

## **Hunters, 3**

A strong wind passed over the forest, but Goku never felt it. He was underwater in a large lake a few miles from his home, fishing for dinner for that evening. While Goku was hunting for a fish for dinner, a different type of hunter was hunting its prey.

A semi-circle ship overall gray hovered a few miles above the Earth's atmosphere. It reached the Earth just a few days ago and remained in orbit; inside the hunters were planning out their attack. They had watched their prey since they arrived waiting for just the right moment to strike openly. They wanted to have their target alone and with no other interference. They watched patiently, waiting in anticipation of the battle to come. For them it was a game, but for their prey it was life and death. They followed their prey that day, monitoring it far from its original location. They had decided it was the right time to strike; the prey was alone and wasn't aware of their presence.

Goku swam in the water freely and smoothly; he was enjoying the cool water while he looked for a nice large fish that would be enough for dinner. As he moved closer to the bottom he spotted a nice large fish, he was about to come up behind it when he sensed energy above him. Goku spun and looked up at the surface, he could only make out the dimming wavy sunlight. As he came closer to the surface he could feel that there was more than one energy source. He could barely make out who was above him just below the surface.

The hunters waited patiently for him to be curious enough to surface and investigate. They watched as the water rippled around him just below the surface, they watched as his head became visible and they could finally see the face of their prey.

Goku emerged and looked up at the unlikely sources of energy. He moved from one to the other, there were three of them.

"Ah...you are the one who defeated Freiza, I'd hate to think we had made a mistake and had been hunting the wrong pre...man." He smiled as he corrected himself.

"Why don't you get dressed we have plenty of time to get to know each other." He smiled again, this time showing his sharp, pearly white teeth.

Goku had already fully emerged from the water and began to fly over to his cloths. He never took his eyes off of them as he slipped his cloths on. As Goku placed his boots on, the hunter spoke again.

"Now we can begin the...introduction."

Goku looked up and took a closer look at the three suspicious men and realized that they couldn't be from Earth.

The hunters all had a blue-green lizard like textured skin. Their eyes were larger than humans, their color, yellow and the pupils looked that of a cat. Their ears were but holes on either side of their head. They all averaged about six feet. They wore gray pants wrapped at the waist and from half below the knee to the ankle by black cloth. They were barefoot, as well as bare-chested. They were thin but muscular in physique. The three could have passed as triplets.

Goku stood where he was as he waited for them to make the fist move. The last hunter of the left brought his arms up in front of his chest and looked as if he was concentrating his energy. The middle hunter turned and smiled, then he faced Goku.

"Shall we begin?"

“Tabi here,” the hunter waved his hand towards the hunter at his left, “is creating an aura that will surround the designated area we have decided to fight in. It will prevent anyone else on the planet from sensing any energy, from us, you or otherwise.” As he finished the sentence he gave a toothy smile.

Goku merely watched as Tabi charged his aura. The hunter’s face looked as if he was experiencing pain, but as he relaxed himself he moved his arms outward. Tabi’s body then turned an eerie purple but it moved beyond him and covered everything. Goku could not sense the hunters energy and longer as the aura engulfed them. As it approached him he could see no danger in it so he let it pass over him. As it did he could no longer sense anyone around him besides the hunters above. Goku turned his head to see the aura continue through the forest. As he turned back he saw Tabi lower his arms.

“Good, now we can get on with...the fun.”

The hunter in the middle brought his right hand to his chest; “I am Zumbi.” He then swung his hand to his right. “This is Yambi, and of course you know Tabi.” He smiled.

Goku’s expression never changed, but he wondered why the hunters especially Zumbi were acting polite and nice. Goku knew the chances that a fight would ensue were almost inevitable, but why were they stalling.

“What do you want with me?”

“Why have you come to Earth?” Goku yelled up at them from where he stood.

Zumbi was almost startled by Goku’s response. He lowered his head and stared at Goku as he breathed in.

“Why have we come here?” Zumbi paused.

“Such a question to ask...as you are the prey.” Zumbi seemed pleased with himself after speaking.

Goku thought to himself, “prey?”

With a nod from Zumbi both Tabi and Yambi spaced themselves from him.

“Well now, prey, let’s say we start the hunt.” Zumbi treated that last word as if it were a sacred one and could only be spoken in respect.

“I’m not your prey, my name is Goku.”

“Your name means much less to us than your life does. What matters the most is how much fight you put up for it.”

Goku became angered; he clenched his teeth, raised his head and tightened his fists. Zumbi looked to each of the hunters and nodded once to each simply. Both of the hunters moved closer to Goku and the tops of the trees. Zumbi crossed his arms and waited. Tabi was the first to assume a fighting stance. Yambi seemed more interested in stalking Goku, he moved below the trees. Goku watched Tabi carefully while sensing Yambi moving through the trees. Goku felt a fast movement and power but he still felt Yambi in the trees. He moved his eyes to where Zumbi used to be but he was gone.

“Could you follow me?” Zumbi whispered.

Goku spun but saw no one. He turned in time to block a punch by a hunter it was Tabi. As he countered with a punch of his own striking him in the chest Yambi flew from the trees at him. He spun with a kick and knocked the hunter away sending him into a tree. As it broke over the hunter Goku searched for the other two. He could see Tabi with one hand on his chest and the other clenched at this side.

“You hit well for prey.” Tabi said as he brought his hand to his side, he smiled.

Goku felt energy above him but he could also feel Yambi moving to his left. Goku turned to face the hunter as he sent an energy blast above his head at the unknown target. Yambi stopped his assault as he saw Goku face him. Tabi moved in a few steps and then Zumbi landed across from him. The three hunters formed a triangle around Goku.

“Very talented for prey, I must say you’ll give us the best fight we’ve had in a long time.” Zumbi’s smile stretched to its limits and he let out a laugh.

Goku was not amused. The three were careful at how much they really showed their prey. They were only testing him; the real fight would come soon enough. Zumbi stretched his arms to his sides then raised them high above his head before he let out a deep breath. The smirk on his face seemed to come about every time he thought about the fight. Goku waited, in the center of that triangle, waiting to defend against an attack from any or all sides. Zumbi was first in placing his hands in front of his chest in a prayer like manner, just an inch apart. The other two mimicked soon after.

“Let’s see how you play with this prey.”

Goku watched intently and waiting for the attack. He anticipated it would be an energy attack, one from all three sides. A small energy ball began to become visible between Zumbi’s hands, Goku could see the same in Tabi’s, but he could only sense it in Yambi’s. As the energy ball grew their hands moved apart to compensate for its size. Once the ball was about four inches in diameter Zumbi slowly formed his fingers around the ball, gently as if it were delicate glass. Goku only watched Zumbi now; he seemed to have a sense of what to expect, more so than the others did. Zumbi pulled the ball from his body and held it in front of him arms extended so that his elbows were only half bent.

Goku watched Zumbi’s movements and wondered why he treated them as if it were a ritualistic dance. The energy glowed yellow between Zumbi’s hands. Goku knew that if they all attacked at once he wouldn’t have enough time to counter with an energy attack. Zumbi’s arms moved forward, his forearms touching and his hands symmetrical as the energy released towards Goku.

Zumbi’s smile was blocked out by the energy charging at his prey, Goku could sense two others also headed for him. The three energy blasts all headed for their target in almost perfect unison. They closed in on Goku fast and he only had one choice. The three blasts hit directly centered from the hunters, each striking the other two. The resulting explosion and flash temporarily blinded each of the hunters, that’s when Zumbi head Tabi yell. Goku had already moved behind him and he struck just as the energy exploded his fist in the lower back of Tabi. Zumbi called out as he flew up into the air.

“Yambi!”

Yambi passed up through the debris and smoke and looked to Zumbi.

“Don’t worry, Tabi can handle himself.” There was no smile on his face.

Tabi had turned to see only the forest behind him. He looked both ways quickly then brought up his fists to defend himself. Goku’s foot came crashing into his shoulder and Tabi flew from his standing position. Both of the hunters in the air could see Tabi crash into the trees.

“DAMN!” Zumbi yelled as he sent a small energy ball into the cloud of debris. The energy exploded and cleared the smoke so they could make out the ground. They only saw the deep hole, which was made after the first attack. Zumbi raised his head to see Goku across from him.

“Very good show prey. It seems you’ve gotten the best of Tabi. Rest assured that we have much more game in us than he has altogether.”

“What do you want with me?” Zumbi had no response his eyes had moved to Tabi who was clearing himself of broken timber.

“I think its time we really tested you prey.” The smile had returned to Zumbi’s face as he brought his knees closer to his body and his arms closer to his chest. Tabi joined him passing Goku, giving him a look of anger and pain. Yambi brought his arms out in front of him, tensioning his muscles. Tabi simply crossed his arms in front of his chest. Zumbi was the first to increase his power.

“Death!” Zumbi yelled as he brought his legs down and back and his arms out.

“To the!” Yambi followed bringing his arms back and his chest out.

“Prey!” Tabi screamed swinging his arms back not bending his elbows.

The three hunters were enveloped by their energy. Goku waited, sensing their power increase but saw no immediate threat. The three relaxed simultaneously, each seeming satisfied with the result. Zumbi took in a breath that caused his chest to bulge, he held it for a moment then released.

“Ah, nothing like a good stretch before a fight.” Zumbi’s smile never left his face. Goku moved his arms up, his fore arms parallel by his waist. Tabi held both his hands in front of him, his fingers touching and bent at each joint. Zumbi slowly descended but stopped just inches from the Earth. Yambi remained above him poised to move in a moment’s notice. In the orb created by Tabi’s hands energy became present. Yambi looked to the hunter at his right, then descend as Zumbi did.

“It begins.” Zumbi’s head raised as his smile faded to a simple toothless smirk.

Yambi began by placing one foot on the ground and pushing off it, the Earth beneath him sunk. Goku turned slightly to meet Yambi’s direction. Zumbi flew to Goku’s unguarded left and moved in. Yambi reached Goku first spinning a kick towards his head. Goku brought up his arm and stopped it dead. Yambi was put off balance for a moment but Goku pushed his leg away to spin and block the punch from Zumbi. Once Yambi placed his feet on the ground he joined Zumbi. Goku dodged Zumbi’s punches, while he waited for Yambi to attack. Goku could feel Tabi still above them charging his attack. Yambi aimed for Goku’s ribs but found that Goku had already stopped his fist and he had to defend against an attack of his own. Goku brought his leg back and around missing Yambi only because he had to stay alert to Zumbi. Goku let his attack finish before he tried to attack Zumbi. He spun and ducked, the hunter’s kick flying harmlessly over him. Goku saw a clear opening and made his move, he cupped his left hand with his right and pushed his elbow into Zumbi’s side. Yambi had no chance to help his fellow hunter, he saw Goku’s elbow strike Zumbi and push him away. Zumbi was stunned by pain temporarily as he moved away from Goku grabbing his aching side. Yambi wasn’t alert enough to see Goku turn and charge for him, he only had enough time to move his arms in front of his chest. Goku’s fist collided into Yambi’s forearms protecting him, he pushed harder forcing the hunter to jolt back and fly back first into a tree.

Goku placed both his feet down on the ground and relaxed his fists; he looked first to Zumbi then Yambi. Zumbi stood with one hand on his side, the other hanging loosely fist clenched. Yambi rubbed his forearm with his back against the tree, in anger he spun ripping the tree in half with his good right arm. The tree cracked and splintered as it was torn from its form and fell to the side.

Zumbi stopped rubbing his side and stood up straight, he had a serious look on his face not that of someone having fun as before. Yambi across from him stretched his fingers and flexed his arms. Goku stood facing neither of them; he was looking up at Tabi who was now holding a ball of energy in his orbed hands. Zumbi waited till Yambi was still before he began walking towards Goku. Yambi did the same after he noticed what Zumbi was doing, he didn't think that the prey was worthy enough but he was not the leader. Tabi began to laugh when he saw the attack the two hunters were preparing to do, he laughed and waiting longing to see the results.

Goku didn't move to his left nor to his right upon seeing the two hunters approach him. The two approached slowly, striding as if it were just another day. Zumbi reached Goku first; he simply stopped and looked at him. When Yambi stopped he looked at Zumbi but eye contact was not made, Zumbi was looking at Goku. Zumbi tilted his head at Goku, his mind flooding with ideas. He came out of it when he made eye contact with Yambi, his smile returned. Goku remained silent and still.

Zumbi turned from the waist up to his left with his arm out and his elbow bent. Yambi did the same to his right; he stood ready, waiting. Zumbi opened his right hand and it glowed, energy surrounding it. Yambi followed with his own. Goku waited. Zumbi jerked his body hard as he brought his left fist toward Goku. Yambi did the same going for Goku's chest knowing Zumbi would go for his head. Goku remained still until just before Zumbi's fist made contact. He was gone. Zumbi's fist moved past were Goku was but he wasn't stunned.

"There!" Zumbi yelled as he pulled his entire body to the right letting go of the energy in his hand, Yambi followed. The two energy blasts flew to Goku hovering high above the two hunters. Goku adjusted his body to face them horizontally; he moved his hand in front of him. The two blasts were stopped by Goku's energy and they exploded cause a smoke screen. Tabi who had been waiting for the signal from Zumbi was beginning to get worried. Tabi couldn't see Goku in the cloud of smoke but he knew he was there.

"No Tabi! Don't release it!" Zumbi yelled from the ground as he took off up towards Goku. Yambi moved under him and held his arms above him placing his wrists together. Zumbi flew into the smoke and punched at Goku's shapeless shadow. Goku dodged and threw a punch towards Zumbi. Zumbi dodged the punch and thrust a kick at Goku. Goku meet his kick with one of his own, their legs collided and caused a burst of energy, the smoke was cleared. Zumbi gritted his teeth and pulled his leg back. His eyes darted below him for a moment then he moved on Goku again. Zumbi had his arms open wide; Goku let him get close before he brought both his fists to his chest. Zumbi didn't see it coming and the impact sent his speeding back spinning. Below them Yambi was ready.

"Its over now prey!" Yambi let a powerful blast that he had been collecting in his hands. The energy grew wider as it moved farther from Yambi. Goku turned his attention to it and moved to block it with both hands. Tabi watched the movements unfold and even though he wasn't given the signal he knew he had to do it now. Yambi's energy smashed into Goku's hands causing him to steady himself in the air. Goku held it steady for a moment before trying to summon energy of his own as a counter. Tabi saw Goku was already beginning to retaliate against Yambi's attack so he had to go now.

Tabi wanted to yell but he knew he couldn't, it would be too risky to let the prey know of the attack before it hit him. Tabi's fingers separate and he connected his wrists as the energy was released for Goku. The blast was slower than Yambi's but it reached Goku in a few seconds. Goku turned his head to face the energy he sensed.

"No." Goku made a quick choice and took one hand away from Yambi's energy to block the other. Goku increased his energy enough that he didn't move when he touched the second blast. He couldn't move or either of them could make contact with him. Zumbi saw only Tabi's blast reach Goku.

"He is some prey. I really am impressed." Zumbi's smile was brief but he had to act quickly. As Goku created simultaneous blasts, one for each hand, he sensed Zumbi powering up. Goku knew he had to divert or destroy the blasts. Between the thin space of Goku's hand and the energy destined for him, another source was created. They quickly grew and Goku was able to launch them. The two blasts pushed each of the hunter's attacks away. Yambi couldn't see how he could create two separate sources of energy at one time, and be powerful enough to defeat both him and Tabi. Tabi saw Goku's energy push his back.

"No, it can't be, no one stop my attacks, no." Tabi looked nervously to Yambi, but he saw Zumbi moving for Goku. Once Goku had a hold on each of them he let the energy flow through his hands. The hunter's blasts were easily overcome, Tabi's was eliminated and Goku's full blast headed for him. Yambi tried to put more into his but it was too late, he put just enough into his last effort before he moved to avoid the oncoming blast. Tabi knew he couldn't stop Goku's blast, he only moved above it letting it pass uselessly beyond him. Yambi was thrown when the two energies mixed and hit the Earth; he rolled into the ground and stopped when his shoulder cracked into a large outcropping. Goku followed Zumbi the entire time he progressed toward him and he became upright in time to face him.

"I hope you don't think that's all we have to offer." Zumbi smiled and laughed.

"We've only begun, now that I know just how powerful you are, I'll have to use more power." Zumbi didn't smile seeing Goku's reaction hadn't changed, but no matter to him, he would still show the prey his true power. Zumbi's body became visibly tense, his muscles bulged and it looked as if he was trying to pull away from an invisible force. When his arms and legs straightened he relaxed them, arching his back, he began to roar; at that moment Goku felt the hunter's power grow. Zumbi's roar sounded like a battle cry; it only lasted a few seconds. Silence fell, followed by Zumbi's laugh. Physically Zumbi's muscles had doubled in bulk. Goku prepared himself for what was to come. Zumbi flexed each arm showing off his new strength.

"You'll soon find prey that not only has my strength and power increased my speed has as well." Zumbi held his hands in front of him as if he admired his strength. Goku saw Tabi far behind Zumbi increasing his power also. Yambi still lay near the rocks where he came to rest before. Before Goku could look at Zumbi his fist was already in his lower body. Goku looked at Zumbi's face and that smile, he brought his own fist up to strike Zumbi but he was already moving again.

Zumbi pulled back and jerked his knee to Goku's ribs; Goku was hit and thrown to his left. He steadied himself and blocked Zumbi's elbow with his hand.

"I thought you'd catch that. I was just making sure you hadn't given up so soon." With that Goku found Zumbi again bringing his knee to him.

Goku pushed on Zumbi's elbow to move backward enough to avoid his knee. Goku spun bringing his feet over his head but was stopped half way. Zumbi looked into upside down face, he brought his head back and forced it forward crashing into Goku's. Goku was smashed back; his eyes closed he tried to upright himself. Goku bumped into Zumbi's body as he moved through the air, Zumbi wrapped his hands around Goku's waist and pulled him up, to talk into his ear.

"Let's see how far I can bury you into your planet." Zumbi laughed as he began his rapid descent. Goku's eyes were wide as he saw the trees come into view.

"YAAA!" Zumbi let Goku loose at the tops of the trees sending him hurdling for the ground. Goku was moving so fast to stop himself, his only choice was to move faster.

"AHHH!" Goku yelled as his body was overcome with energy. Zumbi looked down expecting falling trees and dust; instead he saw a flash of golden energy from beneath the trees.

"Hmm, playing tricks is he?" Zumbi spread his hand out, energy filling it as he watched the trees.

"You want to play games, I can play games!" Zumbi called out as the energy from his hand sped to the forest below. The blast draping from Zumbi's hand to the ground hit with a furious outburst. Trees were ripped from the ground, others disintegrated, the ground lifted and moved. Zumbi closed his fingers around his palm and brought it up to his chest. He placed his closed hand on the middle of his chest.

"The hunt is over, the prey is beaten, may the next hunt be as respectable." Before Zumbi could finish the ceremony he noticed a glow in the gap of the forest his energy had destroyed. The dust had almost settled and even though it was darker than before he could make out a shape. Zumbi turned and looked closer, the only thing he could make out for certain was a golden mass at the top of the shadowed figure. As he was about to go in for a closer look, the figure began to rise. Zumbi was most curious to know what had occurred. He waved his hand at Tabi for him to remain where he was. Goku came into Zumbi's view, he had ascended to Super Saiyajin.

"The prey is alive!" Zumbi's voice sounded stunned and surprised but his face showed very little. Goku held his arms at his sides; he awaited the hunter's move. Zumbi was silent for a moment before his smile returned.

"The hunt is not over, I am pleased at it being so."

The shaking of the Earth had stirred Yambi; he opened his eyes to find most of the forest beyond a few feet nothing but a hole. He moved and his shoulder filled with pain, he immediately grabbed it and rose. As he stood he could see Zumbi and another who was glowing gold.

"The prey?" Yambi couldn't make Zumbi out good enough to see his face, but he could see he had increased his strength. Yambi prepared to do the same.

Zumbi started by flying over to Goku and faking a punch. Goku didn't try to block it as Zumbi continued to his side and threw his other fist. Zumbi was caught off guard when Goku grabbed his wrist. Zumbi's eyes widened. Goku turned and pulled Zumbi's fist toward him, he then kned him below his ribs.

Zumbi's mouth fell open as he bent over Goku's knee. Goku released his wrist sensing Yambi's power increase. Zumbi moved back and painfully straightened up.

Yambi released all his energy letting it fill his body; he knew the prey wasn't going to be an easy one.

Goku looked down at him, turning he looked at Zumbi.

“Why are you here, tell me why you’ve come to Earth.” Zumbi’s breathing began to normalize again as he spoke.

“You are prey, we hunt prey. It took up quite some time to find you and your planet, we had heard of your great power. When we came close enough to your home we got a analysis from our ship that this was where you lived and we eventually located you here. We’ve waited a long time for a prey that was worthy of our power.” Zumbi smiled at the end of his speech, he looked Goku from head to foot.

“You changed yourself as well prey, much like ourselves but your hair is affected as well.” Zumbi’s eyes rolled over Goku’s body; he could only imagine the enjoyment of the fight to come. Zumbi had had enough of pointless talk. He thrust for Goku meeting him with punches and kicks; Goku dodged or blocked whatever was thrown at him. Goku responded with punches and kicks of his own. Both threw attacks and dodged counters left and right continuously, slowly moving down. Yambi caught up with them easily; he waited for his chance. Both Yambi and Zumbi threw punches at Goku in unison; Goku blocked each with his forearms. The two hunters momentarily looked at each other before they backed off. Goku lowered his arms. Tabi joined the other two hunters, he also had bulked up but his power wasn’t as strong. Zumbi seeing that the other hunters were ready, once again confronted Goku. The other two quickly moved in after Zumbi, they all attacked at the same time.

Goku ducked under Tabi’s first kick while hitting away Yambi’s fist but Zumbi’s found its mark on Goku’s back. Goku spun knocked back Tabi as he kicked at Zumbi, he dodged and flipped headfirst forward bringing his legs up above him. Yambi took advantage of Goku’s exposed back; he brought his knee into his torso and sprung it to Goku. Tabi held his fist at his side waiting for Yambi’s kick to make contact before he would attack. Goku twisted around in time to grab Yambi’s foot with both his hands. Tabi rammed his fist into Goku’s shoulder just as Zumbi’s legs came around down onto Goku’s head and back.

The impact caused Goku to lose his stability in the air and he plummeted to the forest below. The three hunters watched their prey break through the trees and crush the ground below. They continued to watch, waiting for the prey to emerge and keep on fighting. Zumbi and Yambi both moved next to each other, they were both much stronger than Tabi but he was still considered part of the group. Zumbi began to wonder if the prey was beaten or if it simply was planning its next move. Yambi turned his attention to Tabi when he heard a quiet groan; he was stunned at what he saw.

Goku’s fist was buried in Tabi’s lower chest, Tabi’s mouth was open, blood pooling into his mouth. Yambi’s turned back brought awareness to Zumbi, who also turned. Goku removed his fist slowly as Tabi coughed and blood spilled over his lower lip. Tabi held in the air, his features frozen. Goku gathered his hands into one fist and brought it up above his head. Zumbi didn’t move he watched silently, Yambi was in shock.

Goku’s combined fists shattered the silence as it collided with Tabi’s back. Yambi lowered his head to see Tabi smash into the ground. Zumbi’s sight never left Goku. Yambi didn’t have to look at Zumbi to feel the intensity, he turned facing Goku. Goku had rested his arms at his sides; his face showed no more than his frame of mind. Zumbi wasn’t worried for Tabi; he was more concerned with vengeance.



Zumbi raised his right hand releasing his fist; Yambi's attention was caught. He closed his fist and thrust it forward. Yambi understood. Eye contact never ceased between Goku and Zumbi. Both hunters approached Goku at equal speed. Goku flew back, the hunters pursuing him. Zumbi quickly grew tired of the chase and with a burst of energy he arced around behind Goku. The hunter's stopped just as Goku did. Goku had his back to Zumbi that only angered the hunter. Yambi watched for Zumbi's movements while he stayed aware of Goku.

Tabi screamed from below in the hole that he created after colliding with the Earth. Neither the hunters nor Goku paid any attention. Goku could feel Zumbi raising his energy. Yambi locked his fists; he turned to his side in a stance. Zumbi moved on Goku but Yambi's punches reached first. Goku dodged them but didn't counter; he was waiting for Zumbi. A kick from Zumbi was blocked with one of Goku's own. Goku reached out and grabbed Yambi elbow spinning him around, he then punched him in the lower back moving him away. Goku turned his attention to Zumbi who had just pulled his leg back. He didn't waste any time in attacking Goku again. A punch disguised a kick but Goku was able to block it anyway. Yambi turned and rubbed his lower back with his hand. He proceeded to Goku as he stretched and twisted. He came behind Goku, waiting, watching and plotting. Zumbi pushed both his attacks on Goku trying to move him back, but Goku remained motionless. Zumbi pushed one last time and pulled back, he returned to his stance.

Goku waited, his arms and legs didn't move from the last defensive. Yambi flashed eye contact to Zumbi. Both hunters knew what had to be done. Silently and with only eye contact they knew which strategy was to be used. Zumbi waited momentarily before he launched his attack.

An energy blast from Yambi's right hand opened the events. It was inches from Goku's back when it stopped and flew down. Goku turned to meet his attacker, Yambi was only slightly stunned that his energy was stopped by Goku but he had a mission. Yambi was careful not to fully enrage the prey, he couldn't risk being knocked out or blasted away. Yambi waited for Zumbi's action. Zumbi let fly an energy ball for Goku, knowing he wouldn't turn now he moved in after it. Before Yambi could see the energy ball, Zumbi was behind Goku. The energy again was thrown by Goku's energy but Zumbi continued on. Goku raised his right forearm faster than Yambi could follow, it smashed into Zumbi's face. Zumbi was stunned, his face ached, and he wasn't expecting such an attack from that angle. Yambi watched as Zumbi fell lifelessly downward. Yambi wanted to continue with the plan of attack but he didn't know if he could. Goku slowly lowered his arm, Yambi looked to see blood on his knuckle. He grew angry, the prey was never supposed to get this far; it was never supposed to be so strong.

Zumbi's descent halted, he brought his hands to his face. Yambi noticed that Zumbi had stopped falling. He watched until he saw he was moving. Yambi looked up at Goku and readied himself. He knew it would happen quick but he didn't want anything to go wrong, they never did this plan of attack before and he wanted it go smoothly. Energy began to pour into Yambi's forearms; he was concentrating it into his muscles. He drew closer to Goku; he was ready to do his part.

Yambi drew back his arm, half bent at his elbow. Yambi threw his left arm forward Goku knocked it away. Yambi quickly reached over and grabbed Goku's left wrist.

Goku was watching Yambi's action as Yambi grabbed his right wrist. He pulled them toward his and gripped that tightly. Goku looked at Yambi wondering what could possibly come of this but before he could react Tabi came up fast under him. Tabi moved quickly bringing his knees into Goku's ribs. Goku could hardly move or breathe, the air in his lungs left him quickly. Before Goku could even attempt to bring air back into his lungs Zumbi appeared above him, first clenched. His eyes were wide, his mouth open, teeth gleaming; the veins in his neck and arms were bulging. Zumbi brought his fists down as hard as he could. Both hunters moved away from their prey not even a second before Zumbi's fists put an end to Goku's consciousness. Goku was sent flying to the ground with nothing stopping him. His unresponsive body broke through limbs of trees before it came to a halt creating a crevasse in the ground.

The three hunters looked on with both amazed and worried looks. Was their prey defeated?

"He is defeated. Their prey is beaten." Zumbi smiled as the other hunters looked to him.

"I wish to fight this prey again. He has given us a good fight, one that we have never had and most likely never will again. I say that we leave him for now and return when he has recovered to fight him again." Tabi glanced at Yambi before looking to the ground again.

"Come now, we know we can beat him, and we will be better the next time we meet." Zumbi clapped his hands together.

"Let us return and heal ourselves and then we shall celebrate our victory." The other hunters nodded.

The rain fell lightly, only having started a few minutes ago. Goku lay in the hollow of Earth that he created when he came to rest. The rain splashed his face and dripped down over his eyelid. He twitched. Goku's eyebrows lowered into a V-like shape, before he tried to open them. He found that his right eye was blocked by something. He slid his arms up near his shoulders and pushed himself up opening his eyes. He only saw dirt slowly turning to mud. When he came up to his knees he realized where he was and what had happened prior. His face became serious but he couldn't sense anyone else around him. Goku stood up, his back and ribs had a dull pain, he wondered how long he was unconscious. He looked around and saw only the trees that remained standing after his fall. He could barely sense beyond the aura that the hunter had created. It was darker now, but the sun was setting before so it couldn't be much later. Goku placed his index and middle finger together on his forehead and tried to locate his target, he had to concentrate but he found it. \* He was gone. \*

Korin was standing at the railing of his tower looking out; he had watched the sunset but was now glancing out at the rain. Goku appeared behind Korin and walked up to him.

"Ah Goku, I thought I'd be seeing you sometime soon. You don't have to explain why you're here."

"Thanks Korin, I guess you already know I need a senzu."

Korin nodded as he walked away from Goku. Goku watched Korin off then he tried to sense the hunters; he wanted to know where they went. He could sense energy above the earth but he wasn't sure. Goku concentrated on it then he was sure it was them it had to be. Korin came over to Goku.

“Here you are Goku, I hope you know what your doing.” Korin paw opened to reveal a senzu bean.

“Thanks again Korin.” Goku took the bean and ate it. He could feel his energy, power and stamina return. He nodded to Korin before placing his fingers on his forehead again. He located the energy he had sensed and he disappeared. Korin looked where Goku was then he turned and glanced up towards the sky.

The hunters were sitting at a long table. The room was empty expect for the table and chairs. Zumbi sat at the head of the table with Tabi and Yambi facing each other before him. Zumbi’s eyes were diverted from his meal. Yambi noticed and looked to see what could have him captivated. Tabi had just taken a mouthful of his food when he saw the other hunters were silent and staring. He swallowed and turned to join in.

Goku stood a few feet from the end of the table; his head was lowered. The room was filled with utter silence; even breathing could barely be heard.

“It seems our prey is more then willing to die today.” Zumbi said standing. The other hunters remained seated.

“Perhaps we were to hasty in out decision to let you live just a bit longer.” Zumbi smiled, his teeth lightly stained from what he was eating. Goku continued to stare at the hunters.

“It really is to bad that you came so late, you may have actually caught us off guard if you had arrived just a few minutes earlier. Zumbi motions to the table.

“You see we’ve already healed ourselves and we had just started to eat our victory feast.” Zumbi rested his arms at his sides; he waited thinking the prey would have something to add. Tabi grew tenser and angrier at every word Zumbi gave Goku. Tabi jumped up from his seat, knocking it away and too the floor. He hovering just above the table, he stiffened his muscles and with a battle like cry he amplified his power. Tabi looked as he had before, combat ready. Before Zumbi could stop him with words or actions Tabi charged Goku. The force of his launch blew everything off the table. Goku didn’t hesitate or move as Tabi closed the distant between them.

“Tabi you fool do not let the prey get the better of you!”

Zumbi’s yelling fell on deaf ears; Tabi had only one thought in his mind, to kill the prey. His arms outstretched, his fingers straining, he reached for Goku’s throat. He hands had barely gotten hold of Goku’s neck, not even having the chance to squeeze, when he stopped. Goku raised Tabi with his fist already deep within Tabi gut. Tabi’s hands fell freely from Goku throat, and his head seemed only to remain upright because his eyes were looked on Goku. Goku pushed Tabi off his fist; he then jumped and spun kicking Tabi sending him hard into the wall. Tabi hit the wall denting it with his body before falling to the ground in a limp mass. Yambi had watched silently in dismay, he didn’t think Tabi would get up from that attack.

“Don’t do anything drastic Yambi, we don’t need to see a repeat of what just happened.” As Zumbi spoke he waved his hand toward Yambi, motioning him to remain calm and still.

“It seems you too have found some method of healing yourself. I suppose I’ll get that second fight I wanted after all.” Zumbi’s smile seemed insecure. His lips twitched before he closed them. Zumbi’s body became rigid as he took in a deep breath. He held it patiently and nodded to Yambi who glanced at him momentarily. Zumbi released his breath as his muscles bulged and his energy increased.

Goku could sense his energy escalate, it was greater then before. Goku waited feeling Yambi's energy increase also, he too had a greater energy, but neither was far more powerful then before. Without pause Goku raised his arms and when his hands were parallel to his shoulders he threw them down and powered up his own energy. Goku looked at the two hunters, his hair waving in the flow of energy. He had ascended to a Super Saiyajin. Goku's stance was non-combat; he stood with his arms at his sides. Zumbi didn't seem surprised that Goku had changed so quickly.

"Yambi, you will not be as foolish as Tabi, you will not underestimate the prey."

Yambi turned hearing his name and nodded as Zumbi finished. The two hunters stood opposite Goku, the table, the only thing separating them. Zumbi glided above the table and lowered himself onto in softly. He walked about half the way and stopped, Yambi was across from him but was closer to the wall. Goku's eyes never shifted from Zumbi, he didn't need to see Yambi to know where he was. Tabi still lay motionless.

Zumbi's energy surrounded him as he pushed off from the table and it collapsed in under him. Yambi moved at the first sound of the table's destruction. The two hunters leaped at Goku, both of them ready to deflect any attacks and to enact any of their own. Goku didn't move until Zumbi's fist stretched for him. He slid to the left past the fist and brought his elbow up as Zumbi passed. Zumbi caught notice of Goku's attack and forced himself up; Goku's elbow grazed Zumbi's skin. Yambi improvised and ducked under Zumbi; sliding underneath him he pulled his outstretched right leg toward Goku. Goku pushed off with his toes and Yambi's sweep went without impact. As Zumbi turned Goku was gone, he only saw Yambi on one knee getting up. Zumbi placed both feet on the ground and turned.

Yambi heard a loud smack before he turned to see Goku's fist knocking Zumbi from his feet. Zumbi moved from the impact and couldn't manage to get his feet flat before he reached the ground; he fell over, his head just a foot from Tabi's body. Yambi stood turning, his hands connected at the palm.

"Prey!" Yambi let a massive amount of his energy flow through his hands, hitting Goku almost immediately. The energy hit Goku but had no effect; it flowed around him passing harmlessly. Yambi's eyes widened as he realized it would strike the wall. The energy now divided ripped two holes in the wall. There was a small concentrated explosion beyond the opening in the next area. Smoke seeped through the holes and began to fill the room. Yambi lowered his hands slowly, his face showing dread. As he fell to his knees weakly, Zumbi stood, he rubbed his face with his hand. Zumbi didn't regard Yambi kneeling beside him as he walked to Goku.

"This will not end your way." Zumbi took his hand from his face, he jerked his head to the right and spit blood. Zumbi stopped a mere foot from Goku. He smiled. Goku's head didn't move nor did his expression change when Zumbi's fist hit him. Zumbi's smile quickly faded when he realized Goku didn't feel his punch. Goku turned his head, moving Zumbi's fist with it. Zumbi looked into Goku's eyes, he saw no mercy, he saw no forgiveness, the prey wanted revenge.

"No." Zumbi muttered. Zumbi pulled his fist away and launched another attack; his knee hit Goku's abs and stopped. Zumbi pushed but only found solidity. He raised his head; his eyes widened as he met Goku's again. Before Zumbi even saw Goku move he was struck, punched in the face and sent flying across the room. Goku lowered his arm as he turned.

Zumbi had crashed into the wall opposite where Goku hit him. The walls were thick but the impact still cracked it and Zumbi's body had made an indentation. Pushing on his knee's Zumbi got up slowly. Blood stained his chin; his back throbbed as he stood.

Yambi was on all fours now, his hands pressing the cold floor, his eyes locked downward. Drool formed on his lips and dripped onto the floor. His eyes barely blinked, he thoughts had left him, he was broken.

"Yambi, I know your not dead yet, get up you fool, you cant let your prey do that to you, you cant!" Zumbi breathed heavily, he jaw only hurt more now.

Yambi blinked twice and slowly lifted his head, he barely saw Zumbi across the room. He tilted his head and saw Goku from the corner of his eye.

"The prey." He whispered, as he got up to his knees and wiped his lips. Zumbi hadn't seen Yambi get up; he was too concerned with his prey.

Goku's face was impossible to read, he looked straight ahead with no form to his features. His movements were smooth as he placed his hands together and twisted his waist. Zumbi blinked, he had no idea what was going on. Goku moved his hands close to his waist on his right side, cupping them around an imaginary orb.

"Ka..." Zumbi stood in awe, his mind raced with possible attacks the prey could be planning.

"Me..." Energy began to form in Goku's hand, the glow lit up the room around him. Zumbi saw this and he took a step back.

"An energy attack." Zumbi positioned his hands in front of him.

"Ha...Me..." Zumbi began gathering energy in his hands, he didn't want to waste it trying to hit the prey before his attack was finished, he wanted to stop the attack. Just as Zumbi gathered the energy he thought he needed he felt something he never felt before. He could feel the prey's energy.

"What is this, his...energy I can feel it" Zumbi realized that Goku's energy must be so immense and powerful that even he can feel it in his body.

"Yambi! Come here now, I need you to defend his attack with me."

"Ha!" Goku thrust his hands in front of him. The energy released from the ball he had created in his hands. It spread to twice the size and extended to Zumbi. Zumbi concentrated the energy in his hands. Goku's blast hit Zumbi's energy with an intense force; Zumbi was moved backward and almost lost his balance. He was blinded by the brightness of Goku's blue hued energy. He tried desperately to gather all his energy into his hands to stop or deflect the attack. Goku had no reason to place any more energy into his attack, he could feel Zumbi failing. Yambi stared into the blue beam of light that streaked across the room; he was hypnotized by it and thought of it as his sign of passage to the next world. He stood smiling knowing he was beaten by the best, and that in the end, he didn't die at a fellow hunters hand.

"No!" Zumbi screamed as he felt his energy drain and his body overcome by Goku's. Zumbi's body was pushed effortlessly through the wall by the energy. Goku lowered his arms and watched the blue fade as it passed deeper into the ship. The ship shudder and a loud explosion was heard. Goku placed his fingers on his forehead and he was gone.

Goku appeared high above the forest near where the first fight had taken place; he looked to the sky to see a faint glow.

He watched as it erupted into a larger expanding flash. It soon dulled and the darkness of the sky returned. Goku lowered his head and looked around below him. The damage to the forest was bad but it would all grow back soon enough. Goku turned to fly back home when he realized he never did catch that fish for dinner. Goku looked down at the lake and smiled before he headed back home. He would let his prey go this time.

Name Pronunciations.

- Zumbi ~ (Zoom-Bye).
- Yambi ~ (Yam-Bye).
- Tabi ~ (Ta-Bye).