

## *The Enemy Below - Week 1*

**Aliso**

**Docking Bay 3, Aliso City**

**35 ABY**

The *Phantom's* hydraulics hissed as Zuser walked down the ramp, hood down. He scrolled through a data pad as he checked his to-do list.

*'Ok, gotta stop and get that shipment for Master Reith, pick up my droid, and then my new weapons.'*

He stowed the pad, drew his hood up, and started for the hallway to lead him to the busy shopping district. The *Phantom's* boarding ramp closed behind him as he left.

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A male Twi'lek hefted crates onto a small lift as Zuser checked the invoice and signed where needed.

"Alright, that's two crates of Whyrens Reserve. Please tell the di Plagia we appreciate his continued business with us." The Twi'lek said as he took back the invoice and double checked that it was signed in all the right places.

"Yeah I'll let him know."

Zuser pushed the lift out and went on to his next two errands.

"Next stop, droid shop."

The pilot muttered to himself as he pushed the cart down the street.

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Zuser walked into docking bay 3, a black and green astromech droid keeping pace with him as he pushed the crates of alcohol, a small box on top of them. He keyed the command to lower the ramp, pushing the sled of crates into the cargo hold when he was able, the droid following him in.

"Ok Widget, this is the *Phantom* and where you'll be spending most of your time," Zuser said. "Go check it out and get familiar with the place."

The droid swiveled its domed head around the cargo bay before following orders and getting familiarized with the *Phantom*. The Knight retrieved the small box and sat down atop a crate, cracking the seal and opening the lid. Inside was a pair of vibroclaws and a bracer. Grinning, he slipped on the items. It was then that he felt the \*whump\* of explosions, followed by the buffeting of his ship. The hair on the back of his neck bristled, and with a practiced ease, the Plagueian pulled out his DL-44 as he spun around to find a battle droid taking aim at him. Zuser fired once, dropping it.

“Where in the blue hell did you come from? Widget! Stay with the ship!” Zuser called out.

He rushed down the ramp to find more droids taking aim. Droid parts exploded out of the hallway as Zuser emerged, lightsaber glowing. The Sith growled as he saw people running around, and many more dead in the streets. A security officer saw him and ran up to him, looking like he'd fought a war.

“Sir! Battle droids just came out from the ground! What do we do?!”

Zuser blinked, and looked behind him to see if he was talking to someone else. Upon realizing that the officer was indeed talking to him he stood a little straighter.

“Scramble your units, your top priority is getting everyone to safety.”

The officer saluted and ran off, speaking into a comlink as he did.

The Knight lifted his wrist-mounted comlink to his mouth and spoke into it.

“Zuser Whuloc to the Pinnacle, come in. I'm on the ground in Aliso City and have encountered hostile droids, permission to engage?” He asked as he batted a blaster bolt back at a battle droid who had tried to shoot him.

The reply was immediate and sounded almost frantic.

“Permission granted Whuloc! Get in touch with Lord Arden, he is on the ground near to you!”

With that, the conversation was over as Zuser spun and shot lightning from his hand at two battle droids, frying them where they stood. He couldn't help but grin as he took off down the streets to meet up with Arden, cutting through battle droids as he ran, swinging his saber like Death would his scythe.

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A small squadron of battle droids walked by a cafe, not noticing the shadow over them. Zuser Whuloc dropped down on the two in the center, his green saber going through one, his new hidden wrist blade through the other. Ripping his saber and hidden blade out of the downed

droids, he lashed out with his lightsaber and the Force, cutting two in half and electrocuting the others with lightning from his outstretched palm.

Zuser looked up, spotting the bar that Arden was said to be sniping from. Suddenly a bright red bolt of superheated light shot by him, striking a battle droid that walked out from around the building. Zuser's comlink beeped and he heard Arden speak.

"Get up here, Whuloc. I've been expecting you."