

EXT. SARAH'S HOUSE-DUSK

Ivan sits on a rocking chair on the front porch. He is looking at the orange patch of sky where the sun had set. He rocks slowly back and forth.

IVAN (V.O.)

I got ahead of myself again, didn't I? With that whole Jenkins battle in the city? It was a gripping battle, so I'm told, but I wasn't there for most of it. Instead, I was fighting a battle of my own.

Sarah comes out of the house and sits on a chair next to Ivan.

SARAH

The kids are in bed.

Ivan chuckles a little, but doesn't move his eyes away from the sunset.

IVAN

They'll be up again in a few minutes asking for something, I can tell you that.

Sarah smiles in response, but her smile quickly fades. She studies Ivan.

SARAH

Can I ask you something?

Ivan finally looks at her. He cocks his head.

IVAN

Sure. Anything you like.

SARAH

Why did you come here?

Ivan seems confused by her question.

IVAN

I... I was banished from my hometown. I was framed for murder

(MORE)

IVAN (CONT'D)

and countless other crimes, so I
had to leave.

SARAH

You're looking for something.

Ivan suddenly understands. He lowers his gaze to the
floorboards.

IVAN

... I was. It's supposed to clear
my name.

SARAH

And you found it?

IVAN

I think I have.

SARAH

So what's wrong?

Ivan looks back up at her.

IVAN

I guess... I guess I'm not quite
ready for what I might find there.
And...

Ivan looks out over the town.

IVAN

I'm not quite ready to leave.

There is a short silence.

SARAH

So, once you get what you came here
to find, you'll go back home?

IVAN

Yeah.

SARAH

I see.

There is another silence. The sky is getting darker. Ivan stands up.

IVAN

It's getting dark. I'd better see that Rudy has enough water for the night.

Sarah nods as Ivan walks away. Suddenly, she stands.

SARAH

Ivan?

Ivan stops to look at her.

SARAH

I... I hope your town finally sees you the way our town does.

Ivan smiles a little.

IVAN

Me too.

INT. SARAH'S BARN-NIGHT

Rudy is curled up in the corner. He lifts his large head as Ivan enters the barn. Ivan glances at Rudy's saddle and seems to make up his mind. He puts on a look of determination. Ivan pats him on the head.

IVAN

Sorry to wake you up, pal. But we've got work to do.

Ivan pulls Rudy's saddle off of a crate and places it on the sandrider. He feels around in the side pocket and finds the map. He grips it in his hand as he climbs onto the saddle. He ties his mask around his face, and places Jarom's hat on his head. Then he rides out into the darkened desert.

EXT. DESERT EXPANSE-NIGHT

Using the map as a guide, Ivan rides back to the warehouse in the desert. As soon as he sees it, he pulls Rudy to a halt. He dismounts and looks at Rudy.

IVAN

Rudy? I need you to wait here for me, alright?

Rudy nods his head. Ivan then turns towards the warehouses with a look of determination.

EXT. DESERT OUTPOST-NIGHT

Ivan crouches as he sneaks toward the warehouse.

BLACK (V.O.)

Why are we sneaking? There's nothing out here. This place looks completely deserted.

Suddenly, shots are fired at Ivan, and he dives behind a pile of crates. Creatures that look like Noel are seen, holding blasters.

CREATURE 1

Why did you fire?! You scared me outta my wits!

CREATURE 2

Sorry! I thought I saw something move over there!

CREATURE 1

Are you kidding? This is the desert! There's nothing out here for miles! I'm not even sure why the warden has us out here to stand guard anyways!

CREATURE 2

Yeah, but those cowboys ride awfully close sometimes! What if we've been found?

CREATURE 1

Fine. We'll check.

The two creatures start to approach Ivan. Frantically, Ivan looks around him, and sees an open crate beside him. He reaches inside and a rattling sound is heard. Ivan's face goes blank. The two creatures also freeze.

CREATURE 1

Was that a rattlesnake?

Ivan slowly leans over and peeks into the crate. A coil of scales and an angry snake's head are inside. The rattle is heard again. It suddenly turns and clamps its jaws down on Ivan's wrist. Ivan gasps loudly. The creatures hear him.

CREATURE 2

Is... Is someone over there??

Ivan remains silent. He and the snake glare at each other. Ivan's focus begins to fade, until he slumps to the ground, just as the creatures find him.

CREATURE 1

Oh, man.

CREATURE 2

Augh! He's dead!

CREATURE 1

Careful! The snake's still in that crate!

One of the creatures points his blaster at the crate and blows it up.

CREATURE 1

Poor idiot.

CREATURE 2

Wait... Doesn't he look familiar?

CREATURE 1

Oh my gosh, you're right! It's Project Cureall! Quick! Let's bring him inside and call Master!

The creatures each take an arm and drag Ivan towards the warehouse.

INT. DESERT OUTPOST-MORNING

Ivan opens his eyes slowly. There is a small light above him. He stirs, sitting up.

CECIL (O.S.)

He's waking up!

Ivan turns his head to look at where the voice came from. He sees several people being kept in cages. They are staring at him curiously. Cecil addresses him.

CECIL

You're that guy they dragged in here last night. We thought you were dead.

Ivan lifts his wrist to examine it. The snake bite marks are gone.

IVAN

I was.

Cecil gives him a weird look. Ivan moves to stand up, and hears a chain clinking. Ivan looks down in surprise to see that his right foot is chained to the ground. Ivan reaches up for a sword and gasps. His swords are gone. Ivan looks around. Cecil looks confused.

CECIL

If the guards thought you were dead, why would they chain you up?

IVAN

They probably know who I am.

A large door to one side opens, letting in the daylight. Ivan lays back down on the ground.

IVAN

Do me a favor, alright? Don't tell them I'm awake!

CECIL

Sure, I guess!

Several creatures enter, including the two from earlier. They walk in with a larger creature leading the way. He stops in front of Ivan, and prods him curiously with his staff, which is a metal rod.

WARDEN

This is him, then?

CREATURE 1

Yes, Warden! We saw him dead
outside with a rattlesnake!

WARDEN

Why hasn't he woken up yet?

CREATURE 2

We don't know. We thought he'd be
awake by now.

WARDEN

Alright, then. I'll call Master.

The warden starts to leave, but Ivan grabs his staff away from him, jumping to his feet. The creatures jump back in surprise.

WARDEN

He's awake! Fire at will!

The creatures fire their blasters at Ivan. Ivan uses the metal pole to deflect the shots, but it begins to wear away quickly. Ivan lifts his foot and puts the shackle on his ankle in the way of a shot. It gets blown off. Ivan jumps away.

WARDEN

After him!

The creatures run around, but most look confused. The creatures continue to bumble around until they all group around the warden again.

CREATURE 1

We can't find him, Warden! He's
gone!

WARDEN

No. He's still here. He found this
place on purpose, and he won't
leave until he gets what he came
for.

Ivan watches this take place, hidden in the rafters above. He peers down at the creatures.

BLACK (V.O.)

Now what? They're all looking for us now. And we don't even know what we came here to find!

IVAN

I'm looking for information. If I can't find any, I'll make someone tell me!

The warden suddenly grabs up a ring of keys and unlocks one of the cages. He pulls the man from earlier out and holds him by his arm. The man fights to get away, but to no avail. The creatures point their blasters at him.

WARDEN

Come on out, Street Ninja! Yes, we know who you are. We just have some questions for ya! If you don't come out, we'll shoot this fellow here!

A woman in another cage cries out.

RACHAEL

Cecil! No! You can't shoot my husband! Stop!

WARDEN

The choice is yours, hero!

Ivan drops down right behind the warden, looking dangerous.

IVAN

Alright. I'm here. What do you want?

WARDEN

I could ask you the same thing, Street Ninja! You sure pulled a fast one on all of us! Here, and in ArbeiVille! Master had no idea where you went to. We should've known you'd come out here.

IVAN

I won't talk to you unless you release your prisoners! You

(MORE)

IVAN (CONT'D)

captured them from the nearby town,
Sage Hill, didn't you?!

Cecil looks up.

CECIL

You know Sage Hill?!

IVAN

I've heard about the disappearances
that took place two years ago. I
also heard about the Desert Outpost
from someone who was impersonating
me! If you don't tell me what's
going on right now, I'll-

WARDEN

You'll what? Kill us all? That's
very unlike you, Street Ninja.
Besides, there more of us than you
could ever imagine! If we die, it
will be in the name of our Master!
Our Creator! It will be an honor to
die for him! But you won't take us
down without a few casualties on
your side, as well! Blasters, at
the ready!

The creatures point their blasters at the people in the
cages. They gasp in horror and group together or hide their
faces. There are men, women, and children. Ivan lowers his
attack stance and bows his head, letting his hat cover his
face.

IVAN

You win. What do you want from me?

WARDEN

We want... Well, Master wants...
your heart.

Ivan looks up, obviously concerned. He reaches a hand to
his chest. Then he looks demeaning.

IVAN

He'd better not be some-

WARDEN

No! Master wants your heart because it is the source of your healing ability! Your severed limbs don't crawl back to you, they crawl back to your heart! Without your heart, your healing ability would eventually waste away, and you'd die!

Several memories suddenly flash through Ivan's mind. Ivan cutting off his own arm in front of The Unstoppables and The Valliants, Ivan sucking in a lungful of air and healing from X. Plode's knives in front of The Epics, Ivan collapsing to the ground after being poisoned, large gashes appearing all over Ivan's body, Ivan sleeping while the side of his head heals, The Dark Figure reaching out a mutilated hand to Ivan with the scar of the Inner Eye carved into the palm of his hand. While these memories flash by, Ivan's voice sounds in his head.

IVAN

My heart is the source of my healing ability. It is what regenerates my wounds, and acts as a homing device for parts of me that are cut off! It's my heart!

Ivan looks up at the warden.

IVAN

What does he want with it?

WARDEN

What else? To duplicate your healing ability! Ever since he created you by accident, he's been trying to re-create it. Here, we're using our captives as test subjects, since some of our testing can be lethal. Because of this, he's made breakthroughs in Chimerization and other sciences, but nothing has come close as to what you can do.

IVAN

Chimerazation... I've heard of
that...

Another memory crosses Ivan's mind. This one is of Amos
Standing in the medical wing.

AMOS

This specific experiment was
labeled as "Chimerazation" in the
records. The idea was to give
someone the ability to change their
DNA to alter their features.
Initially, someone could make
themselves look like whoever they
wanted...

IVAN

That imposter was a chimera! He was
made to look like me!

WARDEN

Very good. Not that it will help
you at this point. Your latest
doppelgänger is fighting your
little team of friends as we speak,
and he's winning!

IVAN

What?!

WARDEN

It's all over the news! Not that
you'd know, living out in the
middle of nowhere, and all. His
assignment is simply to pick the
heroes off one by one, and then
Master can step in, taking
ownership of the entire city!

IVAN

Why does he want the city?

WARDEN

You idiot! ArbeiVille is the
biggest city on the continent! It's
the trading hub of the world! There

(MORE)

WARDEN (CONT'D)

are only two things Master wants,
and they are wealth, and eternal
life. The second one he can obtain
out of you!

IVAN

I... I have eternal life?

WARDEN

No. You may have a healing ability
that brings you back to life when
you die, but you still age! Once
your ability is extracted out of
you, Master will perfect it, and
give it to all of his followers!

The creatures all cheer. The prisoners all look uneasy. The warden nods at Ivan.

WARDEN

That's why you'll be coming with
us. For deplorable creatures like
us, eternal life is the only thing
we have to look forward to.

Ivan is about to take a step forward, when a roar comes from outside. Ivan looks up in confusion.

IVAN

Rudy?

Suddenly, the door bursts open, and Rudy jumps in, followed by Jarom and his posse on their sandriders.

IVAN

Jarom?!

JAROM

Well howdy, Ivan! Fancy meetin' you
here!

WARDEN

You! How did you find our secret
base?!

JAROM

Shoot, when I saw Rudy sittin' on top of a sand dune all alone in broad daylight, I wondered if somethin' had happened to the feller I gave 'im to! Sure 'nuff, Rudy led me right to Ivan!

Jarom nods to Ivan.

JAROM

Nice hat.

Ivan nods back, looking mystified. Then he gathers his senses. He points at the warden.

IVAN

That goon over there has been kidnapping people and using them as lab rats! Let's get 'im, boys!

The cowboys holler as they trample over the creatures with their sandriders. Ivan jumps into the chaos and karate chops blasters out of creatures' hands. He turns to see the warden angrily pointing a blaster at a group of people. One man stands bravely in front of the others, shielding them with his body and outstretched arms.

RONALD

You'll gain nothing by killing us!
Put your blaster down!

The warden us about to shoot, but Ivan tackles him to the ground. Soon, all the creatures are unctious. Jarom cheers.

JAROM

Whoo-ee! That's the most action
I've seen in a good long while!

Ivan shakes hands with him.

IVAN

It's good to see you again, Jarom!
And your timing is incredible!

JAROM

Anything to help out a pal, Ivan.

IVAN

Can I ask you for one more favor?

JAROM

What's that?

Ivan holds out a hand to the people.

IVAN

These people belong to the town of Sage Hill. It's a ways from here. I was wondering if you could help me take them all home.

JAROM

Sure as shootin', pal!

The people cheer.

CECIL

You hear that?! We're going home!

RACHAEL

After two long years!

Cecil and Rachael hug.

JAROM (O.S.)

Ivan!

Ivan turns to see Jarom throw two black sword handles at him. Ivan catches them and puts them away.

JAROM

I took them off the big guy!
They're yours, right?

Ivan nods and waves in response. The brave man from earlier approaches Ivan.

RONALD

You say you came from Sage Hill?!
Tell me! How is my wife, Sarah? And
my children, Abbey and Drew? Is my
family all right?!

Ivan blinks.

IVAN
You're Ronald!

RONALD
Yes! How is my family??

IVAN
Well, why don't you see for
yourself? Rudy!

Rudy hops to Ivan's side, and Ivan climbs on, holding a hand out to Ronald.

IVAN
Let's go see your family!

EXT. SAGE HILL-DAY

Sarah walks down the town street with her basket on one arm, and Drew in the other. Abbey runs up to her.

ABBEY
Mama! Mama! Ivan wasn't in the
barn! Nobody knows where he is!

SARAH
Sweetie, Ivan is a traveller. He
comes and goes as he pleases.

ABBEY
But I wanted him to fly a kite with
me today!

DREW
Yeah! Kite!

SARAH
I'm sorry, kids. Maybe another
time.

A commotion starts happening on the streets. People start rushing to the edge of the city. Sarah holds her children close.

SARAH
What's happening?

MAN

Someone said that the missing
people have come back! They're
back!

Sarah looks shocked. She sees sandriders come into the town, holding people who had been missing for two years. They jump down and embrace their loved ones. Sarah looks around hopefully, but her hope fades as time passes. Suddenly, her name is being called.

IVAN (O.S.)

Sarah! Sarah?

Sarah turns, and sees Ivan on his sandrider, riding towards her. Then, Ronald leans over and waves at her, calling her name as well. Sarah gasps. She runs to meet them. Ronald jumps off the sandrider and catches his family in a hug. Abbey is excited, and Sarah is crying. Drew looks confused, but happy. Ivan watches this from on top of his sandrider, a small smile on his face.

SARAH

Wh-where have you been?! What
happened to you?!

RONALD

Sarah, calm down. Everything's all
right now. I'm home.

Ronald looks up at Ivan.

RONALD

Thank you for taking care of my
family for me, and for rescuing all
of us. Our town owes you so much.

Ivan simply tips his hat slightly.

IVAN

No thanks are necessary. I'm just
doing my job. Well, I better get
going.

ABBEY

You mean you're leaving?

Ivan looks at Abbey, who looks up at Ivan, sadness in her eyes. Ivan hesitates, but slides off his sandrider to embrace Abbey, who starts crying.

IVAN

Aw, Abbey. Don't cry! You've got your daddy back! Things are gonna get a lot better around here, now!

ABBEY

But why do you have to leave??

IVAN

Well, I just got word that my friends back home are in danger. They need my help.

ABBEY

But your town hates you! Don't leave us! We love you!

Ivan blinks in surprise.

ABBEY

We promise not to hate you, or ever make you leave for something you didn't do! You could stay here forever! And we'll all be happy together! if you go, I... I'll miss you!

IVAN

Oh, Abbey.

Ivan hugs her again. Then he holds her out by her shoulders, looking at her squarely.

IVAN

I'll miss you too.

Ivan stands up. Ronald gathers his crying daughter into his arms.

IVAN

Take care of your family, Ron. They're the kindest people I've ever met. And Sarah? Thank you.

SARAH

For- For what?

IVAN

... For helping me get out of a rut
I've been stuck in.

Ivan grabs the reins of his sandrider and walks to the edge of town.

STUART (O.S.)

You're not leaving without so much
as a goodbye, are you?

Ivan turns to see Stuart, crouched on the roof of a nearby building. Ivan smiles.

IVAN

I was hoping you'd find me,
actually. I have something for you.

Stu jumps down and Ivan takes one of his enejatōs, and hands it to Stu.

IVAN

It's an enejatō. A sword made out
of pure energy.

Stu pushes the button on the handle, and the light-green blade emerges.

STUART

Whoa!

IVAN

Remember. The weapon of the ninja
is to protect the weak and to
uphold justice. This town needs you
to keep it safe. I'm trusting you
to do this for me, Stuart.

STUART

I... You can count on me, Ivan!

Ivan smiles, putting a hand on his shoulder.

IVAN

I know.

Ivan then jumps onto his sandrider and rides out into the desert. Sarah waves an arm.

SARAH

Goodbye, Ivan! Thanks for everything!

Other townspeople join in, waving at him and thanking him, even the cowboys. They all wave and bid farewell to the hero. Ivan stops his sandrider momentarily to wave back, and then continues on his journey home.

EXT. ARBEIVILLE-DAY

The Unstoppables stand before Jenkins on a street that has been almost completely destroyed. Jayde raises her voice bravely.

JAYDE

We're superheroes! Once an Unstoppable, always an Unstoppable! And together, we are unstoppable!

HERO

Yeah!

JAYDE

We can take Jenkins! Because we're a team! Let's do this!

TEAM

Yeah!

The team and Jenkins run at each other, and a battle ensues. The heroes all come in from different angles, using their powers, but Jenkins deflects them all. He injects himself with another syringe. He grows slightly bigger and more muscular.

JENKINS

You idiots! Nothing can stop me! I am invincible!

Jenkins stomps, creating a spiderweb of cracks in the pavement.

JENKINS

I am powerful!

Jenkins takes a swing at a building, taking out a good chunk of it.

JENKINS
I am Unstoppable!

JAYDE
Only one thing is unstoppable!

The heroes gather together, looking badly beaten.

JAYDE
And that's our team!

NIGHTLURKER
It is one against four! All of us
can surely take on this Street
Ninja fool!

JENKINS
Hah! That's where you're wrong,
superheroes! I'm more powerful than
all of you combined! I have
deceived this city into thinking I
was the real Street Ninja! Next on
my to do list is your annihilation!

INT. RUBELLA'S DEN-DAY

All of the women are gathered around the television,
looking fearful. They are all watching the scene.

JENKINS (O.S.)
This city turned away its own hero!
If a city is willing to banish one
of its own protectors, then it's a
city not worth saving! You heroes
are obsolete! Stand down and let
the city get what it deserves!

ANNA
See?! What did I tell you?

WOMAN
Ssh!

EXT. ARBEIVILLE-DAY

JENKINS

This city is filled with corruption! There's no way you heroes could possibly keep all the bad out of here forever!

Jayde takes a step forward.

JAYDE

You're right. This city has corruption in it. But there is also so much good! And that's why we're here! Because that goodness is worth protecting!

Onlookers cheer. Jenkins glares them all to silence.

JENKINS

You are a group of misguided souls. Surely you know that the city will eventually turn on all of you, just like it did to Street Ninja!

Civilians look guilty.

MAN

We sent away one of our city's heroes for nothing!

WOMAN

We turned on a hero instead of this monster!

JENKINS

Monster is right! And now that you've opened the door, I can force myself in the rest of the way! The first thing to do is to get rid of the rest of The Unstoppables!

Jenkins leaps at the heroes, who scatter. Hero raises her last gun, and fires it at Jenkins, but there is only a soft click. She gasps. Jenkins grins.

JENKINS

You're all out of ammo, then? Well,
that makes you rather useless,
doesn't it?

He is about to attack her, and Hero raises her arms in defense. Just then, The Brawn jumps in the way and blocks the attack. Jenkins is almost the same size as The Brawn now. They push against each other, groaning under the effort. Each trying to overpower the other.

THE BRAWN

Hero! Run! Get out of here!

Hero shakily gets to her feet.

HERO

But what about you?!

THE BRAWN

Don't worry about me! Just go!

Hero hesitates a while longer, then runs away. She finds Nightlurker, who is looking for Jayde.

NIGHTLURKER

Hero! Have you seen Jayde?

HERO

I haven't! But The Brawn's in trouble, and I'm completely out of ammo!

NIGHTLURKER

Alright. I'll be right there.

Nightlurker follows Hero to where The Brawn is. Then he grabs her shoulder.

NIGHTLURKER

Keep looking for Jayde for me! I am afraid she has been overusing her psychic powers, and is suffering from a psychic migraine!

HERO

Got it!

Hero runs away. Nightlurker focuses on fighting Jenkins. Jenkins tries to ward him off while he wrestles The Brawn.

JENKINS

Gah! I need to get stronger! I need to be able to kill all of you!

Jenkins pushes The Brawn away, and reaches to his harness for another syringe. He gasps and realizes he has no more.

JENKINS

No! I'm all out of serum!

The Brawn gets up and chuckles.

THE BRAWN

That's good news for us! Let's get him, Lurky!

NIGHTLURKER

I'm looking forward to this.

Jenkins looks frustrated.

HERO (O.S.)

Jayde! Are you okay?

Jenkins looks over to see Hero running towards Jayde, who is resting not far away. Jenkins glances back at the boys, then runs at the girls. The Brawn and Nightlurker chase him.

THE BRAWN

What?! You're running out on a fight to go beat a couple of tired girls?! You coward!

JENKINS

Coward or not, my goal is to kill the heroes!

Hero sees him running towards her, and throws herself in-between him and Jayde. Jenkins raises a fist. Just before he reaches them, he smacks into an invisible wall and falls to the ground. Hero turns to Jayde, whose eyes are glowing. Then she collapses.

NIGHTLURKER

Jayde!

He runs to her side. He is panting heavily. He gently scoops her up in his arms, then sits heavily on the ground, looking exhausted. The Brawn falls onto his back, speaking weakly.

THE BRAWN

Guys, I think I'm getting tired.

NIGHTLURKER

I must admit that I have never felt so exhausted in my life.

HERO

And I'm out of ammo...

Onlookers see the badly beaten heroes and look afraid.

MAN

What's going to happen to our city?

Jenkins sits up. He grins as he picks himself up off the ground.

JENKINS

Look at all of you. Like a bunch of rats caught in the corner. I'll be kind, and kill all of you together! This is the end of The Unstoppables!

Jenkins lifts a fist, looking triumphant. Suddenly, the blade of an enejatō protrudes from his chest. He screams horribly. The team looks surprised. Jenkins turns his head, and sees Ivan glaring at him. Ivan twists the blade, making Jenkins howl in pain.

NIGHTLURKER

Street Ninja?!

WOMAN

It's the real Street Ninja!

MAN

He's come back! He's here to save us!

Ivan pulls his sword out of Jenkins, who stumbles to the side.

JENKINS

You... can't kill me! I thought you heroes... didn't kill!

IVAN

Sometimes we make exceptions.

Jenkin's body begins to shrivel and shrink.

JENKINS

This isn't the end! The Inner Eye will have its revenge! We will have this city, and all the power it holds, and we will live forever...!

Jenkins shrivels up into a creature and dies. There is a silence, which is suddenly broken by a roar of cheering. The civilians cheer and shout.

WOMAN

Street Ninja has come back!

MAN

We were wrong to make you leave! Please forgive us!

IVAN

What? Oh, don't worry about it. The only reason I was able to kill him was because he was distracted.

Hero runs up and hugs Ivan.

HERO

You're home!

IVAN

Hero! Guys!

THE BRAWN

Street Ninja?? Buddy?

IVAN

It's me.

Ivan looks around.

IVAN

I love what you've done with the place! A guy leaves for a few months and the whole city changes!

NIGHTLURKER

Believe me, we would have preferred not to uproot an entire street, but we had a little bit of a problem.

Ivan smiles, and then looks down at Jenkins's body. He grips the hilt of his sword.

IVAN

This is the first time this sword has ever tasted death.

Ivan walks around the dead body and drives his sword into the ground above Jenkins's head. He finds a stray tarp and covers the body with it. Then Ivan takes off his hat and bows before the dead body, positioning his hands into a ninja pose. Hero stands behind him.

IVAN

I'm sorry.

HERO

You're sorry for killing him? He wanted to kill all of us!

IVAN

His death was necessary, yes, but a life is a life all the same.

NIGHTLURKER

I never knew you felt that way, Street Ninja. I applaud it.

IVAN

It's a belief that all ninjas share. I guess I've just become more in tune with my ninja training while I was gone. I even taught what I knew to a young man where I stayed.

THE BRAWN

Where did you stay, Street Ninja?
You ran the wrong way to get to my
town.

IVAN

How about I tell you all about it
back at The Tower. To be honest,
I've been riding through the desert
for hours, and I could use some
water.

HERO

Riding?

Rudy makes a noise, and walks up to nuzzle Ivan's back.
Ivan laughs and rubs his nose. Everyone else exchanges
glances.

INT. LEGEND'S OFFICE-EVENING

Everyone sits around the long table. Rudy is curled up and
sleeping in a corner of the room. Ivan is leaned back, with
his feet up on the table, and his hands behind his head.

IVAN (V.O.)

I told them everything. About Sage
Hill, and Sarah and her children,
and even Stuart. I even admitted
something to them that I had
struggled to admit to myself.

Ivan bows his head, growing serious. He removes his feet
from the table and lowers his head.

IVAN

I'm really sorry, guys. It's my
fault you had such a rough day
today.

JAYDE

Don't keep pinning all the fault on
yourself, Ivan. You weren't even
anywhere near us. How could-

IVAN

That's exactly why it's my fault,
Jayde. While I was in Sage Hill,
I... I lost myself a little bit.

NIGHTLURKER

How do you mean?

IVAN

Well, at first, I just wanted to
help Sarah's family get their farm
back to how it used to be. I wanted
to thank them for taking me in. But
the more involved I got with their
family... the less I wanted to
leave.

There is a silence.

IVAN

I grew to love those kids, and
Sarah was always so kind. A part of
me... A part of me didn't want to
give it up to come back here.

HERO

Well of course not! Who really
would want to come back to a city
that had just banished them?

The Brawn pats Ivan on the head.

THE BRAWN

Frankly, I'm just thrilled you came
back. It's good to have you back,
little bro.

Everyone agrees. Ivan smiles.

LEGEND

And the city has learned of your
innosence, and is even quite fond
of you now. All's well that ends
well!

NIGHTLURKER

Here here!

Jayde stands.

JAYDE

Well! It's getting pretty late. I think its time to hit the hay!

The others agree. Ivan mumbles to himself as the heroes leave the room.

IVAN

Heh yeah. Hay. Only now, I'm not living in a barn anymore.

Ivan lets out a long sigh, looking out the window. He turns to Legend.

IVAN

Sir? I'd like to keep my sandrider.

LEGEND

Of course. We can set up a place for him in the vehicle hangar.

Ivan nods and pats Rudy's head before leaving the room.

INT. IVAN'S ROOM-NIGHT

Ivan sits cross-legged in the middle of the floor in his room. He is scribbling on a pad of paper.

IVAN (V.O.)

So now things are pretty much back to normal. The city has a better opinion of me now, though, so that's nice. I miss you, Obasaan. I hope this letter finds you well. Tell Sensei I said hello, and that I'll visit soon. Love, Ivan Daynes.

Ivan rips off the papers and puts them into an envelope. Then he stands and pulls out his violin and opens his music box. He plays his violin, harmonizing with the music box.

END.