

Party on Aliso

Objective 1

The news from Aliso had been quite surprising when Knight Khryso Mallus first heard it. Houses Ajunta Pall and Karness Murr were being dissolved and many of the previous members of said houses were being transferred into a new house, House Tyranus. The sudden change had certainly caused some upheaval, particularly in the upper castes, but Khryso had decided to reserve judgement. He'd departed the Anchorage, leaving Captain Ohli in charge of the *Silent Scream* and putting his investigation on hold. On Aliso, he would discover the details of the change and what it meant for his future.

Fortunately, not long after arriving back on Aliso, he received word that the House Summit had organized a party to celebrate the restructuring. This would be an excellent opportunity for Khryso to meet the new summit. The two Non-Force Users who had been in charge of House Karness Murr previously were now running House Tyranus with no competing house to challenge them. Many of the Lords of Plagueis had taken issue with the appointment, but Khryso wasn't ready to count them out, yet. He had never met the two, but he didn't have a reason to doubt the clan leadership's decision making. If they were truly capable of leading the House competently, Khryso had no quarrel with their inability to use the Force.

Khryso reached out to Nefilee Ath'muss, his young Devaronian friend studying in the Shadow Academy, and invited her to be his plus one. The two hadn't had an opportunity to spend time together since before his ascension to Knight. Fortunately, she accepted his invitation and the two made plans for the night of the party.

Khryso dressed in one of his finest black suits, aiming to look his best. Nefilee, similarly, had dressed in a black cocktail dress that hugged her figure and a pair of black, high-heeled boots. They arrived at the address Khryso had been supplied with right on time and Khryso entered the party with Nefilee on his arm.

There was a fair variety of people in attendance, most likely members of House Tyranus. The energy of the party was relaxed and pleasant, with music faintly playing in the background as people drank and socialized. As the pair paused to take in the room, Nefilee wrinkled her nose. "I thought this was supposed to be the upper echelon of House Plagueis...why are there so few Sith?"

They began to make their way towards the bar. "I have heard some whispers that people are not pleased with the summit for putting non-Force Users at the head of Tyranus," Khryso responded, "perhaps some of the House's Sith decided not to attend for that reason."

"That sounds fair," Nefilee answered, her eyes scanning the party-goers. "They named the House after a Sith, shouldn't a Sith be in charge?"

Khryso let the question sit as he addressed the bartender, ordering a glass of champagne for each of them. Turning back to Nefilee, he said, "Maybe. If the current leadership doesn't work out, I think there will be plenty of grounds for complaint. However, I'd much rather judge someone on their ability than their Force sensitivity."

"Let's be honest, though," Nefilee said, smiling cheekily, "A Sith is a lot more likely to have ability than someone else."

Khryso sighed. "I suppose I can't really argue with that." He reached over and took the offered champagne glasses. Holding one out to Nefilee, he continued. "Let's keep things civil, though. There's no purpose in provoking a confrontation, this is a party."

"I'll do my best," Nefilee replied playfully, taking the drink. The two moved away from the bar as Khryso did his best to mingle with his fellow new Tyrants. As Nefilee's original assessment had predicted, most of those in attendance were non-Force using members of the Willing. The Chiss had crossed paths with some of them before, but the majority were virtual strangers, so he made sure to politely introduce himself and acquire at least a surface-level understanding of the people he came across.

After some time had passed, Khryso spotted a figure he recognized from some of the original reports of House Tyranus' rise. An older human male who was currently serving as the Aedile of House Tyranus, Lieutenant Colonel Gaius Julius Caesar. Khryso made his way over to the man to introduce himself and congratulate the gentleman.

Khryso was impressed by the man's demeanor and attitude and decided he didn't see any reason to protest the man's position. After they spoke for a few minutes, Caesar lead Khryso over to Scudi Ferria, the House's Quaestor, to introduce him. Khryso wasn't as immediately impressed by the Chiss as he had been with Caesar, but he still saw no cause for true doubt in the summit.

Khryso and Nefilee spent the next few hours at the party, enjoying and partaking in the fun it provided. As the night became deeper, however, Khryso elected to leave, bidding farewell to his new compatriots.