

Writing Lesson

Part 3: "Write a story, true or not, about your family".

Dear Diary (and yeah, you too DON'T THINK I DON'T KNOW YOU SNOOP, TIK-TEK :p)

My name is Yol'andi, but everyone calls me Koek. Koekie said it's cuz I'm a "hard little biscuit with a soft, fluffy center." Pft, one day I'll prove I'm tougher than she thinks and I ain't fluffy. My big-brother says she's just waitin until he thinks I'm ready, then they may even take me on one of her missions before I'm 20 and ancient like them. She said I have to wait until I'm 17. That's too far away! I'm I just turned 15 and I am part of the coolest *karkin* gang ever. I should get to go. I've been with the crew longer than Hi-Tek and she brings him along. *Chud-face*.

Don't get me wrong, it used to be really *fracked-up* here with the 27's before Koekie took over. The big guy in charge was called Kwaad, or EvilBoy as his nasty-lookin friends called him. The nickname came from the gross tattoo on his chest of a cartoon character with a gross thing stickin off him. Anyway, Kwaad made my parents give me to him when I was 7. Even though he kept the really bad stuff from happenin to me, that didn't make him a nice guy. I saw him do bad stuff to other people. To his friends too.

He brought me to Port Ol'val where we lived, sorta, while Kwaad made his "friends". Finally, someone took pity on us and let us stay in an abandoned building on the outskirts of the Besadii district. From there we started our work with the hidden agents of the Triumvirate.

Sometimes, when I was still a kid, he would tie me up and lock me in the closet of his room when the rest of the gang was there. That's when I started testin' my flexibility and that of rope and cuffs. I figured that there were certain ways I could hold my hands and flex my forearms so the knots weren't too tight. Then I started testin how bendy my fingers were. Koekie guesses my "contortion" skillz started there.

But I was still luckier than some of the girls. No one did anythin' *that* bad to me. Kwaad told me to "tough it out" when he'd squeeze my arm too hard. I stopped tellin' him that it hurt and he would sometimes squeeze harder to make a point...or he'd become really gentle and pat my hair.

But sometimes he'd come get get me. He'd smell of booze and he'd tell me to use my pheromones on angry and rude women they'd brought to the safehouse. Get them to calm down. They would call me bad names, I never knew why and it made me so mad that I started thinkin' that they deserved everythin' that happened. I didn't get to stay around after the women became hazy and I told them to be nicer to everyone.

Kwaad would give me a credit chip and tell me to go play outside. I didn't understand what was going on until recently. One of the other girls, one Koekie got rid of, was

there and she came up to me after to talk about it. A few days later my big-brother appeared. Not my real brother, I don't think I got any siblings, but this big, bald-but-braided beast became my bro. (Koekie totally helped me come up with that :D)

Anyway, my brother is a giant Human (head boss lady taught me to capitalize species, somethin' about one day takin' over the 27's) named Hi-Tek and he is bigger and meaner lookin' than even Kwaad! He watched out for me from day one. And always had the nicest smile for me.

Whenever the rest of the guys thought the boss wasn't lookin and they figured they could get grabby, Hi-Tek would just randomly appear from across the room. He stood up for me and never asked for nothin' out of it. Told me I was spirited like his little sister was and he'd watch my back if I did the same. Said somethin' about not being able to see things so low to the ground. I think the poodoo -face was callin me short >:-)

He still won't talk to me 'bout his sister though and I'm clever enough not to stick my nose where it don't belong. The one time I asked, he simply smiled his giant smile and mussed up my hair. Then he helped teach me how to properly fire a blaster. I'm really happy Koekie didn't kill him when she fired Kwaad.

Speakin' of her, I should probably talk about her properly. Koekie was the first Twi'lek I ever saw. I thought it was super weird to wear dark, skin-tight clothes with skin as bright purple as hers was, but she looked cool And the weird fleshy tails stickin out from the back of her head? Totally awesome! But, I think I would die without my epic crimson and cobalt mane. I think she would too, the amount she asks to brush it and do it up. xD

But at first, I thought she may be one of the rude women so I tried spyin' on her. She caught me and cut off a strip of my hair by throwin a *frakken* dagger at me. I tossed it back and was gonna use my Zeltron gift to mellow her out, but she threatened to put the next blade between my brows. I didn't doubt her.

Her pupiless lavender eyes were locked on me and she was gigglin' all creepy, but cute, like. It weirded me out. Then she just started talkin about *EvilBoy* and our operations. I told her nuthin, cuz I aint a tattletale, but somehow she knew I was lyin. But she didn't say anythin' to me. She just smiled more creepy-like and suddenly said she had a meetin' with the head-boss over some "*shuttas*". Dunno if she knew that was the keyword, I don't think she did, but it was...

So, I showed her in and everythin' changed.

I wasn't allowed in the room, but I heard everythin'. I heard Koekie make Kwaad shriek higher than I ever have. I was really angry at first. When I ran in and I saw Hi-Tek smilin' as she sat in his lap, pattin' his cheek like a pet, I remember startin' to shriek.

Kwaad sat slumped in his chair, drool runnin' down his mouth as the Twi'lek woman asserted her full control of the men in the room. She must have done somethin' *karkin* scary to have gotten all them angry dudes to cower as they did. She said she was goin' to help us with a rival gang - and she did - but I don't think she planned to take over ours.

The bunch of them, includin' Kwaad, took off to go kill the other guys. Only Koekie, Hi-Tek and a couple of the gang managed to come back. My brother was lookin' at her in a weird way, kinda like he was sorta scared of her but impressed too. I was scared of what would happen to me with Kwaad gone, but Koekie simply dragged Hi-Tek passed me into the office.

I was snoopin' through the door when I heard her say she was one of those Jedi-witch people. I freaked out and ran in to help out my brother, but she simply smiled and told me that no-one would believe me. That if I wanted to remain safe and "*untouched*" I would behave myself and be her messenger girl when she needed one.

It has been almost three years since then. Koekie has taught me that I can use my flexibility to worm out of most anyone's grabby hands, where to stab someone in order to cripple them and how to read and write. Hi-Tek and me now look after most of the things Kwaad used to do for the gang, with me doin' errand duties and Hi-Tek workin' "product security". :P

I look at both of them like my big brother and sister. Even if Koekie seems kinda crazy sometimes, I think she really worries about me. Somethin' about women with awesome skin colors needin' to stick together in the face of "*karkmouthed tyrannical xenophobes*." (I totally recorded her sayin' that one day and I almost got caught spyin' from almost laughing!) But, I think it's somethin' more than just that. Before she ever goes away to see her Master, she spends time sparrin' with me and makin' me learn how to dodge. :D

It would be a lot more fun if she just sometimes warned me first. >_<