Jungle Madness

I felt proud and honored coming out of the house chambers when the masters told me to prepare my ship; I was going on a mission. I was told that I am to retrieve an artifact for the house that is important to both the history and the future of the house. I put the last of the food rations that I would need for my voyage on the ship and sat down in the cockpit of *Bonnie.* *Bonnie* has never let me down with a hyper drive integrated as just one of the features she has to help me accomplish any task thrown at me. As I prepared for takeoff, I plugged in the coordinates of this strange planet into the navicomp and began to think.

Why would they send me on a journey with little information on what I needed to find? I had never even heard of the planet that the masters are sending me to, nor could I even pronounce it to tell you. It had to be a planet near or in the unknown region, but that didn’t bother me. They probably didn’t tell me everything out of fear of this strange artifact, although they would not have sent me on this mission if I could not accomplish it. This is a test of my abilities: if I come back I will have grown stronger, but if I do not then all my training will have been for nothing. Clearing my thoughts of these uncertainties, I put *Bonnie* into hyperspace.

As I came out of hyperspace, I looked on at this mysterious system that I was to investigate. The planet was massive, with a thick gaseous atmosphere and three moons orbiting the planet. As I started my descent, *Bonnie* was pulled with such pressure of the atmosphere that I was no longer able to control her. I shortly lost engine pressure which blew a small hole in the hull causing a downward spiral. The ship couldn’t take the pressure much longer as I attempted to gain control of the throttle; I landed hard on planet’s surface. The damage done do the engine is minor and the hull is mostly cosmetic, however both projects together will take days to fix. I decided I would be more productive looking around for my prize and more importantly food, which was all lost out of the ship during the descent.

Wandering around this strange planet is exhilarating. The planet is covered with dense foliage of many different sizes and so dense that I couldn’t see the sky. Many animals were climbing and leaping from tree to tree. The planet is a giant forest hosting many different species of the wild. As light started to disappear, I continued wandering about unsure of my destination when I sensed danger. I was too late to capitalize as a vine grasped my left ankle and dragged me through dense brush with no idea where it was taking me. I reached for my lightsaber and quickly sliced the vine thinking it was over. I took out my blaster realizing that my training saber will not have any effect on this creature. All of a sudden, a monstrous plant ripped through the dirt with massive teeth that would undoubtedly, tear me apart. This monstrosity even had large, bulbous eyes that were full of hate. I started shooting at its various vines attempting to take hold of me and with a well-placed shot into its abdomen, and it collapsed onto the ground. I was overjoyed that I was not eaten, but was full of fear of what else I could encounter on this creepy world.

Later that night, I began to make a fire; food would have to wait, now that warmth was my top priority. I fell asleep to get some rest for the journey that awaited me the following day but it would be short-lived. I awoke to a disturbance in the force a few hours later with a sense of exhaustion, but vigilant. This time I would be ready for another hungry plant, however I felt as if I was being suppressed with a tremor of the force, which immediately made me more cautious than ever.

The creature charged at me from out of the darkness and the area was alive with red as I ignited my blade. I started with offensive attacks but was soon on the defensive as the beast easily dodged my attacks and began to swipe at me with its massive claws. The best was one of a kind with doglike features and claws that dripped of some kind of venom, which made me keep my distance. I pushed at it through the Force but it didn’t seem to be affected. I originally thought that this strange thing attacking me was a Vornskr, but it was much larger with its dripping claws and the fact that it had a sickle shaped fuzzy tail, which made me realize that it was nothing close to a vornskr. I had to anticipate this monster to get an upper hand. Miraculously, the monster shot its own form of lightning out of its mouth. That would prove to be a big mistake sending me into a tree with my skin bubbling from the burns. The hit jammed me into a tree limb which went right through my shoulder and is going to be a problem in combat. I then knew I could not possibly take down this creature on my own; this was going to be a challenge. I sat down in a meditative state to show that I was calm and no longer willing to fight, fully prepared to be killed on this godforsaken planet.

The creature stopped its charge and just looked at me, a mere meter from where I sat. I began to reach for my weapon realizing this was my chance but my arm didn’t have the power to move as it was stopped through the Force. The beast reached into my mind explaining to me that he no longer wanted to kill me and licked me with its massive tongue. I was taken aback but more so perplexed, that a creature can wield the knowledge of the Force with such precision compared to a master. This thing was not only a one of a kind, but was nothing like I ever saw out of alchemic results. How could an animal wield the Force with this kind of potential and so natural in the universe without manipulation through alchemy?

As the monster sat down beside me in front of the fire, I went back to deep meditation completely baffled at what occurred and what was now sitting beside me. Using a lot of energy in battle, I began to feel hungry again, which was a problem. I could reach out for energy in the Force but I would eventually need food to replenish myself. The creature disappeared without a sound into the darkness and I was alone again. The beast returned shortly after carrying small rodents in its mouth and laid them at my feet. I was ecstatic that my new companion brought me food, but more astonished that it was able to read my thoughts so easily and without me even knowing it. I ate the rodent with satisfaction and I didn’t even have to throw it on the fire because my new companion had charred them nicely with lightning when he killed them. After a late dinner, I went back to sleep to prepare for my task with my new friend curling up next to me.

The following day, we began wandering deeper into the forest searching for the artifact. My new companion and I were walking around the forest for what felt like forever and I was getting frustrated. I decided to sit down and meditate awhile to think over plan. I was in a meditative state when my companion all of a sudden began to run away. I quickly sprinted after him and attempted to keep up with his Force enhanced movements. He stopped at an enormous black tree with a root system that was expansive. We went under the tree into the root cellar and felt an unusual feeling at the center of the tree.

I walked over to the strange object in the center of the roots and picked it up into my hands. I instantly felt the coldness of the object in my hands and looked at its texture. I knew that this was the object I was seeking by Sith markings all over the object. My companion had read my mind when I was in a meditative state and knew exactly where my goal was located, which worked out very well. I was eye boggling the artifact when a strange noise came from above the tree at ground level that startled both me and my companion.

The scene that was unfolding at ground level was unbelievable as many different carnivorous plants like the one I had seen before – among other forest life – were converging on me around the tree. With my companion beside me, I drew my blaster and got into a ready stance as my companion and I were ready for an intense battle. The battle got hot fast as I was firing left and right while my companion was clawing through anything that got in his path. Both my companion and I were pushing our enemies back with the Force to give room for more close combat. My companion then used lightning on our enemies but it seemed that more just kept on coming. I realized that we would be better off going back to the ship to escape the planet rather than fighting a battle where we were outnumbered by substantial odds. I began shooting in front of us as my companion was using force powers behind us to keep enemies at a distance as we kept running. As we neared *Bonnie* more plants and animals were surrounding us as I tried to get into the ship unsuccessfully. The fighting was starting to overwhelm me as more enemies kept getting closer regardless of the amount that I already cut down. All of a sudden all the various forms of life were knocked away by the Force. A massive shock wave of Force energy shattered the area as my companion drove his furry sickle shaped tail into the ground. It truly is unbelievable how well this creature uses the power of the Force with such ease.

With the artifact in my hand, I went into the ship but before I did, I looked at my companion and reached into his mind asking if he wanted to come with me. My companion acknowledged and entered my ship gracefully. I had this journey with my companion and it would not have been possible without him, but I didn’t even know his name. I decided I would call him *Akota*. I’m going to bring him back with me as I am unsure what other capabilities he possesses that I may not have seen. I have to bring him back to determine how powerful *Akota* is and would not be able to measure his midi-chlorian count without bringing him back to the academy.