

"Lady Malice, where would you like to go?"

The soft voice of her pilot droid greeted Malice as she stepped back aboard her ship, collapsing into one of the seats as Edward and Mortem followed behind her, the door hissing behind them.

"Alexa, take us all home," she instructed.

"Very well."

As the ship took off, Malice reviewed their previous mission to make sure she'd accomplished what she'd been instructed to. Kill the target. Kill witnesses. It had been the first stealth mission she'd had since giving birth, but she'd left Aiya at home to watch over Ora and the other droids. She'd brought Edward and Mortem instead, as they were the most equipped to aid her in her mission. Both of them had done excellently and had definitely earned a break.

A small beeping interrupted her train of thought, and Malice dug through her pockets until her holo transmitter was found. She was surprised to see the image of her master, Selika Roh, appear. Surprised, but not upset by any means. Her master had been so busy lately, and Malice had been busy with a child. They hadn't seen each other in person in quite some time. Perhaps she would visit when she returned home.

"Master?" she started, tone inquisitive, "To what do I owe the honor?"

"Malice," the holo figure greeted, "I come bearing better news than usual. You've been granted a vacation of sorts. A week, free from missions, to do as you will. Should you require funds for any monetary purchases or travel, it will be covered as well."

"A...vacation?"

"It means a period of time for resting away from work."

"Ah, thank you, Master."

"That is all I needed to say. If you desire more information, you can ask when you get back." Selika continued before flickering out.

Malice thought for a few moments. A vacation? What sort of things was she supposed to do for it? Just being home was exciting for her. She'd see Ora and Aiya and all the other droids. Perhaps she would take her daughter to Cholganna. It had been awhile since they'd visited. How was mother doing? How was the pack?

As the ship touched back down to the planet, Malice walked briskly back to her room, droids following behind her. They'd get a vacation as well since they didn't need to come with her. Well, Alexa had to. Malice couldn't fly a ship very well, so Alexa covered that for her.

Instructing the droids to be good, Malice walked back towards the ship, daughter and Nexu in tow. The trip wasn't a long one. Not in Malice's eyes, at least. Perhaps it was just due to how often she'd made the trip. Ora, however, had only been once, a few months after she'd been born.

The moment they arrived on the planet, the Nexu pack appeared at the forest tree line. Had she been an intruder, they would have disappeared again, but she was family, so the group was greeted warmly, with purrs and nuzzles. Ora squealed happily, recognizing the large cats, testing her new walking skill and shakily moving through the group.

As the sun began to set, they were taken back to the nests that the pack was currently using, created in the treetops and across branches and vines. Much more comfortable than the cave system they used in the wet season. As she drifted off to sleep, Malice's mind wandered to thoughts of what the week would bring. Swimming and exploring and playing for her little one. Family comfort and support for her and Aiya. She was unsure if she would ever receive such a vacation again, but she certainly hoped so.