There we were, all the rotworms assembled and about to go out onto the playing field. It was the second week and I was drained. This event had been sapping my energy and I was not sure if I could even go for another whole week. My body and spirit was dragging, then again I think a lot of us felt the same way. I leaned against one of the lockers and groaned.

“Why did I get myself into this?” I questioned aloud.

“Why did any of us get into this?” replied another fellow teammate.

“Before we go out I have a few words for you all and I will tell you why.” Interrupted Darkhawk as he smiled wide.

As we looked up, we saw our muscular auburn haired captain as he stood at attention and glared at us all.

“Today we are about to embark on another mission to destroy our opponents and secure our victory. I know a lot of you are tired, grumpy, and just want to quit. Well Frak that! Quitting is for LOSERS! Are you a loser? NO! We are winners! I want you to pump yourselves up, go out there and let loose your war cries! I want to hear that crowd shout ‘Rotworms! Rotworms!’ across the entire field. Let those Frog Dogs know that we mean business and will put them in the ground!”

I didn’t come here to see a bunch of sissies dancing on the field. I came to see us draw blood. Today, the Frog Dogs are not going to know what hit them, today we will take the victory!”

I sort of coughed and scoffed a bit.

“Right and I am sure they will just be sitting there letting us win.”

Darkhawk stopped momentarily and strode over to me. He looked me in the eye.

“Tasha’Vel, you are an Aedile from Shar Dahkan and a Sadowan. I know you have a fight in you, soldier. I have seen you up against overwhelming odds and come out alive. Yes, you may have gotten injured, but you secure your goal and overcome conflict. Getting pitted against these cronies is nothing compared to what you have been up against. You can’t give up. Throwing in the towel and calling it quits just doesn’t suit you. I want you to show your team what you are made of. Give the audience a grand showing, stomp those Frog Dogs in the dirt and take that victory! You have what it takes to be a warrior and you have skills. Use those skills and take them out!”

I was taken aback slightly, his words carried an energy with them that brought a reinvigoration within my tired body. Looking around, many of my fellow teammates also cheered and hollered.

With his words, I was ready to challenge our opponents and take them down. I was prepared to show our bloodthirsty audience we would give it our all. Blood, sweat and tears would be shed on that field today.