

Cross Time Caper

Lieutenant Colonel Mauro Wynter closed his eyes, for this must certainly be a dream. He had been a part of a military expedition that had followed Master Skywalker and the Jedi strike team to the planet of Coruscant to infiltrate the Yuuzhan Vong menace. It was said that Jacen Solo had a connection with the World-Brain that was corrupting and rebuilding Coruscant in the Vong image. It was hoped that the Jedi could inflict serious damage to the Vong war effort by making a deal with the World-Brain and that Jacen Solo could broker such an arrangement with his old *friend*.

But something extremely odd had occurred. The streets of Coruscant were no longer crumbling and being overtaken by living flora and fauna. The team had pierced the veil of time and were witnessing a different eras carnage. Master Skywalker had rallied his team that included his niece and nephew, his wife Mara Jade, and several other heroes such as Tenel Ka, Kam Salustar, and Kyp Duron. Wynter wondered how this had transpired and how these illustrious Jedi would deal with it.

From their hidden vantage Wynter could see the armor the weaponry of the combatants that were tearing the city apart. Ancient Sith armor and lightsabers clashed against a sea of Old Republic forces. And as always Coruscant burned and crumbled. The Jedi bickered about what action to take. This was not their war. This was not what they had come here to do.

Master Skywalker advised that engaging in the battle could cause ripples through the Force and across time. Any action taken here could result in deaths of such a magnitude that the Vong incursions would simply not matter. Others, such as the ever hostile and proud Kyp Duron advocated engaging the Sith and helping to defend the Old Republic forces. Many wore just scared, confused, and torn. Would they ever return home? Would it truly matter.

While the Jedi reflected and meditated on the matter. Lieutenant Colonel Mauro Wynter began the practical matter of rallying the soldiers that had traveled with the Jedi to erect a defensible barricade to hold off both sides until they could find an answer or a way home. It truly became a microcosm of the fluidity of the Force and of life in general. While the Jedi sought for meaning, the rank and file simply sought a way to survive and to find a manner of making it to the next morning. And so Wynter posted guards, helped range in field positions, and emplaced laser batteries.

During the evening many civilians approached the small encampment seeking shelter and protection. The Jedi were still deeply in debate. And Wynter and the soldiers stood their ground. It was odd, as it appeared neither the Sith or the Republic forces tried to assault them or find out who or what they were and their intent. "Let the civilians in. Perhaps this is our purpose. Perhaps saving just one civilian today will change the future."