CONTENTS

RUSTY ANGEL  
Battle 1. Reclamation .................................................. 3

FIGHTING BLOOD  
Battle 2. Awakening ...................................................... 31

TORN ASUNDER  
Battle 3. Values ................................................................. 56

BERSERKERS REBORN  
Battle 4. Resurgence .......................................................... 85

HELL TRAP  
Battle 5: Responsibility ..................................................... 141

CONQUERING ANGEL  
Battle 6: Struggle ............................................................... 193

THE TEARS OF AN ANGEL  
Battle 7. Compassion ......................................................... 219

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RUMB RUMB
THRRRRMMMM

THE SCRAP YARD HOME TO THE RUBBISH AND REFUSE—BOTH HUMAN AND NON—OF TIPHAES A UTOPIA ABOVE THE CLOUDS

KREK KREK

KATUNK

TWAK TWINK TWUNK
RUSTY ANGEL
Battle 1: Reclamation
I don't believe this...

WHA-WAIT A SECOND!

KLINK
KLANG

heh heh heh...

HA! HA!
COLLECTING SCRAPs NOW ARE YOU DAIslKE?

WHAT ARE YOU CALLING SCRAPs?

CAN'T YOU SEE, SONZUT SHE'S A GENUINE HUMAN BEING?

JUDGING FROM THE BODY PARTS, I'D SAY IT WAS A TWO-OR THREE-HUNDRED-YEAR-OLD MODEL.

IT'S A MIRACLE HER BRAIN'S STILL INTACT SORT OF IN HIBERNATION.

SOUNDS NICE.
Hey, look—she's awake!

Hi! My name's... What's your name?

N-name...?

Too bad, Ido. She's lost her memory.

She'll remember—It's only a matter of time!

You gonna raise her?

"Alita"! Starting today, your name is "Alita"!

Maybe I'll have to restore her body but first...

Hm, got it!

"Wait a minute—wasn't that your cat, the one that died last month?"

WASN'T IT A BOY?!

I don't care! It's just until she remembers her own name...
OUR HOUSE IS OVER THAT WAY.

IN "THE SCRAP YARD."

UP THERE IS "TITHAES." THE MID-AIR CITY.

THEY LOOK DOWN ON US.
I WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT YOU, ALITA.

YOU MUST HAVE A REAL NAME, A FAMILY, A HOMETOWN.

MY REAL NAME...

I DON'T KNOW...

WELL, THERE'S NO RUSH!

YOU CAN LIVE WITH ALITA FOR NOW, RIGHT?

YEAH!

DAMN! DAMN!

LOOK ALITA— IT'LL BE SOME TIME BEFORE YOU'RE UP AND RUNNING.

KANG KANG

BUT I'LL MAKE IT WORTH THE WAIT. I PROMISE YOU'LL CHEERISH THESE DAYS. THESE MEMORIES.
THAT'S IT!

NOW GIVE THEM A TRY, ALITA.

THEY'RE BEAUTIFUL!

THANK YOU, DALGICHE.

BUT... BUT WEREN'T THEY EXPENSIVE...

OH, I JUST FOUND THEM AT THE USED PARTS SHOP.

NEXT WEEK GET YOUR LEGS.
I'LL MAKE YOU EVEN PRETTIER YET...

KICK

REET REET
MR. GONZU?

WELL! IF IT ISN'T ALITA—UP AND RUNNING AROUND.

I ALMOST DIDN'T RECOGNIZE YOU.

I KNOW—ISN'T IT GREAT?

YOU WATCH YOURSELF AT NIGHT, YOU HEAR?

THERE'S ANOTHER ONE OF THOSE CRAZIES OUT THERE, SLITTING THE THROATS OF CUTE YOUNG THINGS—JUST LIKE YOU.
Those legs working out all right, Alita?

They're wonderful.

What happened to your arm?

Oh, you mean this?

I got a little careless, I guess. No big deal.

Must've hurt himself when he went out last night.

Are you sure you're all right?

What is he hiding? What?

Looks like your problem is metal fatigue.
"You must have a real name, a family, a hometown."

Hi 

He must have a SEAL, a FAMILY, a HOMETOWN.
RIGHT NOW, DAISUKE IS ALL I HAVE.

AND THAT'S ENOUGH I DON'T NEED A REAL NAME.

I'LL JUST BE "ALITA."

TIME BEF0BE.

TIME UP AND RUNNING.

"IT'LL BE SOME TIME BEFORE YOU'RE UP AND RUNNING.

"SITTING THE THROATS OF CUTE YOUNG THINGS."

"BUT I'LL MAKE IT WORTH THE WAIT, I PROMISE."

PUNNNING.

MAKE IT THE HDWB.

THE LTS OF CUTE THINGS."

WHAT'S GOING ON? - I HAVE TO KNOW!
It can't be! Rasuke lying in wait for that woman.
DON'T!

ALITA, YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT--!

WHUMP

I KNOW ALL ABOUT IT, DAISUKE!

THESE ARMS AND LEGS... YOU KILLED PEOPLE FOR THEM, DIDN'T YOU!?
WHAT DID YOU SAY?

DON'T--YOU CAN'T MAKE ME A PART OF THIS!

SHES GONE!

FWAP

ALITA?

SMIRK
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, ALITA!

THWOK

SKREEE

EH?

AH EE EEE!

FWEW

THIS WOMAN'S THE KILLER!
WHUP

YII!

ALITA?

YOU THINK--

I'LL LET YOU--

--KILL DAISUKE !?

FRESH

OH!

GADOOM

SISHT
"PANZER KUNST or the 'ARMORED ARTS' said to be the most powerful of the various fighting techniques developed for humanoid cyborgs!"
SO THE MURDERER WAS A MUTANT WOMAN WHO SUDDENLY WENT BERSERK, HUH?

CONSIDERING THE LOOKS OF HER, I CAN SORT OF UNDERSTAND WHY SHE WOULD ONLY GO AFTER WOMEN.

Taka Taka

YOU REALLY WENT THE DISTANCE FOR THIS ONE, EH, 100?

SHE'S WORTH A FULL HUNDRED THOUSAND CHIPS, THOUGH.

YOU STILL NEED FEMALE BODY PARTS? GOT A NICE NEW SHIPMENT...
IN THE OLD DAYS BEFORE THE FACTORIES TOOK OVER, THERE WAS SOMETHING CALLED A POLICE FORCE THAT DEALT WITH CRIMINALS.

THAT JUST WOULDN'T WORK IN THE SCRAP YARD, SO FACTORY 39 PAYS OFF BIG IN CHIPS FOR ANY OF US STUPID ENOUGH TO TAKE TO THE CHASE.

SORRY?! I WAS TRYING TO HELP YOU, AND YOU ENDED UP SAVING MY LIFE!

SORRY I JUMPED TO CONCLUSIONS, DAIJUKE.

THANK YOU, ALTA. YOU'RE AN ANGEL.

YOU GAVE ME MY LIFE, DAIJUKE... IF I'M AN ANGEL, WHAT DOES THAT MAKE YOU?!

NO MORE STUNTS, THOUGH, YOU HEAR?!

YOUR BODY STILL NEEDS A LOT OF WORK.

YOU THINK?!
FIGHTING BLOOD
Battle 2: Awakening
RUMB RUMB TRRRUUM

[Image of a character holding a large ball, with another character in the foreground reacting with surprise or shock.]
I'll become a hunter-warrior, too! Just like Daisuke!
I didn't dig you out of the rubble because I saw a monster, a military machine...

But...

...I saw something beautiful--and you grow more beautiful every day!

But fighting--fighting is an ugly thing...

And ugliness is the last thing I want for your life!

But I can't just stand by while you risk yourself, Daisuke...

And besides...

...why should I have to live the life you want for me? I've got to find my own way...
BONG GADOOM

Isn't anyone around.. ??

Shaboo!

What's your business, honey?

Are you a good witch or a bad witch?

Shabooosh!

But she's, Blanche, Ch'are!

Twoosh!

Here to register as a bounty hunter, eh?

For that you'll have to go to cylinder number 10.

Ohmisawo!
No moving! Please! I'm burning an ID code stamp on the inside of your brain! No moving!

On my brain!? But I can't afford to become any stupider than I already am!

No worry! It won't damage your neurons. Just put the Hunter Seal on your Neuronlia.*

You cyborgs have no natural cell patterns; so we can't ID you with fingerprints, voiceprints, or retina patterns. Brain stamp's the only way.

MUNAMOO

Don't you understand, Alita?!!

Hunting is dirty work--the dirtiest!

*Neuronlia: One of the two types of cells that make up the brain, neurons occupy a mere 8.8%, of the volume with the greater part being filled up by the blue-like neuronlia.
I'll behead as many criminals as it takes— for you, child.

SPLASH ME WITH BLOOD—

---but you must remain pure, unsullied... as you are in my dreams!

YOUR DREAMS?!! BUT WHAT ABOUT ME??

KRAK!

WHUD... IDIOT...
STAMPING COMPLETE

GEE, IT'S REALLY EASY TO BECOME A HUNTER-WARRIOR, ISN'T IT?

EASY TO GET REGISTERED, YES.

BEEP

WHAT POSSESSED YOU TO BECOME A HUNTER BABY?

THAT QUESTION— I'VE HEARD IT BEFORE... A LONG TIME AGO...

WHY DO YOU WANT TO FIGHT?

WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'LL GAIN?

AT THAT TIME, TOO, I...

CAN'T YOU UNDERSTAND...?
...I KNOW WHAT I HAVE TO DO.

WERFF!

GOOD POOH! GOOD!

HEY, POPS!

WHA?
HOW MUCH WILL YOU TAKE FOR THE DOG'S BRAINS?

HIS WHAT!?

POOH HERE'S MY ONLY FAMILY! WHY...

TUNAK

U GU GU GU GU...

YA KNOW POPS

UH OH
YOU'RE GONNA REGRET THIS. YOU'LL WISH YOU'D GIVEN UP THE DOG AND BEEN DONE WITH IT.

Hee hee, hee.

WH WHAT DO YOU WANT WITH SOMETHING LIKE BRAINS??

ARF ARF

Ook Ook Ook!

YAAARGH!

Pah-lease! What a display...

RRRRIPPP GAAA AHH!!
HA, HEY, HEY! IT'S STARTED, AND THERE AIN'T NO TURNING BACK?

BOOSH

EEEEEEE!

PLORESH!

TWIK

AHHHH!

OH, YUCK! I DON'T BELIEVE IT...!
HE AIN'T HUNGRY OR NUTHIN'...

JUST YOUR RUN O'THE MILL ADDICT!
THE BOSS IS AN ENDOFORM JUNKY!
IF HE DON'T EAT BRAINS, HE GOES INTO WITHDRAWAL!

SPLOINK

GAAAAAAH!

RUN FOR IT!

N-NO!

DON'T!

...PLEASE--

*ENDORPHIN: A NARCOTIC SUBSTANCE PRODUCED IN THE BRAIN
ENDORPHIN MEANS LITERALLY MORDRINE MADE INSIDE THE BODY. BETA
ENDORPHINS HAVE A PAIN-RELIEVING EFFECT 65 TIMES THAT OF MORPHINE
"YOUR DREAMS?! BUT WHAT ABOUT ME?!"

"PISH KER SPLASH!"

Ha...

HAHA HAHA HAHA!
YOU'RE RIGHT, ALITA.
YOU'RE RIGHT!

HOW ARROGANT TO DREAM OF CONTROLLING YOUR LIFE-- OR ANYONE'S?

YOUR LIFE IS YOUR OWN.

PLUNK.

THE "PANZER KUNST" TECHNIQUE ALITA USED UNCONSCIOUSLY THE OTHER DAY...

DOES SHE HAVE FIGHTING BLOOD RUNNING IN HER VEINS, EVEN THOUGH SHE'S LOST HER MEMORY...?

BUT... WHY...

OF ALL THINGS, WHY A HUNTER?

I GUESS IT'S...

.. DESTINY...
But there's one thing you've got wrong, Alita...

SNAPT

TING TANG

You are not the only reason why I live on AG.

...A HUNTER-WARRIOR...
LOOKING AFTER THE BOSS IS GETTING TO BE A LOT OF WORK!

TO THINK THAT I, THE GREAT ITCHI, HAS GOTTA HUNT DOGS HEADS.

BUT, MAN, THAT LOOK ON POP'S FACE THIS AFTERNOON WAS KILLER.
Huh!

Sooosh!

THWUD

I live for the rush--this one moment of ecstasy.

Tooka Tooka Tooka
I KILL FOR MY OWN SAKE...

...NOTHING MORE, NOTHING LESS...

I DIDN'T WANT YOU TO SEE THIS SIDE OF ME...

...DON'T WANT YOUR LIFE TO TURN TOWARD THE SHADOWS.

OH, ALITA...
GHA HAHA HA...

GET AHOLOF YOURSELF, ALITA... YOU'RE STRONGER THAN YOU KNOW...
STOP...

YOU CAN'T BE AFRAID!
KRAKA TOONG

NO! MY TECHNIQUE-- NOT GOOD ENOUGH!

OGAAA AAAAA!
TORN ASUNDER
Battle 3: Values
GOT TO STOP MY FALL!
WHUGH ?!

GOT TO SPIN!

SKL.

LPX
A-ALITA!

SPLOTT

UNG UHH!

THAHT THWAK

REEFREEFREEFREE

SPLOTT
tockatock atock

SPLURR

KAKRESH

MHH!
AH!

KAKRINK

G...

GA...

G...

GA...

GG.

GAH!
GIRL!

M-MY EYE... THE GREAT MAKAKU'S EYE...

N-NOT ENOUGH N-N-ENDORPHINS?

P.P. PAIN!

PISH PISH

RRROW!

B-Brains. I've got to B-Suck brains!

SLORP

OH! SKITCH!

TOK UH!
BASTARD?
KRANG

UGH...

FWISH

KRAK
KREK

FWASH

DIE!
GONE, I GUESS...
SMASHED TO DUST.

ALITA?

THE POOR THING...

SHUREERUREE

HER SKULL... IT'S CRACKED...

...GOT TO FIX IT... RIGHT AWAY...
GWAAAAAA HAAHAHAHAHA!

TWIK

BLAM

SPZIK
GWAHA HAA HAA!

GWAHA HAA HAA!

S-SO...
YOU WERE ONLY A
HEAD ALL ALONG...

SKLREEE

SKLREEE

SLRK

SLRK

SLRK

NOBODY CAN TAKE MY LIFE!

I DON'T CARE WHO YOU ARE...

NOBODY!!

GWAHA HAAHAA!!
I've burned both your faces into this eye?

Right?

Zish!

I won't forget?

Slurp slurp

Without fail?

Since losing your body, you've suddenly become very articulate, haven't you?

Hey, heh... I suppose my intelligence can be impacted by the body I possess...

It's like Nietzsche said...

Without fail I am going to slurp up those brains of yours!
THE MIND IS NOTHING BUT A PLAYTHING OF THE BODY!

GWAAAA HAAAAA!

SPLISH

UPF HIFF
There's been a price on that head for years, but no one's had the guts to go after him...

Makaku... so that's him.

A-LIITA... took on more than you could handle, first time out...

...bad luck, huh?

Well... damn luck then!

I won't let you rot in a place like this, Alita!
I won't let you end up as a meal for a monster like that!

U... Guk... Chonk

Mmm... Thwork

I've... got to fix your body...

Sphonk!
IT'S THE FINISHING BLOW. THE "GRIND CUTTER"

THE WARRIORS' INNARDS HAVE SPILLED OUT ONTO THE MAT!

THE CHAMPION, KINUBA, HAS SUCCESSFULLY DEFENDED HIS TITLE FOR THE SIXTY-THIRD TIME!!
ALITA...

A WARRIOR'S SPIRIT NEEDS A WARRIOR'S BODY...

SHHH

ONE FIT FOR BATTLE...

MY DREAM WILL HAVE TO DIE... FOR YOU TO SURVIVE.

WITH THE POWER TO TAKE A LIFE WITH A SINGLE BLOW.
There's no other way to make it... in the scrap yard!

Phew... hic

Who'd call at this time of night...?

Yeah?
HELM!

There's nothing in this world of value... nothing worth risking our lives for...

Except... perhaps...

...what little we can create ourselves.

Without you, Alita, my life has no value...
A CHILD... CRYING SOMEWHERE... IN THE DISTANCE...

...ABANDONED... ALONE...

THAT'S ME...

Pek Tok.
KA TLO NK

SKROOCH

GRRRM
RRMM
RRMM!

CHIK KATAK
GRRRM

KRESH TONK
KAKRESH

TUNKA

KRUNKA

IT'S ALL RIGHT, NOW...

DAISUKE...
Looks like her brain survived without any damage.

She's having a dream.

I hope it's a good one...

Always mooning over Alita...

Isn't it time you worried about yourself a little?

You were lucky to escape with your vital organs intact, Daisuke!

Blood loss is bad enough--but one wrong move and those quack doctors would have made a cyborg out of you!

I'm grateful, Gouzu--really.
BEING A CYBORG MIGHT NOT BE SO BAD, BUT CARRYING AROUND THOSE DOCTOR BILLS FOR THE REST OF YOUR LIFE—THAT'S A REAL TRAGEDY.

Yeah, I'm not sure which is worse—to be left for dead or to lead a life being chased after for loan payments...either way you lose—ha, ha!

MAKAKU...HE MEMORIZED OUR FACES, SNEAK VENGEANCE... HE'S SURE TO COME AFTER ALITA AND ME...

...WE HAVE TO READY OUR COUNTERATTACK BEFORE THEN... I'VE GOT TO FIX ALITA'S BODY...

YOU WORKED SO HARD TO PUT HER BODY TOGETHER—AND ALITA LOVED IT SO MUCH. NOW WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DO?

I...I'VE MADE UP MY MIND...

GIVE ME A HAND, GONZU.

HMM?
Fwang Kwang Klang

Reeechak

How long has this basement been under your clinic?

Zummmity! It's sort of a secret this is my collection room.

This is it!

When--you're some kind of crazy, aren't you?

These things work?

I wouldn't touch them if I were you!
WHAT IS THIS? SOME KIND OF PIECEMEAL ANDROID?

I'LL TURN THE POWER ON.

SHAKOOM

TWIK

CHAK

OH

WELL?

KIKKLAK

CHAKKA
Chakka Klink THWAKK THWAKK

THAKK CHICKA TACK TICK TACK

Creepy... This body's alive!

Twitch

It—It's magnificent... Why didn't you attach it to Alita in the first place?

Well, Gonzu...

Nothing's ever simple. This is the body of a "berserker."
SEVERAL YEARS AGO, I DISCOVERED THE REMAINS OF A SPACESHIP AT THE BOTTOM OF THE RAVINE TO THE WEST.

IT WAS THE FIRST TIME I HAD EVER SEEN A SPACESHIP, BUT IT WAS CLEAR TO ME THAT THIS VEHICLE WAS MEANT FOR BATTLE.

LONG AGO, THERE HAD BEEN A WAR IN THE SKY...

NOW, EVEN AFTER THE OWNER'S BRAIN WAS GONE, THE WARRIOR'S BODY WAS BREATHING QUIETLY.

JUST AS IF IT WAS WAITING FOR A NEW MASTER...
It was a work of art. Created with a high technology and craftsmanship that have since been lost.

I was fascinated, to say the least.

But as I studied its structure my thinking changed.

This machine—it's a murder weapon! The design makes it good for only one thing!

It's creators wanted to make a human being into an efficient weapon.

They say that in olden times, able-bodied soldiers were made over and sent to war—as "berserkers."

To think of human beings as nothing but tools... unforgivable...

And so I locked the berserker body down here...
I DON'T KNOW... MAYBE I'M WRONG.

BUT ONE THING IS CERTAIN—THIS GIRL KNOWS HOW TO USE POWER.

THE ONLY THING I CAN DO FOR HER NOW IS GIVE HER THAT POWER.

HMMM. I SEE... BUT... NOW THAT I LOOK AT IT...
...this is a man's body!

not for long.

by inputting some values through the keyboard, the variable skeletal muscles can be set for either a man or a woman.

I guess Alita will never have to worry about getting fat, eh?

because of this wound, I can't up and move around—I need you to do the operation for me.

I'll support you from the monitor...

what!?

impossible! I can't do that!

gonzu, didn't you tell me you were a cyberphysician when you were young?

cyber-veterinarian?

Years ago!

*variable skeletal muscles: because they are composed of fine metal elements, they are strong and soft, and have the ability to change their shape.
"ALITA"!

ALITA?

STARTING TODAY, YOUR NAME IS "ALITA"!

YOU MUST HAVE A REAL NAME, A FAMILY, A HOMETOWN.

MY... REAL NAME...

RIGHT NOW, DAISUKE IS ALL I HAVE.

AND THAT'S ENOUGH. I DON'T NEED A REAL NAME...
NO!

Daisuke--
IN TROUBLE!

SHASH

KAFWOOSHT
WH- WHAT AM I?

INSIDE ME... IS ANOTHER ME...

...STRUGGLING TO BREAK FREE!

IF I CAN JUST FLY A LITTLE FARTHER...

...I CAN ALMOST SEE HER... TOUCH HER!
MY BODY?

GWAHAAAAA
She's awake!
Alita?

Well, how is it, Alita?

Does it feel strange?

Huh...

Oh...

My new body?
IT MAY NOT LOOK AS GOOD AS THE LAST ONE, BUT IT'S A WARRIOR'S BODY.

CHAK!

FWAPFWAP

TUMP

SUCCESS?

HEH!
THE MONTEZ WITH THE HUEY HAVE GOTTEN MAKOWINS.

THEY'RE EXHAUSTED FROM THE LONG SURGERY.

DAIGUKE'S STOMACH THAT WOUND.

THE MONSTER WITH THE HUGE FACE MUST HAVE GOTTEN HIM MA--KODKY SOMETHING...

WELL WATCH OUT!
NEXT TIME I SEE YOU, I'LL SPLATTER YOUR BRAINS!
THE HELPLESS CHAMPION HAS BEEN CORNERED BY ZAARIKI'S INCREDIBLY FIERCE ATTACK—"THE DANCE OF THE SARATO CRAB"!

YEA! YEA!

KASHASH

THIS FIGHT IS MINE! YAH!

I DON'T RECALL BEING CORNERED.

ZUB WAY

I WAS JUST SAVING MYSELF THE EXTRA WALK HOME!
Next time you want to challenge me, try a stronger body.

Ah!

THE CHAMPION'S "GRIND CUTTER" EXPLOSIVE DEATH BLOW! HE PULVERIZES THE CHALLENGER'S ENORMOUS BODY IN AN INSTANT!

TRULY UNRIVALLED! UNDEFEATED IN 281 FIGHTS, THE CHAMPION KINUBA!

Pok, yea! yea!
YEA! YEA! YEA!

WAITING ROOM

GHOOSH

KREEK FWSH

GUM HEE HEE

WHO ARE YOU?
GWA, HEE, HEE! OH, NO ONE WHOSE NAME IS WORTH MENTIONING.

I SAW THAT CONTEST JUST NOW AND HAVE BECOME A BIG FAN OF YOURS, YOU SEE.

GWA-HEE. GWA-HEE! YES, YOU CERTAINLY ARE POWERFUL!

HMM... I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU MANAGED TO SLIP PAST THE GUARDS TO GET HERE...

BUT DRINK UP!

THAT WEAPON BUILT INTO YOUR RIGHT HAND SENSATIONAL, ISN'T IT?

HEH, HEH... IT'S BECAUSE OF THIS THAT I CAN CLAIM TO BE UNRIVALLED.

KANG
Through the super vibration actuator, these finger-tips can move at three to four times the speed of sound! I can cut through ceramic armor as if it were jelly!

The great Makaku will take them, if you don't mind! Gwaha-haha!

*Actuator: Motion device to convert control signals into actual movements.*
CHIKATAK

BAM BAM

GU GD

GLEACH

MY LEFT ARM-- IT WON'T MOVE!

Tik Tak

Chik

GLA GLA

KERTOR! K

GWAAH HHAA HHAAH!
YOU CAN'T JUST TAKE OVER MY BODY! I'LL SHRED MYSELF TO PIECES FIRST!

EAT THIS!

WAITING ROOM

KAKREST
I've taken the strongest body on Earth!

Now to retaliate!
It's the sighing of the tubes that connect Tiphares to the factories where on the ground.

What is that sound?
LIKE THE MOANS OF THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE...

IT'S CAUSED BY CHANGES IN TIFHARES'S ALTITUDE WHICH IN TURN ARE CAUSED BY THE MOON'S GRAVITATIONAL PULL.

WHAT AN AWFUL SOUND!
YOU'RE STARTING TO SEEM MORE GROWN UP, ALITA.

REALLY!?

I WONDER IF ATTACHING A "BERSERKER" BODY HAS AFFECTED HER MIND.

I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT, IDO...

BUT BELIEVE ME.
NO MATTER HOW I MAY SEEM TO CHANGE FROM THIS POINT ON...

I'LL STILL BE THE ALITA YOU KNOW ALWAYS

I BELIEVE YOU

WHAT IS THIS PLACE?

“KANSAS! IT'S A HANGOUT...

--FOR BOUNTY HUNTERS LIKE ME?
Hey, Doc!

Here's Doc in a wheelchair!

WHAH!

ARF!

Doc?

Zapan, how's the arm?

Oh, it's great, Doc!

Everyone calls you "Doc," Daisuke.

Doc—pay you back next time I see you, okay?

So, is this Doc's assistant?!

Hey, honey, join me in a drink!

Koyomi and Duke! Have you two been good?

Whoa, she's a cutie.
I heard the news from Gonzu. Some calamity, huh?

Yeah, quite a mess.

Everyone! Listen up!

What is it, Doc?

We're after that monster Makaku.

Will you guys lend us a hand in bringing him down!?

What's wrong, guys!?
Zapan!

We bounty hunters are lone wolves!

Hmph none of my business?

You bring down your own prey by your own self!!

Only an idiot would go after that slimeball Makaku.

That's one bounty that's just too dangerous!

So far, at least ten hunters have been killed trying to get him!

Help us.

We can't just pick and choose the criminals we go after! It's not right!

If a friend was about to be killed by Makaku right before your eyes, would you just turn the other way?!

Shaddup! Nobody preaches to me!
AVOID THE RISKS AS BEST YOU CAN; BRING DOWN YOUR PREY EFFICIENTLY AND CAREFULLY, AND THEN TAKE HOME YOUR CHIPS. THAT'S WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A "PRO"!

THIS ISN'T A HOBBY FOR US, DOC! WE AIN'T GOT YOUR BRAINS--BUT WE KNOW HOW TO STAY ALIVE!

WH?!

THOK

SPLASH

HEY!

WHO IS THIS BITCH!?

COME "PRO" YOU ARE!
WHY NOT JUST BE HONEST AND SAY, "I DON'T WANT TO FIGHT MAKAKU BECAUSE HE SCARES THE PIS$ OUT OF ME!"

THERE ARE ONLY TWO HUNTER-WARRIORS IN THIS ROOM!

DAISUKE AND I WILL JUST HAVE TO TAKE THIS BOUNTY ON OUR OWN!

THE REST OF YOU COWARDS CAN JUST STAY HERE AND ROT!
I DON'T CARE IF YOU ARE A WOMAN—I CAN'T LET YOU GET AWAY WITH THIS SHIT!

MAYBE I'LL RIP OUT YOUR ARMS AND LEGS AND ROLL YOUR HEAD IN THE STREET TO TEACH YOU SOME MANNERS.
AAAGH!

CHOOCK!

WHAM!

Yee!
NOW-- DON'T THAT MAKE YOU FEEL A LOT BETTER?

DAMN!
I'll pay for the broken chairs and tables.

That girl must be the origin of your calamity!

Yip! Yip!

Damn, she's tough.

You'd never imagine it to look at her.

Weird techniques and incredible power this girl's not just anybody!

Who the hell are you?!
Uuhh Duck

Kansas 2 in

My arm's gone!

Hey, you guys all right?

Next time I see that girl I'm gonna make her pay!

Ah! Ahhh!

What the hell!?
I don't care how strong you are! You think you can get along in this town...

...after making enemies of most of the bounty hunters! ?

Earthquake? Now?!
WHAT THE??!

KABLAM

KREKAKRAK

ENTRANCE

MAX HEADROOM 3.0m

KAWHAM

KRAK

THWAK
KINUBA! IT'S CHAMPION KINUBA!!

THE HERO OF THE COLISEUM! WHAT'S HE DOING IN THIS PLACE!?

WOW! IS IT REALLY HIM!?

IN MY BAR!

SURE

I'M A BIG FAN OF YOURS!!

CAN I HAVE AN AUTOGRAPH??

SCHLÖK

WHEE!
I've come to see you, baby!

Makaku,

...this thing has gotten hold of Kinuba's power!?

Shaaassh!
HELL TRAP
Battle 5: Responsibility
I WANT YOU...

SLURRRP!

...AND WHAT I WANT, I GET...

I'LL NEVER FORGET THE AGONY OF HAVING THIS EYE CRUSHED... BUT I WON'T KILL YOU...

...MY DESIRE, PRETTY THING...

IS TO RIP YOUR LIMBS OFF WHILE YOU STILL HAVE LIFE... TO TURN YOU CRYING AND SCREAMING INTO A LIVING PENDANT WITH WHICH TO ADORN MY CHEST!

THERE COULD BE NO GREATER HAPPINESS THAN TO HEAR YOUR PLEADING VOICE EVERY MOMENT, EVERY DAY.

WELL? DON'T YOU THINK THAT'S A WONDERFUL IDEA!?!
...SO WICKED... SO VICIOUS... SO SAD.

...ohhh...

IF PAIN IS ALL THAT CAN MAKE YOU FEEL "HAPPINESS"... I GUESS WE'RE NOT BEYOND GOOD AND EVIL... HOW PITIFUL...

GWAHAA! HAH! TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT--

--I'M JUST A LITTLE OL' MAGGOT-WORM! GWAHAA!

GWAAHA!

EED! OH, NO!

WAHAHA! WAH!

FLEK FLEK FLEK

HEE, HEE...
MY LIFE BEGAN WITH TERROR AND PAIN, LITTLE ONE...

BUT "TERROR" AND "PAIN" CAN BE OVERCOME--IF YOU ONLY KNOW THE CORRECT PRINCIPLE!

BUT SUCH EXQUISITE TORTURE REQUIRES POWER!

THESE TWO SENSATIONS ARE LIKE WATER--ALWAYS FLOWING FROM A HIGHER PLACE TO A LOWER PLACE.

IF I CONTINUOUSLY SUBJECT OTHERS TO TERROR AND PAIN, THEN I WILL BE PROTECTED FROM THAT SUFFERING.

AND THAT POWER--TO THRUST OTHERS INTO TERROR AND PAIN--IS MY GOAL!
ON YOUR KNEES, GIRL!

I MAY BE A MAGGOT-WORM--
BUT I'M THE KING OF THE MAGGOT-WORMS!
GWHAHA!

YOU THINK THIS IS A THREAT?!!

KAFWACK!

DON'T UNDERESTIMATE ALITA, YOU SNAKE-NECK!

HEH, HEH--
YOU DON'T COMPREHEND MY POWER,
DO YOU?
300 MILES PER HOUR! HOW FAST DO YOU WANT ME TO GO? HOW FAST DO YOU WANT ME TO GO?
I'm too small--the only way I can possibly bring down Makaku is to fly right into his face and deliver a killing blow!

LET'S...

SKREEE

...GO!

TOK
BUT THERE'S MORE!

SCHLICK

WHAMM!

ROOP
ROOP

SLAMASH

NO!
ALITA?
GWAAHAHA!
IT'S SO CUTE
HOW YOU GET
ALL ANGRY AND
UPSET... CAN'T
YOU TAKE
A LITTLE
TEASING?

SCHLOCK

IF I WERE A
CRUEL MAN,
YOU'D HAVE
BEEN IN PIECES
LONG AGO,
MISS ALITA!

SLOORP

YOU SEE,
THERE ARE GRIND
CUTTERS BUILT
INTO ALL FIVE
FINGERS OF
MY LEFT HAND.
YUMMY, EH?
Even with Alita's "Panzer Kunst" fighting technique and "Berserker" body, she's no match for Makaku's new form!

And in this damn wheelchair, there's nothing I can do!

Bam! Bam! Bam! Damn!

But there's something I don't get...

Makaku's attitude towards Alita on the surface, he seems to be picking on someone who's weak, but that's not it! It couldn't be...

Horrible! It's too horrible a thought, but...

Could it be that Makaku is...

Is he in love with Alita?!

We'll all be killed!

Is it true that with your brain eaten, you can't be brought back to life, even as a cyborg? Be quiet!

Vick! I don't want to have my brain eaten!
WAHHH WAHHH

TONK

K-KOYOMI!

WAHHH!

GWAHAHAHA!

?

P-Please! The baby! Give Koyomi back!
NOW YOU SEE ME...

WAHH

NOW YOU DON'T.

PEEK-A-BOO!

NYAH!

CHAK THWACK!

HMPH! THIS BRAT'S NO FUN.

LOOKS TASTY, THOUGH...

STOP!

THAT BABY HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH THIS. DOES SHE? LET GO OF HER!

IS THIS YOUR KID? WAHH OF COURSE NOT!
THOOM

WELL, ALITA, IT'S TIME TO PUT MY FOOT DOWN!

CUTTING YOU TO RIBBONS RIGHT HERE IS EASY ENOUGH, BUT THAT WOULDN'T BE ANY FUN...

CRNK

OH, HELL! THE FLOOR?

...SO WE'LL HAVE A GAME?

KABASH

KEKA TEK

THIS BAR WAS BUILT ON TOP OF THE SEWER SYSTEM...

AND MY GRIND CUTTERS MADE US THIS MANHOLE-MAKAKU-SIZE
IF YOU WANT THE BRAT BACK, YOU'LL HAVE TO GET HER YOURSELF?

I'LL BE WAITING! GWAHA HA HA HA!

ARF ARF ARF

DUKE! COME BACK!

OHHH... IT'S NO GOOD THAT CHILD WON'T COME BACK.
WE MADE IT! WE'RE ALIVE?
TH-THAT'S WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE. MAKAKUS GONE...

ALL RIGHT!

WHEE-HEE! WHAT LUCK WE HAVE!

AHH! A SECOND AGO I FELT MORE DEAD THAN ALIVE!

TOO BAD ABOUT THOSE GUYS WHO GOT KILLED—BUT I GUESS THEY JUST WEREN'T LUCKY, HUH?

YOU SAID IT! I NEVER WANT TO MEET UP WITH THAT MONSTER AGAIN!

HA HA HA
YOU MUSTN'T GO, ALITA!

DON'T LET HIM LURE YOU IN! IT'S A TRAP!

I KNOW.

BUT I SAID WE HAD TO TAKE MAKAKU ON--AND I MEANT IT. SOMEONE HAS TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY.

EH?
AND BEGIDES, KOYOMI'S SUCH A CUTE BABY. YOU'D RESCUE HER...

...RIGHT?

We'll be back, Daiguke--you'll see.

Promise?
RRRSSSHY

SO THIS IS WHAT LIES BENEATH THE SCRAP YARD!
EACH SHÀGH!

THAT CONCUSSION I GOT EARLIER STILL DIZZY!

HÀH!

CHÔNG!

TONK
WHERE ARE YOU?

KRE KREK KREK...
I shouldn't have given her that berserker body.

Now all I can do is sit here with a dumb look on my face, waiting for her to come back safely.

I don't understand it. She had a chance to escape alive...

And then she just threw it away?

That's not a stranger you're talking about! This couldn't have happened if you guys had fought Makaku!

Doc. Alita said she would save my Koyomi. She said it was a promise.

Such bravery... to go down into that hole, face that beast!

But Doc., does that child have a chance!?
I doubt even Alita's Panzer Kunst can match Makaku's Grind-Cutters.

The only possibility is her Berserker Body.

That alien technology packed in several functions that I haven't figured out yet! Some kind of enhanced weaponry in "survival mode," perhaps.

Just what it might be... But with a hidden power inside, Alita might be able to match the Grind-Cutters.

The survival mode switch is connected to the cerebral cortex, deep inside her brain. It may be her only hope.

Coff! Coff!

Floof

(Artist's footnote) *Cerebral cortex. The region of the brain that controls large scale movements of the muscles. This "crocodile brain" manages the primitive/reptilian instinctive actions.
THE COMMAND THAT ACTIVATES SURVIVAL MODE IS PROBABLY AN INTENSE WILL TO LIVE -- A DEEP DESIRE TO HANG ON TO LIFE AT ALL COSTS.
I gave my word I'd deliver the baby to safety...
BUT

THAT I WOULD
COME BACK
ALIVE.

KAPLOOSH

?! ?

TOK

I.DO I'M
AFRAID.

UFF 
UFF

UFF

BUT THESE
FEELINGS
ARE TOO REAL
TO BE
IGNRED.

SOMETHING
DEEP
WITHIN ME
IS BEING
TOUCHED
AGAIN...

...AND
RESPONDING
EVEN IN SOMEONE LIKE ME, THERE'S A FRAGILE HEART DOWN DEEP...
THANK GOODNESS YOU'RE ALL RIGHT!
I DON'T SEE MAKAKU...

...BUT I CAN FEEL HIS PRESENCE... SENSE HIS ENERGY HERE!

AN EVIL SOMETHING, VERY CLOSE... IT'S VERY CLOSE!

DANGER! THREATENING TO ENGULF ME! GOT TO GET AWAY!
ZISH

Tong

FW SHIT
Welcome to my old home.

GWAHA! Haha! Haha!

Makaku!

I went easy on you, girl. Nevertheless, I'm impressed that you can move your body at the same supersonic speed as my grind-cutters.
"OLD HOME. WHAT'S THAT MEAN!!?

GWAAAA! TAKE A GOOD LOOK AT THE SCENE AROUND YOU!

THIS IS WHERE I WAS BORN AND RAISED!

BLUP BLORP

BLUP BLORP

NICE PLACE.

THOSE ARE RUINS—HAVE YOU NOTICED? A MEGALOPOLIS FROM ANCIENT TIMES, BURIED BENEATH THE GROUND.

THE TRASH FROM THE MID-AIR CITY TIOPHARES FALLS TO THE SCRAP YARD AND THE SEWAGE OF THE SCRAP YARD THEN FLOWS DOWN HERE.

I SURVIVED BY EATING ALL THE PUTREFFIED WASTE FROM YOU, SURFACE-DWELLERS!
The child has served its purpose.
My mother gave birth to me in the toilet and flushed me into this stinking pit!

But you, Alita...

You're risking your own life to save someone else's child!

I won't let you live!
YOU CAN'T MOVE AT SUPersonic SPEEDS WHILE YOU'RE CARRYING THAT BRAT--

--HER PRECIOUS LITTLE BODY CAN'T WITHSTAND SUCH INTENSE SPEED, CAN IT?!
HEH. HEH. THIS TIME I'LL CUT YOU TO RIBBONS!

--WHAHAA!

NO!

---WHAAHH

NO!

---WHAAHH

OFF

OFF

GWAAAAHAA!

TAKE THIS!

KANG
GRRRR

ROWF
ROWF
ROWF

GNAH! WHAT IS THIS !!!

WHAA ?!

DUKE FANG!
YOU'RE ALIVE, TOO!?

GYAAAA!

SPLASH!

ARF!

GOOD JOB!
RAGH! IT HURTS!

BRAINS?
I NEED BRAINS!

SHLORP!
KRUNCH
KRUNCH
CHOMP
CHOMP

WATCH AFTER BABY KOVOMI, DUKE FANG!

URF WERF

YOU THINK I'LL LET YOU GET AWAY, YOU MANSY CUR?

UHHH...

GO ON--HURRY
FOOM

BOOOGH

TOKKA

ZAP
DON'T TOUCH THE BABY OR THE DOG.

...NOT WHEN ALITA IS YOUR OPPONENT?
CONQUERING ANGEL
Battle 6: Struggle
WH-WHAT WAS THAT!?

MY "POWERS ARM"-- HOW COULD ITS FORTY MILLIMETER THICK ARMORED SKIN EXPLODE SO EASILY!?
AT THAT MOMENT I DIDN'T UNDERSTAND IT MYSELF.

THOSE MOVES—I JUST NATURALLY RESPONDED THAT WAY.

LIKE STREAKING THE TAN UNDER MY EYES—

—IT WASN'T SOMETHING I DID CONSCIOUSLY... IT—IT WAS JUST WHAT I HAD TO DO!

HER NEW FUNCTIONS—CODIFY THEM, BOARHEAD!!
O MASTER OF THIS MIGHTY "POWER BODY," HERE IS MY RESPONSE--

--THE ENEMY BLASTS THE INHALED AIR THROUGH HER BODY AND OUT HER FINGER, HAVING HEATED IT TO A HIGH TEMPERATURE USING AN ELECTRICAL ARC DISCHARGE. THIS CREATES A FIFTEEN THOUSAND DEGREE CENTIGRADE "PLASMA JET."

IN ADDITION, SHE PLACES A POWERFUL MAGNETIC FIELD ON THE PLASMA AND, BY CONTROLLING THE AIR CURRENT THAT IS PRODUCED, PROPELS HER HAND AT HIGH SPEEDS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PRINCIPLES OF MHD PROPULSION.

I WAS CONSCIOUS OF ONLY ONE THING.

WITH ONLY THE ARMOR OF THIS "POWER BODY," IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO DEFEND ONESelf FROM ALITA'S DESTRUCTIVE FORCE!!

WH-WHAT'S MY BEST MOVE, BOARHEAD!!

*PLASMA JET: A HIGH-SPEED JET OF HIGH-TEMPERATURE IONIZED GAS, A TECHNOLOGY USED IN HEAT CUTTING AND CARVING.

**MHD PROPULSION: A TYPE OF PROPULSION WHICH APPLIES MAGNETOHYDRODYNAMICS TO ELECTRICITY-CONDUCTING PLASMA.
...THE FEELING OF FEAR THAT HAD WEIGHTED SO HEAVILY ON MY HEART ONLY MOMENTS AGO--THAT SENSE WAS LOST!

ALL I KNEW WAS THE NEED TO BRING DOWN THE MONSTER BEFORE MY EYES...A BURNING, SEETHING DRIVE--TO FIGHT!
Don’t let her close the gap!

Finish her off instantly with the G-cutters while she’s still at long range!

Maximum power! Five-finger simultaneous attack!

WHOOM

FASH
THE ENEMY'S SPEED IS 75% SLOWER THAN THE GUIDED COUNTER'S DESTRUCTION CERTAIN!
WHY THE RECOIL FROM FIRING THE G-CUTTERS... I'VE LOST MY FOOTING!

GAH! WHUD

SHOSH

KABLAM
THE FASTER YOU FIRE, THE STRONGER THE RECOIL--

--YOU CAN'T HANDLE THAT WITHOUT BALANCE?

FOOL! DIDN'T YOU REALIZE THAT AFTER LOSING AN ARM YOUR BODY WEIGHT WOULD BE DISTRIBUTED UNEVENLY?!

ENEMY APPROACHING!

WHY, YOU LITTLE--!!!
TONK
CHACK
FUMP
SHSH
G ZASHASH
WHOO!
SKRIIP
WISH
GWAPA HAHA!

KA KREW

KRASH

TONK

GWAPA HAHA!

KAPLOOSH!
She's got the top of your head.

GAME OVER, MASTER.

GU... GU...
I'LL DISINFECTION THAT BRIAN OF YOURS---BY BURNING IT CLEAN AWAY!

GUGU... GUFU...

SWAHA-HAA! THAT'S MY ANGEL ALL RIGHT

BUT DO YOU THINK I CAME TO THESE SEWERS JUST FOR THE HELL OF IT?!
I KNOW THE LAY OF THIS UNDERGROUND WORLD AND THE MOVEMENT OF ITS WATERS LIKE THE BACK OF MY HAND!

WHAT!? DID YOU FORGET?--I SAID I GREW UP HERE...

WHAT GOOD WILL THAT DO YOU AT THIS POINT?

RAIN--UNDERGROUND !?  GWAAHAAHAA--DO YOU REALIZE WHAT THIS MEANS ?!

......RMB SHAAAA RMB
BRR MB SHWOOOSH

AHH!

GWAHAHA!

EVERY DAY AT THE SAME TIME, THE SEWAGE FROM THE SURFACE TANKS OF THE SCRAP YARD IS DUMPED... RIGHT HERE!
AAAH!

GWAAAH! BABULU!

SHAAA!

SHSSSSS

NOOO!

GAH!

WA
WH-WHAT AN INCREDIBLE CURRENT! I CAN'T CONTROL MY MOVEMENTS!
SUDDENLY THE TABLES HAVE TURNED, EH, ALITA!?

WHAT'S MORE, WITH THE CURRENT AT MY BACK I CAN SWING MY G-CUTTERS WITHOUT WORRYING ABOUT THE RECOIL!

YOU CAN'T MAKE PLASMA UNDERWATER, CAN YOU!?

GUUU...
But before that...

"Game over," you say?

Skrck

You worthless computer!

Boosh

You're next, my darling Alita!
And first I'm going to take that nasty left arm of yours!

But wait...

...maybe your legs... maybe I should cut your legs off first.

Then... I can take your arms off slowly.

Cutting as cleanly as I can.

Leaving just the heart of you.

Now, Alita!

Swoosh!

Every day, you can soothe me with your cries of despair! GUBYA-BAAHA!
I carved an incision into the actuators of your arm...

...so that the next time you sent power through it, in order to fire your G-cutters, your arm would explode.
THE TEARS OF AN ANGEL
Battle 7: Compassion
NO ONE PASSES JUDGMENT ON MAKAKU THE GREAT!

You've had your fling, Makaku. Eating other people's brains and taking over other people's bodies.

...I won't let you go back to the surface again!

I'll bury you right here!

Everyone lives by eating other lives. People plunder from the weak for their own benefit everyday.

CHK CHK CHK

KAATINK

WUSHHH
EVEN YOU, ALITA--THE REWARD HAS BROUGHT YOU TO ME, HASN'T IT?!
YOU'RE SO WRONG!
I have no memory of my earlier life... so I don't know what kind of person I was really like.

Life itself remains undefined to me.

Whether it's ugly... or beautiful...

... a sin or a great gift to cherish—I don't know.

But I'll find out!

I need a sense of purpose—being a bounty hunter lets me search for myself through battle!

The money you speak of is meaningless to me!
I WALK IN FAITH!

THE FAITH THAT WE CHOOSE WHO WE WANT TO BE...

AND GROW INTO THAT IDENTITY, UGLY OR BEAUTIFUL!
I won't be subject to this!

So much for the "King of the Maggot-Worms"...!
AH, THE THINGS YOU DO TO FIND YOURSELF.

I LIKE THAT IN YOU.

PITY I'LL NEVER HAVE THAT CHOICE.

BORING, MAKAKU...

THAT HOARSE VOICE OF YOURS, FULL OF TWISTED SELF-PITY... --I'VE HEARD ENOUGH! SHOW YOURSELF, AND I'LL RIP THAT LONG TONGUE OF YOURS OUT FOR YOU!

KAKREK
Don't try to use your plasma jet, Alita!

What?!

Not while we're standing on top of an old 'energy stand'—a tank made of hydride alloy!*

Gwa ha ha ha!

The heat of your last little explosion unleashed a cloud of hydrogen!

Go don't try anything foolish!

If you ignite that hydrogen, this entire cavern will be blown away!

* Hydride alloy: an alloy that absorbs and stores hydrogen gas. When forced to expel that hydrogen, the alloy also releases heat.
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?? I HAVEN'T GOT ANY PLASMA TO WASTE ON A MAGGOT LIKE YOU!

ELECTROMAGNETIC POWER IS MORE THAN ENOUGH TO RIP YOU APART!

SHU-K

SRRRRRRRAAAA

RRRRRRIP

EAT TH--

BOOSH

!!

CHAA

CHAA

CHAA

CHAA
THE EXPLOSION! HE'S ALREADY MORTALLY WOUNDED.

YOU SEE... I'M ALREADY TOO FAR GONE

BUT I'M CONTENT, ALITA

pik pok

CONTENT TO COMMIT DOUBLE SUICIDE WITH YOU!

LET'S BLOW OURSELVES TO HELL--TOGETHER!
KABLAM

Wah! The heat!

There's fire coming out of the drains!

What the f--?

It's over in the direction of the eastern scrap dump.

Doc, that's...

Alita!
WHERE AM I, ALITA...

GGG. HOW STRANGE. I FEEL SO PEACEFUL...

THE BLAZE FROM THE EXPLOSION IS A KIND OF PLASMA, SO I'M ABLE TO HOLD IT BACK WITH AN ELECTROMAGNETIC FIELD.

NOW WE CAN TALK. I NEED TO KNOW SO MUCH...

BOTH OUR BODIES WERE MADE BY SOMEONE...

BUT WHY WERE YOU MADE INTO THIS MONSTROUS FORM?

ZIMM ZIMM

MONSTROUS FORM?

BECAUSE THAT'S WHAT I WANTED, OF COURSE.
MY MOTHER GAVE BIRTH TO ME IN THE TOILET AND FLUSHED ME INTO THIS STINKING PIT!

ALL I'VE EVER KNOWN IS DECAY!

SNEECK SNEEEK

SNEEEK!

CHOMP

MUCH MUCH

BLURP!

Gulp, Gulp
DECAY AND LONGING! HOW I YEARNED FOR THE BUSTLE OF THE CITY ABOVE GROUND

AHA! AHA! AAAAA!
Yea, here's a huge sewer rat.

HAH, HAH! LET'S GO!

HAHAHA!

HAHAHA!

THUD THUD!

TAANK

FUSH

BURN HIM!

BURN HIM!

AHA!

HYA, HA, HA! HE'S RUNNING THAT WAY!

SPLASH!

AGUUU...

AGUUU!

OH... AGU...

TWISHH

TWISH!

HEEEE!
I-I don't want to die.

Will anyone know I've lived?

Or must I just become mush dissolving away...

...with no one to remember me...

Someone! Answer meeee...

I'm here... I'm here, all-hive...

Someone...

Someone, notice me...
...but your original body wasn't salvageable.

Heh. Heh...

Show me the desire that lies hidden at the bottom of your heart...

So... I'll give you a new body--as a present.

You were dying in the sewer--I saved you...

And I'll make you a personalized body, fitting to that desire.
HE WAS MARKED LIKE 100--ON HIS FOREHEAD.

WHERE IS THAT DOCTOR NOW?

I DON'T KNOW. I HAVEN'T SEEN HIM SINCE THEN.

I WAS MAD WITH JOY AT THE MAGGOT BODY THAT MAN GAVE ME, AND I SET OUT INTO THE WORLD ABOVE GROUND.

...STEALING OTHER PEOPLE'S BODIES IN ORDER TO LIVE, AND EATING OTHER PEOPLE'S BRAINS TO SOOTHE THE PAIN...

DEstroying things was my way of assuring myself that I was alive and doing something.

THERE WAS NO ONE WHO TRIED TO STOP ME.
No one heard my cries.

Nothing had changed since the time I lay dying in the sewer.

That's where I was...

Alita, when you appeared,

Despise me!

Smash me to pieces!

Burn my soul to a cinder!!
AHH... YES...

TWSSHHHH

AT LAST MY WISH HAS COME TRUE.
I don't know if it's a sin or something to be proud of.

If it is hatred or sadness.

But I am moved to tears—by something I can't exactly explain.