**“Pass and Review”
by Dante
#2407**

Gold in color, the sun slowly rose above the horizon and enveloped the Imperial Scholae Guard Headquarters in its light. Light dew was on the ground as the troopers began their final preparations for the pass and review that was taking place. Dress uniforms were pressed, buttons and shoes shined. Almost everyone assembled for this ceremony were combat veterans of multiple campaigns, but this was their first pass and review so there was an air of anxiety and pride amongst the forces.

The signal went out to the assembled troops, and they formed up by legions and started their carefully planned movements as the ceremony began. Marching in formation, the soldiers of the Imperial Scholae Guard moved forward as if they were one body as they moved down the street. Clad in their best dress uniforms and armor, the legions were greeted by cheers from the citizens who lined the thoroughfare.

Fresh off a victory in the Crusade against the One Sith, the parade was just one form of reward for those soldiers who had performed admirably in the conflict. Coming to a stop on the parade field, each one of the legions who were currently on Judecca stood assembled before the commanding officers and general staff of the Imperial Scholae Guard.

The commanding officer of the Guard took his place at the head of the Emperor’s forces and said “I stand before you to congratulate all of you on a job well done. Our combined forces have managed to wage war against these outsiders who want to do our system harm. Taking the battle to their home worlds, we have taken planet after planet from them. Soon the Crusade will end, and we will be able to come home and retire…” That last comment brought forth more than a few chuckles, but the Field Marshal continued with “Well at least come back and wait for the next war. Now, we have another couple of hard fought battles left to fight, but the Emperor has seen it fit that we should all have a few months off until the final push. Leaves will be processed through your legion staffs. Carry on!”

Loud cheers were heard all across the parade grounds as the units began the pass and review in front of the assembled dignitaries. The music continued as the troopers moved around the parade ground in a carefully orchestrated manner.

Field Marshal Kell Palpatine Dante looked out at the combined might of the Imperial Scholae Guard as it maneuvered around the field. Rarely did the troops spend time on the drill field, and even more rare was a pass and review with members of the various units of Scholae Palatinae available at once. The past few years had been a time of extremely high operational tempo for the troopers of the Imperial Scholae Guard. A triumphal celebration was what was needed for his men and women, and the Dark Paladin was glad that they were able to be rewarded in this way. The Emperor and his summit were in attendance including the newly appointed Evant who had become the Aedile of the House within the past few days. They all seemed to be enjoying the pomp and circumstance that they were observing. Soon, these men and women would be returning to combat in the former worlds of the One Sith, but for now they were able to relax and recuperate for the large scale war that they knew was coming in the months ahead.

With a loud and succinct blast of horns, the triumphal procession finally came to a conclusion with the troopers exiting the parade field, and the guests and VIP’s in attendance left the grandstand. It had been a great day in honor of the men and women of the Imperial Scholae Guard.