The Gathering

Delak looked upon the rocky, arid land of the south pole of Antenora. The mountains and steppes were dry and crumbly and were continually being beat by the dry winds of the region. The only building that Delak could see was the forgotten temple of the Infinite Empire. It was here that the forces of the Pacre and Evanescent forces were gathering together for a forbidden and ancient ritual. The Indomitable had arrived in polar orbit and Delak had taken his personal Sith Infiltrator to the surface for his mission. He landed the Demolisher about three miles from the forgotten temple so that he could sneak up on the position, just in case there were any guards. He ran quickly with augmented speed and agility hopping from boulder to boulder, steppe to mountain. Quickly he reached the temple and could definitely make out guards on the outer entrance to the temple. There were three or four of them, two were Evanescent and two were Pacre. He guessed they had equal man power just in case one turned on the other. Delak had heard stories of the forgotten temple, stories that said there were other entrances into the temple that no one had ever found before. However Delak had found ancient texts in one of the archeological dig sites they had uncovered months before. The text had talked of a temple entrance which was hidden in a cave somewhere near to the temple, the location had been partially destroyed from the ravages of time but he thought he could find it if he tried.

Delak went through the narrow crevices that were all around the mountains, they were not the greatest of paths but it allowed him to move unseen. He stretched out through the force to try and uncover the hidden temple entrance. He couldn’t sense anything in the immediate area and so he continued to search around the temple. Finally! He found the entrance to the cave hidden behind a few boulders. The gray boulders were about six feet tall each and there was no way around them. He backed away from the boulders, whose touch was very warm considering the environment they were in. He reached out through the force, he felt it flowing through and around the boulders until he could feel them strong enough in his mind. With his hand outstretched he concentrated on the boulders, he made a connection with one of the boulders and motioned upwards with his hand, the boulder lifted slowly off the ground. He moved the boulder to the side and set it down gently so that no one would hear it moving around. Once the giant rock touched the ground he entered around the other boulder and into the cavern. His eyes couldn’t make anything out because of the darkness surrounding him. After a couple of minutes his eyes began to adjust to the darkness but still not good enough to make everything out, this would be a time for the force. He stretched out with his senses and what his eyes couldn’t see, the tendrils of the force wrapped around to show him his path onward. Once he reached the temple he was sure there would be some other way of making it around.

The cavern was huge and somewhat open, but it was still better to be safe than sorry. He walked cautiously around every corner pausing briefly to make sure that he was alone and that no one was pointing a blaster at him. The military training of a Stormtrooper made him cautious around every corner. This was good most of the time, but the rest of the time where he should be straightforward it just makes things take longer to get through. Finally he had come to the back of the cavern and could make out a doorway heading inside of the temple. A few feet through the doors and he could tell that he was definitely on one of the lower levels of the temple. He knew that the Pacre and the Evanescent were making their ceremony in the lower levels of the temple in one of the old gathering chambers. He would try to see what they were doing to prepare for the ceremony and to also see if there were any artifacts he could pull out of the location. This would be his only shot to get information before Scholae did something about the gathering. He moved silently through the dark hallways continuing his search for any evidence of the past, and any clue that would show him what this ceremony was about. He knew they were trying to summon the old gods but why? And for what purpose? The answers would come soon enough he was sure. Delak walked around a corner and a spider web caught him in the face and stuck there until he removed the sticky mess from his eyebrows and goatee. The smell in the lower levels was musky and it was very much dryer than even the outside of the temple. It smelled old, very old, ancient smells were surrounding and penetrating his pores. He knew he had to hurry. Time was against the Knight and Scholae would need an update as soon as possible.

Delak rounded another corner and at the end of the hallway he saw a Pacre guard luckily not facing him. He moved quickly and kept to the shadows as he ducked into an open doorway which lead into what he could make out as a viewing room of some sorts. In the darkened room there was a window that overlooked the chamber where the ceremony was to be completed. In the room below Delak could see three poles with chains and shackles on them. To his surprise there were humans in the shackles, he did not know who they were but he could tell that they looked like sacrifices for the ceremony. He could see several guards and what looked like priests preparing the ceremony for the leadership of the two factions. Delak took a quick look around the room he was in and he did notice a few trinkets that looked ancient. Perhaps they would have some information on the ceremony because they were in the rooms adjacent to the main chamber. These rooms were obviously used for recording purposes. He found a small statue and a small tablet with writing on it. He also found what looked like an ancient datapad, perhaps when the pad was recharged there would be some information to use. Believing that he had gathered enough information Delak took his discoveries and headed back the way he came as quickly as he could while he avoided the guards in the hallways. Upon exiting the temple into the cave he took a leap through the main opening of the cave and headed straight for his ship. The news would benefit the clan no matter how small the discoveries.