides, I'm on a mission with him.

What mission?

I can't tell you, I haven't even told him.

Yeah because you've just made it up.

No I haven't, look just give the Chaos Emerald and if you really wanna do Shadow a favor then stay outta our way!

FINE!

That was the 1st time I had heard Marcia have a go at Snowdrop and I agreed with her all the way. Snowdrop should stay out of our business. Her time will come.

Come on, I wanna get some peace.

I got out of bed and she put her arm around me. I felt strange. I'd never had this feeling before, and if I did it had been a long time since I had it. I felt protected and safe from danger.

She used Chaos control and landed right in front of the Master Emerald. Angel Island was an untouched by human hands and I hoped it stayed that way, I knew Knuckles was thinking something along those lines as well.

Marcia, look on the ground and see if you can see Knuckles. If he sees us, he'll do whatever it takes to get us off here.

Ok I'm looking.

I closed my eyes and whispered the spell that healed wounds in seconds.

The servers are the seven Chaos

The Master Emerald started to glow and got brighter so that I had to close my eyes. I could feel my power coming back to me and my hands were completely healed and I could put on my gloves with no problems. I could sense that the other chaos emeralds were nearby when my ear had healed and I took out the stitches. I had completely recovered and I opened my eyes to see Knuckles.

What do you think your doing?

I don't wanna fight you Knux He suddenly got frustrated and hit me so I fell to the ground.

Only my friends call me Knux, now get outta my sight. That goes for you as well!

I didn't want to get in another fight. Especially since I had just recovered from my last one, and I wanted to show Marcia I wasn't always violent. Sometimes I could be romantic you know..

Come on, the emeralds aren't the only thing on Angel Island.

What else is there?

Do you know what Chaos are?

I've heard about them, but I've never seen them.

Then I'll show you them

We raced each other to the Chao garden. Weaving in and out of trees and jumping on branches. We saw the Chaos gathering on the other side of the river. This was the one thing I feared of doing.

Something wrong?

er...er..nothing. Come on; bet you can't get across the river.

She dived right into the river, regardless of the strong current. I looked at how she swam, gracefully and effortless. I breathed in what might be my last breath of air and dived in straight after her, but, as I expected, I started swallowing the water and my arms were getting tired. I needed help.

Marc..ia...

I saw her look back and then frantically swimming after me. But then I went underwater and all I could see was fishes and plants. I was pulled up and as soon as came up I started breathing in as much as I could. I saw Marcia struggling to get us to the Chao garden. I couldn't help her, I just thought about how embarrassed I was. The Ultimate Life form couldn't swim. It was there in my head, refusing to forget.

We got onto land and some of the Chaos helped Marcia drag me to safety. She punched my back and I was sick on the grass.

I-

Don't say anything

She massaged my back until she was certain that I was ok. She giggled when she heard me purring from time to time, and she started stroking behind my ears. It felt wonderful. This was another feeling that I had never felt before. She eventually stopped and sat beside me.

Do you feel better now?

Physically yes

Why, what's the matter?

I hate it when I can't do something and I get highly embarrassed

Your saying, you can't swim.

I lowered my head and closed my eyes.

Not everyone can do everything Shadow.

But I'm the Ultimate Life Form and I can't even swim

Think of it this way Shadow. God is the most powerful being in the universe right? But you don't see him coming back to life do you?

No, I suppose not.

And Knuckles is afraid of ghosts, and has hardly faced that fear, I've just seen you face yours.

Yeah

Now come on, I wanna see these Chao.

The Chaos loved her and were circling around her wanted her to pick them up. A couple came over to me and I ruffled ones fur. I smiled and started juggling all of them. They seemed to be enjoying it. I saw one of the Chaos climb into my shoes and fell asleep in it. I felt my heart getting bigger and I felt like crying with joy. A dark Chao that had black and red quills like me nudged my knee and I fell in love with it.

Marcia came over to me with Chaos on her head and smiled at me. I stopped juggling the Chao and looked at her. I then shifted my eyes to my Chao look-a-like. She looked in the same direction and started laughing as well.

Ahh he's cute.

Yeah.

I stood up and got closer to her, and my eyes were looking straight at Marcia. Her eyes looked at mine and she knew what I was about to do. I took the Chao off her head, and kissed her. She didn't refuse me, she kissed me back, more seriously than I intended. She started stroking my ears like I loved and I moved my hand slowly down her back. We couldn't have been in a more romantic place.

7. 7 is my lucky number

We decided to stay at the Chao garden for the night. Marcia was already asleep in my arms. I was wide awake, looking at the stars. Today was magical. Maybe this was my lucky day. A shooting star crossed the sky, and I wished that this feeling would last forever. I thought about Maria. I never completely understood why she smiled at me just before she died, until now. She didn't want me to be unhappy. I did figure this out before, but I had no-body else to care for. But everything was different now. I had someone next to me who loved me as much as I loved her.

Thank you....Maria I drifted off to sleep.

I woke up just as the sun was rising. I wanted to show Marcia but she was still asleep. I didn't want to wake her. She looked so peaceful. I lifted my arm from under her and went to the edge of the island. I looked down and I could see mist and sea. I thought about getting breakfast for her, but then it seemed too ridiculous, so I searched the island for fruit, which seemed more appropriate.

My ears started twitching, which meant that I was getting closer to the Master Emerald. My Chaos Emerald started glowing as well, and was trying to get out of my hands grip. I started to get anxious, so I walked the other way.

I heard water falling in the distance. I started running in its direction and saw a bunch of fruit already on the ground. I was curious and looked around. Eventually I spotted Knuckles, who had just come up from under the water. He had been fishing in his own style, and had spotted me.

What are you still doing here?

You didn't say we had to get off the island

Humph He looked away, with a look of "dam he's right" in his eyes.

Why are you here?

Mind your own business

It is my business, it's MY Island.

I turned round, seeing that I was getting my point across to him, this wasn't just his island. There were other people living on it. The Chao, the Chaos creature. But regardless I did sound a little childish.

Hmph, Amateur! He went back into the water.

I couldn't chase after him on account of I couldn't swim, (Which I was still a little

embarrassed of.) There was one other way of teasing him. I started picking up his fruit. What was the point of gathering food, when it was already there for me? I calmly walked away, with no rush, just waiting and listening, for him to realize he had hardly any breakfast left.

HEY!!!!

I started running then, dropping a green piece of fruit. That made my day I thought. I hurried back to the Chao garden, hoping that Marcia hadn't woken up and thought that I had run away from her. I arrived there and she was stroking the Chao, with a tear falling in her eye. I whistled and the Chao started stampeding towards me, jumping up and down for the fruit.

Hey, some of this is for me as well.

Marcia had already been startled by my whistling and was now cuddling me, so I could hardly breathe.

I thought you had gone.

I had gone for breakfast, and I bumped into a friend of mine while getting all this stuff.

Who, Knuckles?

The very one, you are way more important than him, so I thought that you should be the one to get all the food.

Shadow, you didn't.

Yup.

Shadow! She jokily punched me in the stomach, and I fell to the ground, pretended to be hurt.

Shadow, are you ok, I didn't mean t-

Calm down, I'm fine. We'd better get outta here. Knuckles are more than likely trying to hunt us down as we speak.

We went to the edge of the island, and prepared to jump off it. The Chao that looked like me started pulling at my leg, and had started to cry.

Just hang on one second. I looked at my hands and feet and thought about what I could give my mini-self. I eventually had an idea and gave him one of my rings that went around my wrists.

Keep this safe ok?

Chao!

I ruffled its fur and then jumped off. Marcia came down after me and then took hold of my hand.

Are you hoping that I'll swim you to land once we fall into the sea?

Nope, you might want hold onto me a little more.

Huh?

My boots started spouting fire, and soon we were hovering, then we started going up.

Just where are we going?

Eggman's ship.

WHAT!!!

I wanna get my plane back, and I'm dying to know what you're going to ask the Doctor

I knew that there would be problems with me flying by myself at this height, but hopefully we would spot Eggman's ship as soon as we got past the clouds. I was praying that he would be there. I closed my eyes as we went straight through the mist that humans would not be able to touch, we just about made it above the clouds and saw Eggman's ship, but it was in the distance. I couldn't stay in the air much longer. Marcia was saying something, but I wasn't exactly listening. I was trying to concentrate on keeping us in above the clouds.

Shadow, use your Chaos Emerald!

Of course! I could use Chaos Control and be on the ship in no time. I started searching my gloves, making sure Marcia wasn't gonna suddenly fall at the same time. Being the Ultimate Life form meant I could change the size of the Chaos Emeralds. I couldn't find it where I usually kept it; I searched frantically all over myself. But it wasn't there. I thought back to when I last used it. Well it was acting strangely this morning when we were close to the Master Emerald. Did I give it to the Chao? Did the Chao eat it!? No that's ridiculous. What about the fruit, I dropped something. Was it the Chaos Emerald? It had to be.

All this time Marcia had been waving at some plane to try and rescue us. But I took a second look and it was Tails and the X-Tornado.

Shadow, try and distract them.

Can't.....too..tired

Ah man

The X-Tornado was flying right above us. Soon it would be too late.

Shadow, quick, give me your shoe.

WHAT! Are you mad?

It's the only chance we've got. She eased my shoe off, which was still activated

but she didn't care. She threw it so it hit the cockpit of the plane.

What was that?

We saw Tails look down right at us and he quickly descended right below us so we could fall on it. Marcia gave out a sign of thanks while I tried to catch my breath back. If it weren't for Tails we would be on our way to dying. I saw Sonic resting on the top of the plane as I tried to find somewhere a little more comfortable. He opened one eye and suddenly stood up.

Shadow, whoa, you surprised me. He looked down at my now bare foot and smirked. Heh, where's your other shoe?

We had to throw it at Tails because otherwise we would have died, we were flying to Eggman's ship but we ran outta energy

I looked at Marcia. She clearly understood that me and Sonic were rivals, though we worked together at the toughest of times.

When we eventually caught up with the ship, Sonic jumped off and started running towards the centre of the vessel. I assumed Eggman would be there, so I said to Marcia that we should head that way to. We waited until the X-Tornado had landed on the ship and then jumped off. Marcia had spotted something and came back with my shoe, pretty scratched and broken, but I could still skate with it I discovered. We caught up with Sonic and was looking at the door.

I saw another plane further back, someone else must be here.

Actually that's m-

Come on, there's no time to argue. He spin dashed to the door and broke through it.

sighs he never listens

We followed Sonics path, dodging the robots that were coming in our direction. I noticed that Sonic had taken out all of Eggman's CCTV cameras, though he had probably already spotted us. We had to hurry.

My ears started twitching again and we were getting closer to Eggman's main power supply.

This whole thing would be a lot better if I had my Chaos Emerald I thought. I kept thinking what Marcia's question might be. I felt Marcia's hand slip out of mine.

Did you hear that?

Hear what?

That loud crash, are you deaf?

No I just....daydream a lot

It sounded like it was coming from that direction.

As we got nearer to Eggman we could see that Sonic had done some serious damage. There was smoke coming out from the ground and the sides, and Sonic suddenly came towards us.

Hey Shadow He rushed past us and we heard him skidding, he was coming back and was focused. Obviously sick and tired of Eggman, tired of him making new machines that could be destroyed in a few seconds.

I looked at Marcia. This was the 1st time she had met Sonic, and she hated him. I kissed her on the cheek and rushed off to stop Sonic. I stopped right in front of Eggmans machine and held my hands out.

Sonic was coming right towards me. I thought he would slow down, but he didn't seem notice me. He knocked me down and smashed the left leg of Eggmans machine. Why did I think he would stop?

Shadow, why didn't you get out the way, don't tell me your on Eggman's side again!

Why are you attacking him?

Because he attempted to destroy the planet with a bomb that used to be on the ARK.

Now it made sense. I thought I had seen the bomb before on the ARK and it was Eggmans all along. Now I wanted to beat the crap out of him, but what about my promise to Marcia.

Look, just leave him.

You are on his side aren't you, Shadow why don't you ever choose to be a hero?

I punched Sonics' face and he looked a little taken aback.

What the hell was that for?

I am no villain. It's what I've been trying to avoid ever since I defeated my father..Black Doom

What were you gonna say, your dad!

I couldn't stand his ignorance. He was making me feel mad and my eyes started to prick. I punched him repeatedly until he ran out of energy and his legs gave way.

Don't you ever call him that again!

Bravo Shadow, you destroyed what I have been trying to destroy for most of my life. All because of something he said. But I'm afraid you'll have to go with him because I know you'll foil my plans.

I wiped the tears from my eyes and my hover boots started. I went right up to the robot's head and kicked it so it hit against the wall. I saw Marcia in the corner of my eye, punching the legs off. I started glowing and I flew to Marcia.

Take hold of my hand quick.

Ok

She started glowing as well and she closed her eyes. This morning had turned out so magical and now we were going to be partners. She had sacrificed her question, which could have been what is my purpose in life, but she gave all that away to help me.

It didn't take long to defeat Eggman, and we had managed to destroy his air base. Now we were on Angel Island, and I had my arm around Marcia, we were watching the sunset and I had found my Chaos Emerald.

Why did ya do it?

Do what?

You helped me and you didn't ask Eggman your question

It's not important, and you are way more important to me than some silly question.

For once..something went right. You didn't die, everyone that I have cared for has either died or doesn't want to know me. So thank you

Your welcome

We kissed lovingly and I never wanted it to stop. Never had I felt so hypnotized. And I had discovered love for a second time. Nothing in the world mattered apart from Marcia.

So what do you wanna do now

You could teach me how to swim...

And that readers is the end of this whole story, but many questions have been left unanswered, which brings more suspense to this story, no?

"Is gentle something you touch or something that touches you" It kinda fits into this story. Though you may recognize it