

First Strike: Jedi vs Sith

Submission for the fiction competition: "RoS Preparation: CS Analysis!"

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1) What your character's plan is for beating them.

In a word, deception. Ria'd Stesca is an overly curious and open minded Jedi. Aspects such as "A Jedi In A Sith's Galaxy", "Gentle Giant", and "True Pacifist" create a situation where application of Kamjin's Mind Trick (+5 against +2 Sense & Precognition) and feats "Your Weapons...You Will Not Need Them" and "I Know That Feel, Bro" will disarm and delay Ria'd's desire to fight and react until well past the point that Kamjin could approach and stab him directly. For example, Kamjin's Perception (+2) and Investigation (+1) would lead him to know of Ria'd's "Who Am I?" aspect. Kamjin could then craft a believable lie about his past that would cause Ria'd to let down his guard to gain this insight into his past.

Assuming he were to see through or otherwise mitigate these acts of deception Kamjin is at a disadvantage towards saber skills (Ria'd's +4 to Kamjin's +3) which would give strength to Ria'd's ability to defensively hold out. Kamjin would need to leverage his Illusion [bolstered by the feat Pay No Attention To The Main Behind The Curtain (+3 against a +2 Sense of Ria'd's)] to distract Ria'd into believing his reinforcements had arrived and he could drop his guard, that Kamjin was otherwise injured and unable to continue the fight, or otherwise distract him to allow Kamjin a sneak attack.

Most likely, Ria'd would be star struck by Kamjin (feats "You May Have Heard Of Me" and "War Hero" with Kamjin's +5 Leadership) to believe Kamjin was earnest in wanting to engage with him.

2) what you think their plan would be for beating your character.

Given Ria'd deposition if he were confronted in battle he would seek to gain reinforcements, stall/weary out Kamjin utilizing his greater skill with the lightsaber (+4 to +3) and attempt to persuade Kamjin to end the fight for the greater glory of the Dark Brotherhood (Feat A Jedi In A Sith's Galaxy). His Stamina (+3 to +1) clearly gives him the advantage to sustain a long fight including the Zabrak specific feat "Didn't Hurt".

It seems against his character based upon his fighting style (Form III: Soresu, Sliding Hands, and multiple defensive Force skills) that he would strike out aggressively at Kamjin and seek to kill him.

Therefore, his options would be limited to:

- 1) Escape - either by wearing down Kamjin or utilizing the terrain (Sokan Feat) to creating an opening to flee the battle
- 2) Involve Others - by pulling in additional fighters Ria'd would be able to play to his strengths (Combat Aspect "Teamwork Makes The Dream Work") to allow them to strike Kamjin down while he protected him or otherwise "tanked" Kamjin

3) how you think the fight would actually go down.

A gentle breeze whistled through the grassy plain. Ria'd felt at ease as his levitated body rocked softly above the ground. His arms rested gently against his crossed legs as he focused on the Living Force. However, like most Jedi, when he turned to the Force for answers he found nothing but new questions. His brow furled and the horns upon his head arched forward. What had moments before been a plain of joyful light in his mind's eye now saw a shadow begin to descend upon it.

Ria'd opened his eyes. As the grey pupil's adjusted to the rays of dazzling sunlight through the almost non-existent clouds he saw a lone figure approaching on a speeder bike. He lowered his feet to the ground and pushed himself up. As he straightened his cloak the figure skidded the bike to stop a few meters in front of him. As the rider dismounted Ria'd's eyes widened in surprise and apprehension.

"Elder Lap'lamiz," Ria'd exclaimed. He intentionally withheld utilizing the Sith honorific of Adept.

"Ria'd," Kamjin replied as he removed the helmet from his armor. "I'm lucky I was able to find you so easily."

Ria'd glanced around the empty plain stretching off towards the horizon. Clearly Lap'lamiz had known exactly where to find him and luck had played no part in this. *Why has an Elder member of the Brotherhood come seeking me,* Ria'd thought.

As if responding to his unspoken curiosity Kamjin began talking. "I have been studying several of the more recent Holocrons created since the Exodus. It's been fascinating work full of heretofore unknown secrets about the Dark Brotherhood's journey over the last few decades." Kamjin wore a disarming smile and rested his weight upon his helmet which he had placed on the speeder's seat.

What does this have to do with me, Ria'd thought. He was going more and more perplexed by this whole course of events. It just didn't make sense why this Sith would have sought him out. His mind wandered for a while as Kamjin spoke about his research trying to connect possible reasons. Suddenly he heard something and couldn't believe his ears.

"Wait, say that again?" Ria'd asked.

"I said," Kamjin looked Ria'd directly in the eyes flashing his characteristic sly grin. "I found a record of the Jedi who rescued you. It tells who your family is." The words washed over Ria'd like the sweet nectar of a ripened fruit. It was sweet, refreshing, and, most of all, coveted for so long.

"My...family? It has that information?" Ria'd stammered in shock. *This must have been the shadow I saw in the Force. The past reawakened and casting a shadow over the happiness of the present. How long have I sought this knowledge to no avail? How did a Sith find it? I searched all the Jedi Holocrons...perhaps the Sith had stolen the one that contained.*

Kamjin had reached into a pocket of his cloak and withdrew a small blue Holocron. It was fashioned in the Jedi style with intricate gold lacing criss-crossing in stylized patterns across its faces. "I was studying it with a member of Clan Odan-Urr but, as you can imagine, it wouldn't open for me now." Kamjin said. He held the device out casually. With a twinkle in his eye and a smile on his face he said, "Would you mind if I give it to you to open?"

Ria'd was overcome with excitement at the prospect of finally unravelling his past. The leadership of Clan Odan-Urr must have requested Kamjin deliver it personally given it's such a priceless artifact and knowing Ria'd desire to uncover his past. Looking at the bright smile on Kamjin's face Ria'd's begin to grin. As he walked towards Kamjin's offering his grin turned into a toothy smile.

"Of course," he said. "I have waited so long for this I cannot wait a moment longer." Ria'd gingerly took the Holocron from Kamjin's hand. Cradling it with both hands he closed his eyes and reached out with the Force. Opening them slowly he saw the Holocron begin to twist and turn. Separating into unique floating pieces.

He held his breath as he waited for the projector to activate and the guardian of the Holocron to begin to speak. Yet, at the moment he expected the projection to begin instead of the usual bluish figure he saw a red light. *Why is it red*, he thought. Several moments passed before he realized the red light extended beyond the edge of the Holocron. Following the path back he saw it connected to a lightsaber held by Kamjin by his hip. Backtracking he saw the blade had extended through the holocron into his chest.

"Why?" was the last question he could utter before collapsing backwards into the waving grass. As the shadow he saw earlier spread across his vision he was left to think. *It's not fair. I was finally going to know my past.*

As the light went out of the Zabrak's spirit Kamjin bent down and retrieved the Holocron. He smirked as he tucked it back into his cloak still unlocked. *Well*, Kamjin thought. *That's definitely an easier way to unlock a Holocron than getting permission from Clan Odan-Urr.*