

Kah Manet
8343
Duel of Fates

Wind whipped as the forces of Plagueis and Odan-Urr fought, sounds of blast fire erupting from the trees with every shot, blaster bolts ripping through the air like a flock of birds. Soldiers weaved between trees strategically, popping shots off at their enemy between running from cover to cover. Among the Odanite forces was Kah Manet, the strong Gungan who had witnessed countless battles. A shot from a Plagueian rippled through the air toward him, the azure blade of his saber deflecting it away. The Gungan clicked angrily at the soldier who had shot at him, leaping towards him and thrusting the blade into their chest. More blast fire rained toward him, only to enter the backside of the soldier he impaled as he thrust the corpse in their direction.

“Forward!” yelled one of the troopers of Odan-Urr.

As one, the soldiers advanced, continuing to assault their enemy with blaster fire. A grenade from one of the Odanites lobbed towards the center of a few Plagueians, exploding as it hit the ground and killing them. Kah jumped up into the trees, landing on a branch and surveying the battle. Occasional blaster fire would come for him, only to be deflected by his saber. After a moment of scanning, he saw what he was looking for. The one known as Tahiri, a powerful warrior of the Clan Plagueis. She was defending one of the flanks of her troops, deflecting blast fire and using the Force to launch large rocks and other objects at her opponents. Kah clicked once as he saw her sink her saber into one trooper that got too close, and clicked again as he watched her rip one of the troopers from his position of cover with an outstretched hand, placing her saber between his ribs as he came within striking distance.

Kah leaped from his branch to another and then another until he was practically overhead of the Sith. He propelled himself downward, rolling forward he landed and springing to his feet and entering a ready stance, his saber poised to strike.

“No more needin’ be dyin’ on eidda side. How bout we decide dis battle here, and now?”

Tahiri turned slowly to the Gungan, her eyes practically saturated with the dark side. She cared for the troopers under her command, or at least the rumors Kah had heard of her suggested as much. And Kah, too, cared for his men. He would gladly sacrifice himself over a dozen times if it meant they could be safe.

“Very well.” she said, twisting her hand quickly and launching a boulder at Kah.

The Gungan jumped to the side, taking a throwing dagger out of its sheath and launching it toward the Sith, only for her to spin out of the way. She charged forward, saber striking saber as the two engaged in the duel. Red and blue light bathed the area around them, the whirr of their lightsabers replacing the serene silence that came after the battle ceased. Tahiri and Kah both told their men to go, to leave them to their fate. At first, the troops stood there, each side glaring at each other with fury but when the duelists demanded a second time, no one dared not listen.

Tahiri and Kah struck again at each other, their sabers locked as either side tried to gain advantage. She grit her teeth as the Gungan seemed to gain the upper hand, only for him to lose it when the Sith landed a blow to his groin with a swift strike from her knee. He clicked in

anger as the pain cascaded through his body, the sound causing the Togruta to smirk. Kah recovered quickly, jumping into the air with powerful legs and going over Tahiri's head. He launched his tongue from his mouth, the sticky appendage landing on her lekku and as he landed he drove his head down, the action causing the Sith to lose her footing and drop to a knee. Kah rushed forward and delivered a powerful kick to the Togruta's face, the force of the blow causing blood to spew from her mouth. Rage soared in Tahiri, quickly spinning around on the ground and whipping her leg to land against Kah's, the force of it making the Odanite fall.

The Sith rolled backward from her opponent, reaching out with the Force and gripping everything in the area that wasn't rooted to the ground. A volley of rocks, fallen branches, and other detritus was flung at the Gungan, who thrust himself out of the way and scrambled to his feet, launching himself into the trees once more. He looked down at his opponent, who had thrown her saber at the branch, forcing him to leap to another. He jumped from tree to tree, throwing daggers at the Sith as he did so, each one either dodged or pushed aside with the Force. He could tell Tahiri was trying to tire him out, toying with him before she could deliver a fatal blow. It was a tactic he had heard she used as often as she could.

"Get down here!" roared Tahiri, glaring at the Gungan as their eyes met.

Kah jumped once more, and as he landed, his comm crackled with static and then a voice came from it.

"Manet, we need you to return to camp. We think we found the Desired One." said Alethia, the Gungan's friend and ally.

"Mesa tinkin' dissin' be da end of dis." said Kah to Tahiri, giving her a quick wink as he jumped to another tree before jumping down to the forest ground. When he landed, he looked back one last time before making his escape.

Tahiri chased after, cursing the Gungan for being a coward and trying to escape his fate. The truth of the matter was that Kah knew Odan-Urr was close to discovering the Desired One, and all he had to do was delay the Plagueian long enough to give them a chance to find it. He had never intended to fight to the death, only delay the enemy forces until his Clan found what they came for. As he ran, the Gungan twisted his body and extended a hand towards Tahiri, launching a torrent of lightning at her. Her focus not on defense but catching her prey, she was caught off guard just long enough for the lightning to envelop her body and send her to the ground. She convulsed in agony as the pain shot through her, the Gungan yelling back to her that he respected her prowess and would hope to one day meet again. Tahiri gritted her teeth in anguish, and when she recovered and got up, she could no longer see the Odanite.

"Coward..." she spat as she took her comm from her belt and clicked it on, "This is Tahiri, give me your position."

As the coordinates were relayed to her, she took off to find her troops.