

You'd never believe me if I told you that I shot at the Master at Arms, but it's true and I can prove it. (Though I have to kill you too once I told you. =P)

Arx, the new capital of the Brotherhood and until recently one of the best hidden secrets to anyone outside of the Brotherhood and forced home to her target, to Kara's relief finding him on this planet wasn't that hard, thanks to her astromech being able to slice into the local mainframe. He sat on a table in the opposite corner of the cantina, a lone bottle of the finest corellian whiskey in front of him.

Making sure that the scarf and hood of her disguise were still in place, she slowly made her way through the irregular lines of tables. Dressed in the robes of an Inquisitor, she just looked like any other Inquisitor on this planet, but she has come too far to either let her disguise, let alone her guard slip. Even with the droid given by Rian to serve as backup for her on this mission, it would make it much harder for her to escape this place if anyone discovered that she was an undesirable, an outcast at the definitions of Pravus 'New Order'. Reaching the table of the man, she stopped for a brief moment as she hardly recognized him for the man he once has been.

Looking up from over the glass in his hand he demanded with empty eyes. "What do you want, this is my table and I am not in the mood for talking."

"I am here on behalf of a common friend." Kara said quietly

"I don't have friends, not anymore." the man snorted in return.

Fetching a ring from her pocket she painfully took care that no one else but the man in front of her saw the seal engraved onto it: A three divided symbol made from a Star, a Crescent and a Claw. And for the first time she since she has faced the man, his eyes began to glow again. "Maybe you still have some friends out there but this probably isn't the right place to talk about that."

"You are probably right my dear." Howlader said, rising from his chair. "Follow me."

Grabbing the bottle, Howlader led her out of the cantina and down several corridors and into a lift that took them up several levels until they reached his personal chambers. Once the doors have closed behind them, it almost burst out of the Coruscanti. "Please tell me everything. Is there someone else here? Who? Who else has survived."

"Not as many as we could have hoped." Kara said lowering the scarf. "But how did it come that you serve as the Master at Arms and do you think it is wise to talk here?"

"They forced me. And yes, Jac has granted me just that much of respect for what we have been through in the past." Howlader replied. "Though I check for any bugs in here regularly."

She nodded. "I see, well, we got help, wasn't it for the members of Odan-Urr there would have been no survivors. But even with their help we had to pay a high cost. Most of our fleet is destroyed and those who have survived, have gone dark. At the moment Rian and a few others are doing their best to keep them together." Kara explained their situation

"And what about the Kenath?" Howlader asked.

"He got injured during the Attack," Kara said. "the Clan is currently under command of a military called Rhyllance. But I think you should discuss this with Rian."

Placing a trans-crypted Holo-emitter onto the desk, the image of the ektrosian Quaestor appeared in front of the Master at Arms.

"Hello Howie, it is a pleasure to see you are alive." though the image was barely a foot tall it was clear that Rian was smiling at seeing his long time friend. "I am sorry that I can't meet you in person."

"Me too, but I am greatly relieved to see another Taldrya alive and free. I thought Jac has either killed or imprisoned everyone of us." Howie said.

"No, he has not but he has beaten us pretty well and we have had to sacrifice much to stay alive." the voice of the eerie blue image said. "But after all we are Taldryan, no matter how hard you hit us, we will stand up again. A Brotherhood within a Brotherhood." Rian said, reciting the Clan's motto.

"I wish I could be of help of you but I don't know how, even while I work as Master at Arms for Pravus in exchange for my life, I am nothing more than a bird in a golden cage. Howlader said, his eyes measuring the dimensions of the apartment.

"Don't worry my old friend, you still can be of help for us." Rian said. "Without the new recruits we would have gotten from the Brotherhood if we have remained loyal to Pravus, one of our biggest problems is to make up for the losses we had. With your help we can at least can make up for some of them. Find those who haven't been corrupted by the teachings of Pravus, those who have the courage to stand up for what is right and question what they feel is wrong."

"But how? Even if Taldryan would have set up a base somewhere where I could transfer new recruits, if Pravus or Jac find out about that, they would surely set up a fleet to finish what they have started." Howlader said looking down.

I have made preparations for that, Kara, would you please be so kind?"

"As Rian said, this whole operation has been well planned by the surviving Taldrya." Kara took up the ball, opening the door of the Coruscanti's chambers. "This is K4-C1 aka Kasey, he will be the tool to help you get Taldryan's new recruits to us. Additionally we have aquired a small private hangar near this building autopilot. So whenever you find a capable recruit for Taldryan we will send a ship and pick them up. All you have to do is to borrow us enough time to extract the new recruits."

Howlader wasn't yet fully bought in. "All this sounds too good to be true, what if they still discover all this?"

"They haven't killed you yet for some obvious reason," Rian said. "even if Pravus is destroying those who oppose him, killing prominent persons like you will only fire up those who are in favor of the resistance, so by holding you captive, he is holding down the people as well. And after all this is a short time solution and we are working on discovering the locations of the other Taldrya to help them escape and restore what Pravus has destroyed."

Kasey tilted his head. To better blend in, he too has connected to the local administrative datastreams. "I fear I need to interrupt you, but you have been spotted leaving the cantina with master Howlader. A squad of Inquisitors has been sent here and will arrive in less than three minutes.

"Alright, its Plan B then" She said, aiming at the holo-emitter with her blaster. "Kasey, get out, we

can't be seen here all together."

"Ok, Kara, you know what to do, good luck, and Howie, may the Force be with you." With his last words a powerful burst of ionized plasma shot through the device, turning it into a smoking pile. "I am sorry Howie, but this has to look real." she said, discharging another blast into his arm before firing at the nearby window as she jumped over the small desk and through the window.

Halfway out of the window, she fired up her Jetpack thrusters. Unlike Rian and the other Taldrya, she had no control over the Force to help her, but she still had other tools at her disposal to make up for that she thought when she rolled over on the roof of the opposite building, though a look over her shoulder reminded her to remain focussed as the Inquisitors on the window of Howlader's apartment were looking after her. Then without any warning one of them jumped. Kara drew her blasters and shot at him. With his lightsaber still hooked to his belt, he had nothing to protect himself and the blasterbolts burned through his armor and into his chest.

Kara had no time to look after the Inquisitor and made her way for the nearest staircase. When she was inside, she opened a channel to her astromech: "Copper, get the ship ready, we need to get out quickly. What do you mean by that? Why can't you? Well, ignore them, I will be there in a few and handle them, just leave the ship locked until I am there."

Less than five minutes later, Kara had reached the hangar where she had landed the Stormcloud, and at least two Inquisitors were standing guard near the ship. Having no time to waste, Kara dashed into the hangar accelerated by her jetpack thrusters, her Westar-35 in hand, she unleashed a volley at the closest of them. Taken by surprise the Inquisitor had no chance and her body got covered with multiple holes through which she couldn't potty before sheathing it back to its holster to draw something more capable to fight the remaining Inquisitor. This one however was now prepared and ready to meet her, his own lightsaber, a fierce crimson blade, already in his hand.

He jumped at her, ready to cut her into two. However, Kara has been specially trained to fight those who were able to use the Force, a fact that was underscored by her gear. She met the blade with her own silver colored weapon, the power behind the blow tearing at her wrist. He was likewise fast and strong, but at the same time he made the very same mistake that most Force-users do when they realized they were fighting someone who couldn't use the Force: they became cocky.

Seeing himself in a superior position, he began to toy with her, his blows slowed down just so much as to give her the feeling she could stand a chance against him. However Kara knew how to play that game as well, only that she hadn't the time to play it to the end as there were surely more Inquisitors on their way to the hangar. When the Inquisitor overextended his move for the next time, she raised her left arm and unleashed a sonic charge at him. The weapon wasn't supposed to harm him but the disorienting effects usually gave her the chance to gain the upper hand and disarm or kill her opponents. This time however the unfortunate Inquisitor stumbled over his own feet and clashed against the Stormcloud's landing gear hard enough to knock him out.

"Well, the luck is with the stupid nowadays." She said out loud before entering her ship and leaving the hangar. She casually entered one of the planets skylanes and made for the orbit before prepping the jump to lightspeed. But before she activated the hyperdrive she submitted an encoded message:

*Mission completed.*