

"Little one, think about it. The population is too great for the universe. A correction was needed."

The Titan spoke with absolute certainty. He was speaking from personal experience. All the life-forms on his home planet had died because of the overpopulation there.

"You don't know that!" Gamora shouted.

"I'm the only one who knows that ... and who will act on it." He looked at his favorite daughter, the one he was most proud of. "For a time, you believed in me, you fought by my side. Daughter."

"I'm *not* your daughter. Everything I hate about myself you taught me."

He stood high above her. "I made you the most feared woman in the galaxy. That's why I trusted you to find the Soul Stone."

"I'm sorry I disappointed you," Gamora replied.

Thanos sighed. "I *am* disappointed. But not because you didn't find it." The Titan touched his daughter's hair, then bent down so that his head was close to hers. "But because you *did*. And you *lied*."

He led Gamora to a prison cell. The enormous metal door lifted, and the young woman had a terrible shock when she walked inside. Her sister Nebula, who she loved, was hanging in the air, with guards on either side of her. Nebula was a Lumphoid, from a people who were similar to humans, with light blue and purple skin. Thanos had killed her family, and taken her as his daughter. He had trained her to be a killer, and added android parts to her body. Nebula had fought with Thanos against Gamora at first, but had then changed sides, and fought with her sister and the



Guardians. Now, her arms and legs were stretched out, and her body was pulled apart so her android parts were separated. Her head was shaking, and she was clearly in great pain.

"Nebula," Gamora said. She walked up to her sister, and touched a metal part. "Don't do this," she begged her father.

"Some time ago, Nebula secretly got onto this ship and tried to kill me. She nearly succeeded. So, I brought her here. To talk."

Thanos moved his hand inside the Infinity Gauntlet, and Nebula's body parts were pulled further apart. She started screaming, and her father watched with a cruel look on his face. Gamora, unable to bear her sister's screams, went to Thanos and put her hands on the gauntlet.

"Stop. Stop it. I swear to you on my life, I never found the Soul Stone," she said, crying.

Thanos waved a hand at a guard, who touched some controls. Nebula's voice spoke. "Memory files coming up."

A beam came from one of Nebula's eyes, and Gamora was astonished to see her own face appear in it. It was a memory from Nebula's past.

"You know what he's going to do. He's ready now to get the Stones. All of them," Nebula whispered.

Gamora's voice replied: "He can never get them all. I found the map to the Soul Stone and I burned it. I burned it."

Now, Gamora bent her head, unable to look at her father.

Thanos stood behind her. "You're strong. That comes from me. You're generous. That comes from me, too. But I never taught you to lie. That's



"You're strong. That comes from me. You're generous. That comes from me, too. But I never taught you to lie. That's why you're so bad at it."