



GODSPAWN CHAPTER SUMMARIES (PART 1)

1. Android-A7 awakes in an orbiting seedship to train two spies, both genetically engineered and raised by computers. A rival seedship has already created a primitive society of natural humans and the two seedships must avoid detection as they dispute ownership.
2. A gang of legion-deserters abandons a man in a desert. A young girl called Neariah rescues the man but he is already crazy from sunstroke.
3. In the orbiting seedship, the two spies' austerity shocks Android-A7; Chislon is a human-clone, Syntyche is half-clone half-android.
4. Neariah's father, Hushah, convinces the Elder to let the crazy man stay in their oasis. Neariah names the man Azoic, and becomes convinced that he is an angel. She asks him to refute the village Elder's claim that her deceased puppy had no soul, because she wants it to be in Heaven.
5. Chislon is obsessed with a holographic report about Neariah that Android-A7 logged 18-years ago. The android reveals that it was once named Azoic, thus this chapter's ship storyline is shown to be subsequent to the oasis storyline. A7 sees potential in Chislon and teaches the artificial man about emotions.
6. 18-years earlier in the polytheistic capital of Erebus, Legate Vibius fights fires and hunts arsonists.
7. Adroid-A7, Chislon and Syntyche land in separate life-pods when their shuttlecraft explodes. In the earlier storyline, Azoic begins building a well while the Elder calls a meeting to banish him. Hushah's brother returns from Erebus with news of a great fire, and the Elder charges Azoic with arson.
8. Azoic's sunstroke leaves him feeling guilty, but Neariah believes he is innocent. When Azoic leaves, she marches out into the desert to rescue him again. The villagers search for her during a storm that forces the gang of legion-deserters into the oasis.
9. After the storm, Azoic carries Neariah home. The gang has befriended the Elder, buying supplies on credit. Hushah begs the Elder to let Azoic finish building a well. Neariah enlists the help of her twin brother, Merab.
10. The twins realize that the gang are deserters, and as the gang flees with stolen supplies, the angry Elder pushes Azoic down the well. Azoic is presumed dead.
11. Azoic's funeral is interrupted by Legate Vibius' legion, hunting deserters. After the legion leaves, Azoic rises.
12. Azoic tells the children a story about the coming of a kind Warlord who will free them from the tyranny of the legions. From a treetop, Neariah watches everyone being massacred by the returning legion. Merab is enslaved.
13. Neariah finds Azoic hiding in the well with some of the children and she loses faith in him. She leaves him behind in disgust, leading the children out into the desert. Azoic finally realizes what he...it...is.



GODSPAWN CHAPTER SUMMARIES (PART 2)

14. 18-years later, Chislon suffers solitary confinement at sea in his damaged life-pod. He is eventually captured by merchant sailors and sold into slavery.

15. Chislon works as a bartender in Erebus, then fights in a coliseum to qualify into Legate Vibius' legion.

16. The now-adult Merab is a slave. Legate Vibius' legion sets out to crush Neariah's army, taking Merab for leverage in case they capture Neariah. Chislon finally speaks to Neariah at a pre-battle meeting and his rigid self-discipline disintegrates. In a failed attempt to see her again, he is shot with a poison arrow. The poison brings nightmares in which Azoic tells him that he is too unnatural to love, or to be loved.

17. Chislon attends a victory celebration where Legate Vibius is torturing Neariah. The enraged Chislon kills Vibius and follows Neariah on a lengthy escape. Convinced that he is a callous heathen, she remains determined not to soften toward his clumsy advances. She introduces him to another Warlord, Syntyche. Chislon knows Syntyche is an android-human, so he retreats into his former composure to hide his newfound weaknesses. The sudden change in behavior reinforces Neariah's distrust.

18. Syntyche tests Chislon, first by fighting him and then by promoting him. Finding no visible emotion in Chislon, Syntyche suspects that Chislon remains a slave to their seedship, so Syntyche does not explain that his own loyalties have changed. Instead, Syntyche convinces Chislon that his present occupation, defending Neariah's monotheism, is merely a spy's cover story.

Neariah disagrees with Syntyche about Chislon's promotion, so Syntyche again tests Chislon by describing her outrage. Chislon seeks solitude to contemplate his heartache, convinced that Neariah will always hate him. She tracks him down to explain a distrust born of tragedies that he cannot admit he has heard about, from Android-A7/Azoic. Chislon and Neariah begin a secret love affair.

19. Syntyche hopes that the ships will not notice the increasingly famous Chislon, else they might surgically remove any desire he may have to become a monotheist. Unbeknown to Syntyche, Azoic has already given Chislon a science lesson that could prevent Chislon from ever becoming a convert.

20. Chislon assumes control of Syntyche's army and Azoic prays for peace at the future battlefield.

21. As their army marches, Syntyche fails to persuade Chislon that even clones can have souls. Unusual stories spread between the nightly camp-fires and Syntyche suspects that Azoic has planted such stories in the warriors' heads. Yet, he does not see Azoic spying on them. The battle begins.

22. Dying in Neariah's arms, Chislon asks her to forgive him for not understanding love. Still tearful, she is reunited with Merab who is now the leader of an Erebus slave uprising. The war is won, and Neariah sleeps while recovering from a poison arrow wound, dreaming of Chislon.

She is directed into a seedship by Azoic who is disguised as an old man. Azoic then returns as a naked android. Her reaction persuades Azoic/A7 not to identify itself, but an artificially-resurrected Chislon feels more compelled to confess his pseudo-humanity. She awakes to dismiss these confessions as poison-dreams, she will never forget Chislon dying in her arms.

23. Months later, Chislon and Syntyche visit the former battlefield, which is now a site for many graves. They discuss the truce between the rival seedships. Chislon explains why he feels damned and asks to be left alone to pray to the graves. Still spying, Azoic watches Chislon cry tears for the first time in his life, a lost and heart-broken soul.

24. As a martyr for a religion that cannot be told about resurrection technology, the miserable Chislon remains in hiding. Merab tells Syntyche that Neariah has had Chislon's baby, and the news causes Chislon to feel reborn.

25. Still spying, Azoic satisfies himself that Chislon will now find peace with his new family, in Neariah's oasis. Azoic then wanders back into his desert purgatory, alone.