

# *Honor & Duty*

## **Competition: [GJW XIII Event Long] Team-Based Fiction - Small Team Co-op Fiction**

### **Team Members**

Xuner Holst # 15036– Red: <https://www.darkjedibrotherhood.com/members/15036/snapshots/1770/3319>

Rivio Rosan # 15695 – Purple: <https://www.darkjedibrotherhood.com/members/15695/snapshots/1771/3321>

Takagari "DarkHawk" KogaRyu #264- Blue:  
<https://www.darkjedibrotherhood.com/members/264/snapshots/1615/3256>

Gdocs Draft: [https://docs.google.com/document/d/1JFh3RH8tjwPYiek\\_IU0xpJNwQDIWC0oIWYgPueAIs-A/edit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1JFh3RH8tjwPYiek_IU0xpJNwQDIWC0oIWYgPueAIs-A/edit)

## ***Lyra-3K-a System***

### ***Lyra Colony***

#### **Lower Orbit**

The three Shar Dakhan members sat silently in a VT-49 Decimator, named Taron by its owner, the House Quaestor Takagari "DarkHawk" KogaRyu. The pilot, Tytus O'Baieron who had turned on the auto-pilot and stealth systems and turned his chair to the passengers who sat in the lounge area waiting for their designated drop point to come. "We'll be approaching the drop point in less than five! I hope y'all are ready to drop!" He called back to them. In front of DarkHawk was his house Aedile Xuner Holst and a newcomer to the Brotherhood in general Neophyte Rivio Rosan. DarkHawk placed a holoprojector onto the circular table before them displaying a list of their objectives and a few pictures of the area they would be infiltrating.

"Alright, our target is the Moon of Thillon." He begins to say through his Dark Age Sith Armor's helmet. "We are to retrieve an artifact; more specifically a fragment of one that is. It is somewhere in the Principate's facility, but the comms have been taken out thanks to the Collective. Our only choice is to go in and retrieve it unnoticed; we have however intercepted said group of scum's report on a small group of Shikari Huntresses and other unidentified combatants being dispatched to the same location." A picture of the Huntresses appears next to the Moon's base. Their Nightsister armor hiding the faces well, even though all on board knew they were identical underneath anyway.

"When can we expect them to arrive?" Xuner asked as he gave a final look over his A280C Blaster Rifle, sandwiching it between his back and his Riot Shield. Clashed to his waist was his Short Sword, freshly sharpened for this mission and finally his A280-CFR Blaster Pistol resting nicely in its holster. All of his weapons were loaded and ready for the assignment.

"They will arrive shortly after we make landfall, so our window is small. If it were anyone else, I'd say it would be non-existent. But we're Sadow. For us it's possible. Not Riv, I know this is your first mission, but I have faith you'll do fine. Feeling alright?" DarkHawk asks finishing his report.

The young Neophyte looks over his lightsaber from behind his cloak's hood, making sure it was still pristine and fresh as it was before departure. "I have thought it over and find there is still some nervousness running through me. But the Force willed it so that I would be here, and I

trust in the Force's will." He said, placing it on his belt. "Besides, I have two powerful allies here as well. That helps to ease the nerves just as much." Rivio says, looking up.

The two others nod as the shipboard computer announces their approach. "Any other questions?" DarkHawk asks as the ship's bay hatch opens revealing the passing terrain of the moon. Xuner stood up to his six-foot ten-inch height and made his way next to the two others who now were ready to jump. With no questions present, the Quaestor nodded and watched as the distance to their drop point grew nearer. "Now!" He yells, prompting all three to jump with their arms crossed over their chests and legs straight.

### ***Lyra-3K-a System***

#### ***Lyra Colony***

##### **Planet Surface**

They crashed into a rock formation, sliding down its side as smoothly as one would expect. After six seconds of sliding they came to solid ground, DarkHawk rolling from the momentum and to his feet with Xuner doing the same while pulling out his rifle and sweeping for hostiles. Rivio stumbled a bit but caught himself and was otherwise fine all in all. DarkHawk started to reach out with the Force, feeling around for any close individuals and exactly how far away they were from the base.

"Our target is three clicks south-west from here. We best start walking now and get there sooner before the Collective arrives." He said as Xuner turns and takes point with his rifle still drawn and at the ready. DarkHawk was in the center with Rivio bringing up the rear as they started their fast-paced walk toward their objective. Within twenty-four minutes, they reached the outskirts of the facility, hiding among the rocks overlooking the building.

Rivio looks over as DarkHawk reaches out again. "What do you sense within?" He asks ducking down as a spotlight passes over them.

DarkHawk stops and looks around for any entrances they could exploit; "At least a couple hundred personnel within, the artifact is somewhere in the basement levels if the concentration of people there is any indication. I can't seem to see a way in." He said, looking again when Xuner tapped his shoulder.

"DarkHawk, look." He says, pointing to a small back alley where a vent collection was blowing out air. "We can use those vents to get where we need." He said. Rivio looked as well then back to the Aedile.

"That's a good plan sir, but with your uhh...' stature' that may be a problem." He says nervously. Xuner looks to the young man with an unamused gaze. "Ok, never mind. We will make it work then got it; shutting up now." Rivio says quickly looking back to the base. With a hand gesture from Darkhawk, they moved forward in the shadows. A spotlight was about to shine on them until Rivio quickly moves forward and darkens the area, a six-meter orb of pure blackness forming around them reaching to just before the vents. "Go. We only have a minute. I'll guide you Xuner. Darkhawk you can still sense out the area without being impeded, but we must hurry." He said, guiding Xuner as Darkhawk walked on his own.

When they reached the end of the orbit started to vanish, prompting the three to run forward and duck into cover near the vents.

"Alright," Xuner said as he went up to the panels and started to work, "This'll only take a minute." With his cybernetic forearm extended he grabbed ahold of the vent, yanking it off easily. "Let's go. DarkHawk you should go first so you can sense out the correct direction." With a nod from said man, he crawled in followed by Rivio. Xuner started going in and grabbed the vent cover, placing it back into place as best he could once more. While it was a tight fit for the human, he still was able to squeeze in.

It took a matter of ten minutes worth of crawling around to properly get to the artifact. "You know," Rivio started as they came to the last cover and opened it, dropping down to the floor "This so going way easier than expected." He finished as suddenly the door behind them slid open, revealing a Principate guard holding a mug of a steaming liquid. Once he noticed the two, three as Xuner landed on the floor, he froze up instantly. All three Brotherhood infiltrators look at him with the same reaction, DarkHawk turning to Rivio with a glare. "You just had to say that didn't you?" He said to Rivio getting a small sorry as a response.

The guard looked at them before slowly turning his head to the side, where an alarm button was on the wall. Everyone else also noticed his gaze shift to this and had a response fitting for it. A rifle and pistol, courtesy of the Aedile and Neophyte, were drawn and aimed at the man.

"Don't. Even try it." Xuner said, lining up his sights with the man's forehead. Rivio had his aimed at the man's knees. After all, you won't die from losing your knees.

Weighing his options, he looked back and forth a few more times before dropping his mug and jumping for the button. Time seems to slow as Xuner took the shot, hitting him after adjusting to the new position impacting his chest instead of his head. The man, for all his horrible luck, was sent backward. His back hit into the button and his body dropped to the floor lifeless.

The three Sadow members looked at one another before Rivio spoke. "Maybe it didn't-" before he could finish the alarm started to blare throughout the halls, causing the two veteran members to look at him. "I'll just...stop tempting fate now." He said, shrinking under their gazes.

"Ya. Now let's go." DarkHawk said as they exited the room and made their way to the artifacts containment area.

### ***Lyra-3K-a System***

#### ***Lyra Colony***

#### **Security Building**

Xuner stared blankly into the fresh corpse as the alarm blared, slightly smiling as a vapor trail rose from the blaster hole. Snapping from this semi-trance and without thinking about his rank, Xuner snapped his head towards Takagari.

"Takagari, I need you to tell me how many of them are coming towards us and when. Rivio, protect him." The Aedile barked his orders as he rushed to the office door, keeping watch for any combatants. As the Quaestor steadied his mind, a pair of guards came rushing down the

corridor. As they approached the trio of Sadowans, they stopped dead in their tracks at the sight of Xuner Holst. The Knight's broad two-meter frame alone gave them pause as the Sith squared his body with theirs. With a heavy sigh, Holst's breathing became shallow as he narrowed his eyes, projecting outwards with the Force a sense of fear and terror into the minds of the two Principate guards. As he slowly drew out his shortsword and began to reach for this shield, he noticed the pair backing away slowly from him. The Quaestor rushed out of the office with Rivio, breaking Xuner's concentration. The Equite pressed his back against Xuner as Rivio stood off to the side.

"We have another group coming in behind us."

"Got it. Where is Rivio?" Xuner spoke out as he tried to focus his attention again.

"Here, my lord." He meekly responded.

Just as he activated his shield, the second group of guards, six in total, began to rush down the corridor appearing heavily armed. They looked at the far end, cutting the group off from escaping. The Aedile's second attempt to scare off the first pair failed as their morale was boosted at the sight of this group.

"Son ... of a void-damned Hutt." commented Xuner.

Takagari felt the sudden shift in his second-in-command. Turning his attention, the Battlelord's eyes opened wide open. A four-person team of the Shikari Huntresses appeared behind the group of Principate officers that were the first to arrive on scene. They slowly, as if a predatory hunter would near its prey for the final strike, approached Xuner and his team.

As this took place, the six-man team rushed down the long corridor, further pressing the team. Xuner's mind raced, thinking of a way out of this situation. He paused before coming to the realization of a small recording rod he had in his pack.

"Takagari. I have a plan." Xuner spoke softly over his shoulder to Takagari.

"What is it?"

"I have a recording device in my pack. Small pocket on the side. I need you to activate it using the Force."

"I'll try." With that, Takagari turned his head back away from the Huntresses and closed his eyes. He reached out to 'feel' for the device. When he found it, he subtly motioned his hand as if he was flipping its switch. Xuner heard a faint click, informing him that the Battlelord's attempt was successful.

Everything seemed to slow down as one Huntresses pulled the pin of a smoke grenade and threw it towards the Sadowans. With a loud pop, smoke began to rise everywhere and obscure their visions. Xuner Holst almost instinctively used the Force to enhance his sight, allowing him to peer through the smoke. As this happened, a second Huntresses drew back a bolt of energy from their bow. She fired the bolt straight into the back of one of the security officers. As the final two rushed past her, using their jet boots to vault over the Sadowans and in between the group of six, the original Huntresses walked over to the other officer of the first group and wrapped her hands tightly around his neck. As she strangled him, two of the four Huntresses too started to slaughter the officers as all two readied their bows and fired bolts into the hearts, necks, and

foreheads of five officers. The final Huntress landed in a crouch with one leg extended fully to the side and the other bent deeply. She lifted her arm and fired a series of darts into the remaining officer. The Officer stuttered backward as a toxin infected the person, as the first dart landed into his neck, the second and third landed in the human's arm. As he pulled the dart out from his neck, the poison began to wreak havoc on him. The poison was a hallucinogenic compound that, due to the amount having been injected into his body within a few seconds of impact, had caused him to react violently over this something that \*appeared\* on his skin. He lashed out and tried in vain to remove whatever he thought was crawling over him. He yelled and clawed away at his arms, causing them to bleed from the small shallow nicks. The worst damage was from him clawing at his neck and face. As quickly as the Human started screaming, he ceased, falling to the floor dead before his knees had the chance to even buckle.

Xuner could only watch as the Collective agents pick the officers apart. It was too late to do anything for them. He knew they would blame the Sadowans for this. That they would kill the three to silence everyone. He needed to do something.

### **Lyra-3K-a System**

#### **Lyra Colony**

#### **Security Building**

“Oy nu ziur kaiefas wants kia zaist su bows....< Oh I see someone wants to play with bows...>,” DarkHawk said, loud enough for the huntress closest to him could hear. Her neck snapped towards the wraith, sending a very unfriendly scowl.

The Huntress brought her bow up to the ready and centered the black-clad figure in her sights. She quickly drew her weapon back and released. The plasma arrow streaked through the air headed directly towards the Quaestor. Xuner watched and was about to react when he watched his brethren move into action.

As the arrow left the Huntress's bow, DarkHawk moved with the assistance from the Force, revealing his own Nightsisters bow and depressing the button on the hilt snapping it into firing position. In one smooth motion, DarkHawk brought the bow up and fired two plasma arrows of his own. The first of the Sadowan's plasma arrows smashed into the Huntress's. A small flash of light illuminated the room momentarily. The Huntress's eyes widened at what the Sith just accomplished. Her blight was short lived as the second arrow slammed into her chest, left side, slightly above center mass. She immediately dropped to the floor.

The white smoke from the smoke grenade was dissipating, enough to see silhouettes moving about. Two figures were making their way towards DarkHawk and Xuner. DarkHawk caught Rivio low crawling across the floor to garner some cover. Rivio peered around the corner at his Quaestor, DarkHawk held up two fingers, pointed to his eyes and then over Rivio's left shoulder. Rivio nodded.

Blaster fire began reigning down, keeping the Sadowan's suppressed in their positions. “*This is crap...!*” DarkHawk said to himself. The Battlelord reached into one of his pouches on his utility belt. Pulling out a smoke frag of his own, DarkHawk pulled the pin and tossed it over his left

shoulder. The canister could be heard clanking around on the tile floor before it unleashed its milky white veil.

“Switching to thermals...” DarkHawk said over his comlink.

Gasping and coughing could be heard within the thick fog of smoke. The sound of a stun button activating, drowned out the gasps for air. The electrical conduction of the “sweet spot” of the baton flickered on the HUD of DarkHawk’s helm. Stowing his bow away, the Sith quickly grabbed his electro staff. Feeling the grips in each hand, DarkHawk moved stealthily through the smoke. Making his way towards where the Sith previously located an aggressor, the attack came from the left. The Huntress leaped over a table and buried the stun baton in the chest of the wraith. The assault knocked DarkHawk back and to the floor. The Huntress followed up her initial attack with a right haymaker. DarkHawk still a bit stunned, caught the glimmer of another attack coming down on him. Bringing his arms up, he felt the blow against his gauntlets. Sparks flew as the vibroknuckler violently raked across metal to metal.

DarkHawk brought his right knee up to his chest, simultaneously grasping the wrist with the vibroknuckler. Twisting the wrist up and counterclockwise, brought his assailant’s upper torso off-balance enough to maneuver his foot up against the Huntress’s chest and launch her back, slamming her body against the adjacent wall. Kipping up to his feet, he raced over towards his attacker and as she fell towards him, DarkHawk jumped up, grabbing the back of her head. The Sith let gravity do its work, as they fell back to the floor, DarkHawk landed on his left knee. Driving the Huntress’s face into his right knee as they hit the floor. A cloud of blood spewed over them both, the sound of facial bones being crushed echoed throughout. The nasal bone was precisely broken and driven up into the frontal lobe. DarkHawk rolled over the limp Huntress’s body and kipped up back to his feet.

Xuner was laying down fire with his Blastech 280c blaster. One of Xuner’s blaster shots ricochet off and narrowly missed DarkHawk. A quick pinch to his left shoulder, DarkHawk saw that the blast ripped his combat suit exposing some skin. Shaking his head at his Aedile, Xuner’s eyes widened, shrugging his shoulders, along with carrying a sarcastic smile across his face. Xuner went back to picking off a couple more armed guards at the Sadowan’s six o’clock.

Rivio was busy himself, as the young Acolyte was facing off against two of the guards on a solo endeavor. Rivio quickly executed a front roll, coming up on his knees, he closed the gap between the two and drove his saber almost hilt deep into the guard’s solar plexus. Rivio quickly pulled his saber out of the guard, by doing so, the guard slowly fell face-first to the floor. Now, he was about to re-engage his second assailant, unexpectedly an onyx colored knife sunk into the head of the guard. Rivio quickly looked to his right to see DarkHawk grab one of the last guards in a chokehold. As the man’s consciousness began to fade, DarkHawk repositioned his hands around the jaw and the left side of the man’s skull. In one quick motion, the Sith snapped the man’s neck.

By now, the smoke was nearly transparent. Xuner had just rolled away from a turned over table and planted a headshot on the last armed guard.

“Is that it...? Rivio asked.

“No there is one more, she is near...” DarkHawk said

“Eyes up everyone, no surprises,” Xuner said softly.

Credit would have to be given to the Huntresses code, despite the odds against her, she initiated the attack as if it was her defining moment. Leaping over a stack of dilapidated tables, the Huntress came up firing the Nightsister bow. The arrow slammed into DarkHawk's left shoulder, spinning him backward. As the female warrior began her descent, she was poised for another shot, when a blur of a crimson blade arched upwards towards the Huntress. Her expression of anger, quickly changed to peril as the blade cut her in two at chest level. She fell at the feet of DarkHawk, he looked down then back at Rivio.

"Need a new bow Boss?" Xuner asked sarcastically.

### ***Lyra-3K-a System***

#### ***Lyra Colony***

##### **Security Building**

"I jest, lord," Xuner responded as Takagari shot a daggered stare towards him. As he stood up from his prone firing position, the Aedile scanned the area to take note of the damage that was done both all three parties.

"This is going to be difficult to explain to the Principate." Spoke Rivio. His frame peered out from behind Darkhawk to see the extent of the battle for himself.

"It is. Luckily, we had Xuner recording the whole thing." Chimed in the Quaestor.

"Not really. We only got an audio recording, not a physical recording. However, that's where the SP is able to help us." As he finished speaking, he pointed out to one of the corpses that lay against a wall. The security officer wore a harness and at its center was what remained of a holorecorder as the tool was destroyed by an energy bolt fired by one of the Huntresses.

"It's a holorecorder. Most likely transmitting a live feed that might be connected to a main server room. If we can get there, we might be able to get some information that could exonerate the Brotherhood. That would mean going against our mission."

\*Xuner's eyes darted across the room, thinking of what path he should choose. He was torn between his wanting to protect the Clan and his duty to finish the mission. He turned to the youngest of the Sadowans.\*

"Rivio. Choose. Mission or Clan?"

"The Clan. Always."

\*He attention now towards the Quaestor.\*

"My lord. Same thing. Mission or Clan?"

"We should strive for both, XO. But the Clan comes first."

"Alright. We're going to hit the security room. We need to find those datacrons. Let's go."

\*The three nodded in agreement as they proceeded down the corridor where the largest group had previously gone through.\*

## **Lyra-3K-a System**

### **Lyra Colony**

#### **Security Building**

With a clear objective in sight, the three kept watching for any more hostiles, at the ready for anything. It took them a bit of walking, but eventually, they arrived at a cross-section of two different paths. With a theorized shrinking window of opportunity, DarkHawk reaches out with the Force to see if he could find anything. "To the right." He said as the three broke out into a jog. They passed surprisingly empty rooms as they continued.

"Don't tell me they had a silent alarm," Rivio said as he saw the empty rooms pass by them.

"Unlikely" Xuner responded before they turned again to the left "this place was being refurbished by the SP remember? If anything, the alarms aren't even fixed."

"Maybe they went on a lunch break and the others had just finished." DarkHawk joked as he stopped, causing the other two to do the same as he turned and gazed through a window. "There it is, the server room." He said. Rivio and Xuner come on either side of him and look as well before Xuner points to a side of the room.

"Guards, at least six on this side," he said.

"Same over here, but only five," Rivio said. They backed away from the window and began thinking. "Looks like we have to decide again on how to deal with them." He said.

Xuner looked down, then back to his shield. He perked up as an idea struck him. "I have something, it may sound crazy, but it just might work." He said grinning. DarkHawk and Rivio shot a glance to each other before looking back to the Aedile.

"What did you have in mind?" DarkHawk asked.

Two Principate members stood talking just next to the elevator and between some server nodes. "Hey, catch that game last night?" One asked the other.

"Oh, yeah, man! I can't believe Jaune was able to score five touchdowns man, that was insane!" The other said excited and pumped up. "They're saying the next match will be next weekend; I hope Bobby's leg is better by then or else the Jolly Ballers team is gonna be down a good thrower."

"Ya I know what you mean. They probably paid to get him --" a sudden \*ding\* from the elevator alerted the two making them stop and look up at the doors "fixed...hey Geoff! We expecting anyone else down here?" He called out. Another Principate soldier poked his head around a server node after a sound of surprise came from him and he hid something behind his back.

"\*hic\* I don't know man how should I know?" He asked with a slur apparent in his voice.

"Come on, man, are you drunk on the job again?" One asked as the elevator's doors slid open.

That's when they noticed the shield in the doorway. The shield that had a person behind it ready to charge. "Uuuuhhh" the Principate started as Xuner made his charge. He kept his head down and the shield steady as he rushed forward as DarkHawk and Rivio trailed behind, all three had set their blasters to stun for this maneuver.



Xuner stopped and dropped to a knee while simultaneously forcing the shield bottom to the ground, causing sparks as he came to a stop. DarkHawk quickly jumped up and planted his feet on Xuner's back and pushed up. With him in the air, Xuner quickly lifted the shield and went to a stand as Rivio slid under the bottom with his blaster ready. Time seemed to be going in slow motion as DarkHawk fires his blaster and stunned one while Rivio got the other.

The Acolyte followed up by going into a role and aiming his blaster at Geoff, who brought his bottle forward while screaming, "Protect me cone!" just before he was hit. Rivio started at the man's downed figure with a confused look. "But...that wasn't a cone? You know what, I'm not gonna deal with that." He said as they moved forward.

The eight remains Principate members rushed over to where they heard the commotion. They aimed their weapons but hesitated as they saw the three Brotherhood members before them.

"I wouldn't do this boys, we can always end this peacefully," DarkHawk said while the other two looked as intimidating as possible. It wasn't that hard to scare the eight men. Simultaneously they dropped their weapons and the middle one spoke up.

"Hey whatever man, I'm only a few hours from retirement." And with that, they all turned and walked away into the elevator, leaving.

"Well, That went-" Rivio started before Xuner held up a hand.

"Don't. Even. Say it." He said.

"Sorry."

DarkHawk shook his head as they proceeded "Let's find the footage and get out of here, no doubt there will be more Collective agents on their way if they aren't already here. Rivio checked the left side, Xuner stayed on the left. I'm going down the center." He says as they nod and split up.

They looked around the server nodes and all the labels placed on them. "My god, the Principate sure are sloppy." Xuner sauced to himself.

Rivio was crouching down to look over lower nodes when something bumped into him. He turned and fell back startled as an electrical prod sprung out of an Astromech ready to zap him.

"Whoa whoa whoa man calm down!" He said getting DarkHawk and Xuner to come over with weapons at the ready.

"A droid? Down here?" DarkHawk asked, getting deep angry beeps and boops in reply.

"Whatever, stop playing around Rivio and continue looking. Those video-feed records must be around here somewhere." The Quaestor said.

The small droid started beeping more and turned its head a full 180. "Wait wait, what do you mean?" Rivio asked, making the other two look at him strangely.

"Who are you talking to?" Xuner asked as the droid kept beeping.

"Ya ya, I'll tell them. He says they had him done here because they needed a good organizer for all their data. He knows where everything is here." Rivio said.

"You can speak droid? No wait never mind that, he knows where the files are?" DarkHawk asked, getting a nod from Rivio. "Well, ask him where they are!" He said quickly.

Rivio looked back to the droid and got beeps in response, but the face he made indicated it wasn't a pleasant answer. "What? Conditions? Fine what are they?" He sat there and listened to the beeps 'list' on while putting a hand to his chin and thinking. "Seems reasonable." Another set of beeps. "What? Whatever sure, why not." And yet more beeps. "WHAT!? Why'd you ever need that!?" He asked, getting retaliatory beeps. "Fine fine. Gosh, it's not like I have a choice." He said, standing as the droid went off to find the files for them.

"What'd it ask for?" Xuner asked, watching it wheel off.

"First, he wanted out of here. Doesn't much like the Principate's droid-human relations in the workplace and doesn't care where he ends up as long as there's some form of equal rights or however he worded it. Second, he wanted an oil bath and more maintenance to fix some parts. Last was...strange." Rivio said sighing.

"What did he ask for?" DarkHawk asked.

"He...he wanted me to do something after this for him. A...dance of some sort." Rivio said.

At the same time, the droid came back with a node section for them. "Thank you," DarkHawk said as they took it and went to the closest computer and checked all the files finding the videos they had sought. "Good, now all we have to focus on is getting this and ourselves out of here safely. No doubt more Collective agents have arrived by now. Let's move." DarkHawk said, taking the node piece.

### ***Lyra-3K-a System***

#### ***Lyra Colony***

#### **Security Building**

"Roger that boss.....how's the shoulder?" Xuner asked.

DarkHawk looked down at his wound. The Huntress's shot was clean, to say the least. By sheer happenstance the plasma arrow pierced through his left shoulder just above his clavicle and made a clean exit. DarkHawk pulled a small injector and an equally small test tube cylinder from his medpac. Air dispersed from the injector as the Quaestor inserted the tube into its gun-shaped delivery system. DarkHawk placed the cylinder barrel into the wound and squeezed the trigger. He winced as the contents entered his body.

"Jesus that's rich!" DarkHawk said as he pulled the injector away from his shoulder.

"What was that?" Rivio asked.

"A foam base blood coagulant, it will seal the wound until we get to the ship, then Bones can patch me the rest of the way up...Now shall we make our exit?" DarkHawk replied.

"I am up for that boss, I don't want to be around when reinforcements arrive," Xuner said.

"Ditto..." Rivio replied.

“Ty, we have the asset, we need immediate extraction...” DarkHawk said into his comlink.

There was a noticeable pause before the Duros responded, “Took you guys long enough...en route ETA six mike, you going to have company?” Tytus asked.

“More than likely...”DarkHawk replied.

“Let’s move!” the Sith said sternly.

The three Sadowans immediately made an about-face and headed out. Xuner took point with his Blastec 280c at the ready. Coming to the first corner, Xuner held up a fist and dropped to a crouch position. Peering around the corner, ensuring it was clear, the Knight motioned to his Clanmates to proceed.

The three moved swiftly to one of the facility’s security doors, DarkHawk took the left side, Rivio took the right, Xuner had his blaster up into firing position, peering through the reticle. Rivio reached over and placed his hand on the activation pad, nodding to Xuner, the Dakhanian Aedile nodded in return.

Rivio activated the door and it whisked open, two Collective agents stood in the doorway astonished with who they are now confronted by, a small smile broke across Xuner’s face. “Hello, douchebags...” Xuner said right before he fired three shots at point-blank range. The first shot ripped through both Collective agents. The follow-up shots, were merely a statement for the Knight, not to exclude how much it fueled his rage.

“They’re definitely on to us...” DarkHawk said.

“HA! What gives you that impression, boss?” Xuner said sarcastically.

“Let’s move...quick-like and with a purpose.”

The three bolted thru the door and down the second corridor. Before they crossed the halfway point of the corridor, another squad of Collective agents appeared and immediately began firing their weapons. DarkHawk sprung into action, grabbing his saber staff, activating the ornate weapon, the Sith handily blocked the first volley of blaster bolts with the crimson blade. Xuner and Rivio returned fire with their blasters. Xuner’s rifle exploded the first Collective agent’s head, the blood and brain matter splattered against the face of the man behind him. Temporarily distracted from that shot, the man tried to wipe his face and clear his vision. Rivio’s pistol found its mark and drove to blaster bolts into the throat of the man in disarray. DarkHawk had stepped to the opposite side of the corridor, giving his blaster carrying Clanmates an unobstructed firing path.

Rivio rolled forward and a forty-five-degree angle, coming to an upright position, the young Acolyte put three of his shots into the center mass of the last Collective agents. His barrel smoked from the exchange, he brought it up to his mouth and with a big grin, quickly blew the smoke from the blaster’s barrel.

“You really ought to carry one Sir, they are quite handy at times..” Rivio said.

DarkHawk scoffed at the comment, there was no need for such things.

Trying not to laugh to harshly at the Acolyte’s comments Xuner, pointed at the next security door. “Through that door and up the steps and we hit daylight.”



"He has a flair for the dramatics does he not...? Asked Xuner

"If only you knew..." DarkHawk replied.

Ty set the ship down and opened the crew door. The Sadowan's quickly embarked the ship, "Ty, get us out of here NOW!" DarkHawk instructed. Without hesitation, Ty closed the crew door, pulled back on the flight yoke and pushed the throttles forward. The ship raced away from the facility and broke into the moon's outer atmosphere.

"Get Summit online, tell them we have the asset, we are heading to our rendezvous point." said the Battlelord.

"On it now boss..."Xuner said.

Xuner was plugging away at the communications station and an ecstatic looking Bentre Sadow appeared in holoprojector form before them on the communications table.

"You have good news...?," the Consul asked.

"Yes Sir, we have it all, proof that the Collective set us up..." Xuner replied

"Excellent, we will meet at the rendezvous point immediately," said the Warlord.

DarkHawk slumped in his seat and grabbed the throbbing shoulder. Bones came in and started addressing his Master's wound. "Punch it, Ty, let's go home..." DarkHawk said.

The Duros pushed the hyperdrive throttles forward and the Decimator made the jump to lightspeed.