



Kyle Rayner: The Journey of Light (1 of 3)

Hope and Rage

Previously

A man needing guidance. It's been 5 years since power rings from all of the 7 parts of the emotional spectrum found their way to Kyle Rayner but once he had all of them he could not control their power and unleashed a wave of energy that almost ended the world. The only thing saving it was a sacrifice of a close friend. Guilt ridden by what had happened, Kyle retreated to Odyem and has stayed out of contact for 5 long years but, with the war brewing across the stars, can he stay much longer?

Scene 1

Odyem, 19th October 2018, 05:00 UTC

Kyle Rayner tries to summon Blue Lantern energy but it fails again

Saint Walker: Do not be downtrodden, we shall try it again

Kyle Rayner: We've been at this for 5 years; I don't think I'll ever get it

Saint Walker: Do not lose hope my friend.

Kyle Rayner: I don't get it; I've been able to use some Blue Lantern abilities before, but...

Saint Walker: Then you must share this story

Kyle Rayner: Again but you must have heard it a hundred times.

Saint Walker: It is not my hearing of your tale that matters, it is you accepting it. You must forgive yourself if you want to regain hope.

Kyle Rayner: It was nearly 6 years ago, we'd been warned that a cataclysmic event was only 3 weeks away. We were so busy hunting down potential causes, we never really wondered about all the rings that were suddenly finding their way onto my fingers. It was the day of the event and we still didn't know what it was but we were under attack from all sides, I summoned the final ring and it worked. I was able to save the world from the creatures that threatened to destroy it but I couldn't stop, the pulses were going to end everything and begin the very cataclysm we sought to prevent. But then

Tess, she was a girl I'd not known for very long but she was a hell of a woman and I won't deny we were attracted to each other. She absorbed as much of the energy as she could but it burned her out, she died right in front of me and I killed her.

Saint Walker: You focus only on the bad, but let me remind you that the attacking creatures were stopped by you. Could they not have gone on to cause the Cataclysm? And it was prevented, there's no way of knowing that your actions were the direct cause of the cataclysm. You saved thousands of lives and if you have hope, you could save thousands more.

Brother Warth: Saint Walker, there is something strange heading towards the planet (he creates a projection showing an army heading towards Odym) our rings can't attack anything without a Green Lantern present.

Kyle: Fortunately (his ring begins to glow green) that's the one ring I can use (his aura glows brighter than it ever has)

Saint Walker: We found out before that a Green Lantern ring is enhanced within the presence of a Blue Lantern (the creatures begin to enter the planet's atmosphere) good grief, I sense the hearts of separate entities but the minds have been linked)

Kyle: Give the order, Saint Walker, do we attack? (The creatures begin to attack)

Saint Walker: I guess we have no choice; attack my brothers and all will be well (they all fire out blasts from their rings which puncture the creatures but otherwise do little damage but blasts from Kyle eviscerate them completely, the creatures turn their attention onto Kyle and attack. Saint Walker creates a barrier around himself and Kyle, with a small opening for Kyle to fire blast out of)

Kyle: There are too many of them, we'll be overrun

Saint Walker: All will be well.

Kyle: We need to retreat (2 members of the Blue Lantern Corps are killed) Saint Walker: where there's life, there's always hope (his ring begins to glow blue, Saint Walker sighs)

Saint Walker: Fall back my brothers, we are outmatched for now but all will be well (Kyle creates several lantern-like projections and sends them flying away from them, the third army follow the projections)

Kyle: That won't distract them for long, Ring, analyse

GL Ring: Creatures identified as third army, 98% Oan DNA, 2% mixed species

Kyle: Oh no (they leave Odym and fly away from the third army)

Saint Walker: Those creatures seem particularly interested in you, perhaps a lot to do with the rings you wear on your fingers. Perhaps it's time we began to help you gain mastery of the other 5.

Kyle: I don't know...

Saint Walker: Save that fear for when we go to Sinestro but now we must head to the planet Ysmalt, and have words with Atrocitus.

Kyle: It's not gonna be easy but let's give it a shot

Saint Walker: I can already see the new-found hope in you.

Scene 2

Ysmalt, 22:00 UTC

As Kyle and Saint Walker approach the planet, several Red Lanterns are waiting for them

Kyle: Guess we're getting the usual Red Lantern welcoming committee

Saint Walker: All will be well; the power of hope can negate the power of rage (the Red Lanterns try and attack but cannot weaponise their rings, Kyle knocks each of them out with a single Lantern blast, they descend across the planet, Red Lanterns surround them)

Atrocitus: (Through the rings) hold your attack and let them come. (The Red Lanterns stand down)

Bleez: Why did you ask them to stand down? One of them is a Green Lantern

Atrocitus: And the other a blue Lantern. It would've been pointless; the Blue Rings negate our ring's offensive capabilities. Besides, they are not the enemy I sent you to prepare for. (Saint Walker and Kyle arrive) speak

Saint Walker: The guardians attacked Odym

Atrocitus: How many died?

Saint Walker: 5, the rest evacuated the planet

Atrocitus: And how does that loss make you feel?

Saint Walker: I still feel no anger, there is hope the Guardians can be stopped before many lives; that hope lies in Kyle Rayner

Atrocitus: Hh, what's so special about the boy?

Kyle: I think you know (he holds his hands out, revealing the 7 rings on his fingers)

Atrocitus: You're the boy who idiotically thought he could attract one of my rings by being forced into anger. It's no wonder you couldn't control it.

Saint Walker: He will need guidance to be able to properly control your ring.

Atrocitus: Why should I?

Saint Walker: Because you've always wanted to wage war against the Guardians after the massacre of your people; with someone able to wield all 7 rings, you would have the advantage.

Atrocitus: Hmm. It should not be any more difficult than escaping the Guardian science cells. I will show you what you need to know but Saint Walker, you're not invited.

Saint Walker: I understand.

Kyle: Wish me luck?

Saint Walker: You don't need luck if you have hope.

Atrocitus: Unleashing your anger will take more than just some images in your head; you will have to see it for yourself. I have given your ring some co-ordinates, follow them, and receive my instructions from there (Kyle takes off)

Scene 3

Baghdad, Iraq, 01:40 AST

Atrocitus: Didn't take you long to get there
Kyle: The blue ring enhances the green
Atrocitus: Now, stand and watch (there is an explosion nearby, Kyle lands on a rooftop nearby, the red ring encases him in red crystal)
Kyle: What is this?
Atrocitus: Stand and watch (a group of people come out of a truck in a small settlement and begin terrorising the inhabitants, they arrive at a house and begin emptying it of the family) your ring will translate their dying words
Father: No! Shoot me first, and leave my children alone
Gunsman: I can't promise the latter but if you want to die first
Kyle: Let me help them
Atrocitus: No, you need to see the atrocities of your world and how you can be defenceless against them, as my people were at the hands of your Guardians' Manhunter army. My sector was slaughtered, trillions of lives and there is only one sane response to that
Son: Daddy?
Father: Close your eyes son
Atrocitus: Such willpower, such courage but in the end, what is that courage rewarded with? (The father is shot)
Son: Daddy!
Kyle: No! Let me out!
Atrocitus: There is only one way to break out, unleash your rage
Gunsman: Pathetic, bring me the next one (the son is brought before the gun, the gunman points his gun, and primes it, Kyle roars as he bursts out of the crystal and charges at the gunman, glowing fiery red he lands on the ground and all the men are forced into the air in red containment bubbles) shoot it! (They shoot but the bullets don't leave the containment bubbles and end up shooting themselves in the legs, Kyle roars again as he sends them slamming down to the ground, he falls to his knees out of breath)
Atrocitus: My lesson is over (Saint Walker arrives)
Saint Walker: Time to calm you down (Kyle bathes in blue lantern energy until he is no longer glowing red)
Kyle: Thanks. 3 down, 4 to go, where do we go next?

TO BE CONTINUED