***Cantina***

***Second Floor, Arcona Citadel***

***38 ABY***

Kanis spun the Fang as he showed off; Maa’ka shook her head as she locked herself in a defensive stance,

“Come on Kanis, remember what happened last time we did this?” she teased.

“Hey!” Kanis called, “...I tripped.”

The Mandalorian soldier smiled at the Templar trying not to burst into a fit of laughter; Kanis stopped flipping his knife around when he heard an all too familiar series of beeps from his datapad.

The Templar sheathed the Knife and walked over to the datapad which lay on the bar. He slowly picked the device up, after unlocking it he saw a small message pop up:

*Encrypted File.*

*Applying Decryption.*

*Unlock Data File = True*

*Display Data File = True*

The Equite watched as the file opened, though this one was different, the Qel-Droma and Galeres logos spun side by side, below the spinning icons was just a few simple words.

*It is time…..*

Within a matter of moments, the message erased itself along with any data traces of its existence. Kanis knew exactly what it meant, and he didn’t like it; however he had no choice in the matter, his Quaestors needed him.

The Templar tucked away his datapad and looked over to his Fade who was watching him with a worried expression; he slowly walked over to her and put his hands on her shoulders.

“Whatever happens… I need you to be off Selen.” he said looking deeply into her eyes.

Maa’ka shook her head,

“N-no.. I can’t.” she stammered.

Kanis put on a smile,

“Look, I’ll be fine.” he said trying to reassure her, “But I need to know that you will be too, and I can’t know that If you are still planetside.”

“But we can leave.” she suggested, “Just hop a shuttle and…” Kanis cut her off with pain in his eyes.

“No, my Clan needs me Maa’ka.” he said.

The Mandalorian’s eyes began to water and her lip trembled as she bit it. “But.. I need you too Kanis.” she said with her voice cracking.

“I know,” he said as he gently laid his palm against her cheek wiping away her tears with his thumb.

“No.” she said trying to straighten herself out, “If you’re going so am I, as your Fade it is my job to protect you.”

“Maa’ka…” Kanis said softly.

“No, Kanis I have made up my mind!” she announced.

The Equite nodded and leaned in kissing the Mandalorian; she wrapped her arms around him and laid her head on his shoulder before releasing him and walking over to a nearby barstool and grabbing her helmet.

The pair vacated the Cantina setting their course for the Throne room.