

## **Storytime**

SAV Kordath Bleu, #13593

It'd been a long night at the Topsy Rancor, one of the premier drinking establishments of downtown Estle City. Half a dozen Humanoids of various species and levels of inebriation sat around a table in the center of the cantina. Outside of one or two lingering couples and at least one Gamorrean who'd passed out in the corner and started snoring loudly the place was otherwise empty. Despite that the drink continued to flow, the barkeep knew the lot of them and was mostly certain they'd pay for all their drinks. Possibly some they hadn't bought as well, the way they were going on. Presently two of them were harassing the smallest member of the party, a Ryn with a bottle of whiskey and a half filled glass before him.

"Tell it, Bleu! This lot ain't heard it yet, they wouldn't believe it if it came from one of us, hah!"

"Yeah, comeon," rumbled the massive Human to his right. Kordath was certain the hairy man had some Wookie in his heritage somewhere.

"Not the most flatterin' story, if ya ask me lads," grumbled the Ryn, glaring at them.

The Human leaned down and spoke lowly, still loud enough for everyone else at the table though. "Pay half your tab off if you tell it, and tell it right."

Kordath perked up, sitting up straighter in his chair and straightening his vest and robes before filling his glass back up and holding it up.

"Right, you lads know that some of them Core worlds celebrate, whatsitcalled? Hallows Eve or somesuch. Dress up their little larvae and spawn in funny costumes and take 'em around for free candy. Bunch o' lil' freeloaders, eh? Anyways, somebody got it in their head to have a Hallows party at the Citadel. What? When? Whatsimatter?" asked the Ryn, waving his glass.

"Anyways, it's a party, had to go, right? Free food, free drinks, and apparently dressin' up means dressin' down, know what I'm sayin'? As in the ladies, mate. What? I mean they get all tarted up and don't get mad 'cause you come around sayin' you like how they look. Yeah, bloody brilliant holiday if ya ask me. Anyways, yeah, drinkin', people is dancin' havin' a grand old time and all that. Me mate Uji is drinkin' hard, lad is out on the floor pullin' moves that they couldn't have taught him at that Jedi school he grew up in, dunno where he picked 'em up."

"So we're gettin' toasted, right? Blinky comes up, that's me Bosslady for yous not in know, and she's a bit tipsy. She's got it in her head that since her second, the scary yet hot piece of...err, yeah, her second hadn't come to tha party, we'd have to do somethin' to her. Nothin' mean, just a bit of prankin' right? So she says ta me, she says, "Bleu, Arcia didn't come out to the party. So I want you to go and be all sneaky and get into her quarters. Bring me back a pair of her

underpants so I can have them put on the flagpole in front of the Citadel tomorrow morning. Don't get caught!" is what she says to me, yeah?"

"So I figure, yeah, easy enough, I'm quiet, I'm sneaky, you all know that. Quiet as a bleedin' rat. So I tells her 'Sure, what's in it for me though?' and she goes to pointin' out one of the ladies in this outfit that ain't leavin' much to the imagination, sayin' she'll chat her up for me if I pull it off. Blinky is one 'ell of a wingman, lads, let me tell ya that much now. She's also got a mean streak a klick long and an even longer memory. I can't recall what I done to her for her to go and do this mean thing to old Bleu, but she did. She'd gotten ahold of me mate, Uji, ya remember? The one who got hammered and started dancin'?"

"Yeah, so, she got Uji in on it, told me that I had to take him with. I tells her no, the drunken arse will blow the whole thing, she says that she won't help me with the girl. So I takes Uji and we get ta walkin', whole time I'm tellin' him to keep it quiet when we get there, lemme do my thing and we'll skedaddle, easy as pie. So we get's ta the place we's goin' right? What? Yeah, the quarters for Arcia. Bloody Admiral of the bleedin' fleet, and I'm about to break in with me best mate, whose off his face from the drink. I'm almost certain I'm karked but I can't help thinkin' 'bout the chicky Blinky was gonna set me up with."

"So yeah, gettin' the door open is easy enough, popped it open with a whisper ya know? That guy knows what I mean, he knows his way around a locked door, heh. Anyway, get in, it's dark. Bit o' light comin' from a chrono on the wall, I can see a set of dressers near a bed, least I think I can. I can see pretty bloody good in the dark anyways, it's a gift it is. So I'm creepin' up on the dresser, right? Behind me, I hear Uji gigglin' like a Monkey Lizard with a head injury mutterin' to himself, 'sneaking sneaking sneaking' and I just know somethin' is gonna go wrong. That's when the bloody lights came on and I nearly soiled me trousers."

"I'll say this, the Admiral? Not a huge fan of nightwear, if ya catch me drift, hah! What? Yeah, as in that. Yes. Bloody hell mate, what she looked like standin' on top of her bunk with nothin' but a blaster pistol ain't the point of this story. She nearly shot Uji outright before realizin' who he was, he panicked and tried to run, right? Turns himself round and dashes for the door, face first into the frame and nearly knocked himself out. Then she nearly shot meself when I made a noise, didn't even know I was in there apparently."

"So she bawls us out a bit, which was a bit lost on Uji at the time between the drink and the concussion. Then she got creative, told us to go right back to the bloody party and go see Atty again. That's Blinky, for those of ya not in the know. What? Yeah yeah, I'm gettin' to what she did to us. No I'm not tellin' ya now, it'll bugger the whole story. Because the punch line comes at the end ya soddin' idiot! Am I tellin' this story or is you? That's what I thought, sit down and drink your bloody ale."

"Anyhow, she sends us off, yeah? We get headin' back to the party and Uji is soberin' up right quick now. Complain' about his face hurtin' and it bein' all hot and the like. And itchy. And how

somethin' don't smell right. Me? I'm itchin' all over and miserable at this point, didn't get me hands on a pair of the Admiral's drawers neither so it's gonna be a long, lonely bloody night. People passin' us are givin' us the weirdest bloody looks and I'm just hopin' there's enough booze left at the party to make this all a bad dream. Obviously not, I'm tellin' you lot about it."

"So we gets back to tha party, right? Blinky comes zippin' over with my would be night-o-fun on her arm and starts askin' me how it went. "How do ya bloody think it went?" I asks her, before realizin' she can't tell what Arcia did to us. Huh? Nah, she's one of them Miraluka, can't see so good. Well. Can't see at all, not like you and me. So she's laughin' and keeps askin' what happened, finally she goes and grabs one of me arms cause she thinks I'm not payin' enough attention, or she was drunker than I thought."

"“Oh my!’ was the first thing out of her mouth, before more laughin’. Had to explain...what? Yeah I’m gettin’ to it, shut up and let me tell the blasted story! You asked me to tell it! What do you mean I’m takin’ to long? I’m tellin’ the bleedin’ story from start ta finish, can’t have me skippin’ about to the bits you like. Are ya done whinin’? Great, okay. So yeah, she touches me arm and starts havin’ another laughin’ fit, than reaches over and touches Uji. Poor girl she brought over to us looks so bloody confused that I can’t help feelin’ sorry for her, even in me own current predicament.”

"So Blinky is standin' there laughin' her heart out, finally she gets ta talkin' again. "What did Arcia do to you two?" and I replies with "She caught us, 'cause Sneaky McKarkUp here can't move through an empty room without makin' a sound." Well Uji didn't care for that none and gave me a smack that sent me to the floor before walkin' off. Get back up and Blinky keeps proddin' me for details. Finally have ta tell her the bloody truth because I know Arcia is gonna tell her in the mornin' anyways."

Kordath sat back in his seat and downed his glass, moving to refill it before noticing the silence of the room. Everyone at the table was staring at him. The barkeep was too, as well as the two couples that had been hanging about. Even the Gamorrean had woken up at some point and seemed to be waiting. "Wot?"

"Finish the story, Bleu!"

"But that was the whole story!"

"You can't do that to us, man, tell us what happened to you and the Uji guy!"

Bleu sighed and picked up the bottle, he turned it over a few times before upending it into his mouth and chugged down what was left.

"Ya really want to know? Bring us another bottle and I'll tell ya. Not on my bleedin' tab though, this is embarrassin' and I'll get my worth out of it, I will. Grand, thanks mate. What'd she do to

us? You ever seen a Ryn get shaved? No? Good for you. Razor burn for days, wearin' clothes was hell. Makin' me glue what I shaved off to Uji was just her way of gettin' her kicks methinks, poor bastard couldn't get it off for a week. So there, ya know now. The mostly nekkid Admiral Lady shaved me and had me glue me own hair to my best mate."

Kordath punctuated the end of his tale by popping the cap off of his fresh bottle and taking a long drink as first silence, then laughter filled the cantina. With a sigh the Ryn drank from his bottle, content in the knowledge that at least the night had become cheaper.