

Shadow of the war

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The war...the war never changes, but it may change people. I saw it happening too many times. However, this time, it was even worse. Previous wars had seen Clans of the Dark Jedi Brotherhood united internally and, in some cases, also all of the Clans temporarily allied against a common threat. At that moment, loyalties were shattered and Clans were divided internally. People had to choose to support one faction or another.

But I was not even around to support any side. I was away from territories of the Dark Jedi Brotherhood on a mission to recruit a promising person to the ranks of Clan Scholae Palatinae. However, I did not make it to the meeting point. The passenger liner I used to travel discreetly was attacked by pirates. The only positive thing was that I was able to make it in a rescue pod to the surface of a nearby planet. Still, it was a backwater planet in the Outer Rims, where Imperial credits had little to no value. If I wanted to get back home, I had to make use of my skills and Force powers to gain some favours that I could exchange for a travel to a more civilized part of the Galaxy, where I could find a transport to the Caperion system. It was not an easy goal to achieve, but I finally made it back home...just to learn that I had missed another war.

Some people saw my prolonged absence during a crucial period of Scholae Palatinae existence as a planned prior to the war to make my position in the Clan stronger. Some claimed that I considered my participation in the war as too risky and decided to stay away. They distrusted me before and my absence was just another reason not to trust me. I saw it clearly that I no longer could serve as the Aedile of House Empire's Chosen. People, no matter of the faction they supported during the conflict, would not follow my orders anymore. They were professionals, but they were also people. They could feel betrayed and abandoned by me, despite the fact that I did not intend to leave members of the Imperial Clan alone during the war. It was merely a very unfortunate accident that forced me to stay away from the Clan in such a difficult time.

I cannot blame anyone for their attitude towards me. Rivalry and distrust have always been present among members of Clan Scholae Palatinae. Though united under one banner of Palpatine's heritage, we are a bunch of powerful and ambitious people. Whatever happens, even if not of anyone's fault, it will affect how people view us. It is something that I cannot change. However, I can change something else. I can prove my loyalty to the Imperial Clan and that my loyalty is above any divisions caused by the recent conflict. Not as the Aedile, but as a rank-and-file member of the Clan as it evolves and adapts to the new post-war reality. One day, people will learn to trust me again as they will see the truth about me.