

Zuza Lottson (Dossier No. 16253) as:

Zuza Lottson <https://www.darkjedibrotherhood.com/members/16253/snapshots/3629/6301>

Aru Law (Dossier No. 15665) as:

Aru Law <https://www.darkjedibrotherhood.com/members/15665/snapshots/3735/6535>

Sage Cormac

https://www.darkjedibrotherhood.com/non_player_characters/819/snapshots/3539/6458

Annotated version:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1g7DBVaUN7_2N5mhS1IMLi-cuKVUwjiqUaQopvPDXrbl/edit?usp=sharing

The auction auditory was grand and magnificent. Typical of a Hutt to flaunt all their wealth to their guests.

The room was packed full with aliens from all around the Galaxy. This wasn't just your everyday auction. The Hutt Cartel had promised a *surprise* stored for the finale of the event.

Obviously, that had attracted all sorts of shady business people.

The room was dimly lit. The candle-like illumination that was set up provided a warm autumn-like feel to the room.

With a puff from his pipe, Aru Law briefly lit up his covered face, highlighting his skull shaped cut-out beard trim. The smoke slowly rose and returned his face to the darkness, leaving only his yellow eyes visible.

"A drink sir?" a Pantoran girl interrupted Law's line of thought. A quick glance at her and he realised she was barely a teenager, yet already at the service of the Hutts. Her *more-than-it-should* revealing outfit was also making her uncomfortable. The Aedile could tell.

"I'll take one, yes." he replied. As she handed him his drink, Law made sure to slightly grab her by her wrist. He smiled.

The Pantoran girl, clearly inexperienced, widened her eyes. But Aru quickly shushed her.

"Don't waste it." he told her.

"Yes s-sir." She mumbled. And then left. Aru watched as she pulled the micro EMP chip he had slipped under her wristband when he had touched her and leaned back reassured.

"Here," he turned to the alien sitting next to him, "ya want this?"

"You're not gonna drink it?" the fat Togorian kindly accepted Law's gift. "Here for anything in particular? Or just to see the surprise?"

The Qel-Droman Aedile sighed with confidence brimming on his face.

“Nah. I know what the surprise’s all about.” he then touched twice on his personal datapad. “The Hutts have outdone themselves this time.”

Ignoring the Togorian, Law peered down. His datapad displayed a blueprint of sorts. And on that blueprint, there was a red dot. It was moving.

Further ahead of the dot, there were several more dots. So, Aru quickly tapped in his datapad.

“Are you sure we’re going the right way?” a booming voice echoed through the corridor.

“Shut it Sage!” Zuza Lottson whispered. “They’re going to find us.”

“Oh I hope they do!” Sage Cormac hit his fists together.

They were running down a corridor. The walls were made of dark gray durasteel and the whole place was barely illuminated.

As the corridor curved and then straightened out again, Zuza could spot three guards at the other end. They were distracted, talking to each other. But still, there was no way they would miss a giant walking rainbow of a Zeltron that was Sage.

Besides all pleas from Zuza and Aru for him to take a dark color feather jacket, Sage insisted on wearing a neon orange jacket.

“This mission feels like orange!” he had said. Whatever that meant.

But now was the moment of truth. To see if Aru’s plan was actually going to work. The Aedile had promised them he would monitor their every step and divert the guards attention and path away from them. But there they were, three of them, right in their way.

As they got closer however, a door quickly shut and the guards stayed behind. Then a door to their right was opened.

“I think he wants us to follow this corridor?” Zuza asked, to which her answer came right along in the form of a very static filled voice inside the newly opened passage.

“Yes...” Barely distinguishable, it was indeed Aru’s voice. His plan was working so far.

“Neat.” Zuza murmured, shrugging as Sage brushed past her, looking around with a complete lack of care for the supposed stealth they were doing. The Human followed after him, glancing at the closed door as she side-stepped through the door.

It closed once she passed through, and from the shifting sounds a few moments later, Aru had released the guards on the other side. By the time Zuza had relaxed and started down the hallway they had been led into.

Sage, already at the other end, looked back at her, and booming down “What are you waiting for chibi? Come on.”

“I’m coming, *shh-shhhhhh*” She waved a hand at him frantically, hurrying to his side whilst simultaneously trying to not chuckle at his antics. As badly timed as he was, Zuza couldn’t help but be amused. It wasn’t everyday a giant wearing an orange feathered coat was egging you on.

The door at the end remained closed.

They waited.

Back at the auction, the questioning Togorion was attempting to strike up a conversation, again.

“So, uh, if I *may*.” He leant in toward Aru, golden eyes peering at the screen in the Human’s hands, “What precisely is the surprise? To be so clever as to have solved the mysterious puzzle as to what is being held behind those closed doors, it would be a shame for you to hold that to yourself.”

“It would, wouldn’t it?” Aru didn’t look up, leaning back in his seat and angling the screen just enough to be impossible to discern without the Togorion breathing down his neck. Literally. “But, it would be more of a shame to spoil all their hard work now.”

There was a disapproving huff, but the Aedile was left alone.

Which gave him the moment he needed to finally get this karked door open finally. His lips quirked, his usual smirk quickly returning as he watched the pair move into the target room.

He probably should have warned them about the guards, but ah well.

They’d be fine.

Waving over another, appropriately aged and rather stunning serving Twi-Leki woman, Aru ordered himself a well deserved water, with ice.

*Pew pew-
Crack.
Fwomp.*

“Sage!”

Zuza grabbed the wrist of the Zeltron before he opened the guardsman’s skull against the crate of crystals. Didn’t want to finally retrieve these only to get blood all over them.

Sage dropped the man with an eye roll, barely spotting the blaster shot aimed at the pair from the surviving member of the pair defending the crate. He pulled Zuza out of the way, taking the shot to his lower arm with barely a flinch.

The Human looked worriedly at the burn, guilt forming a heavy stone suddenly in her gut, but having little time to react. Sage had already ran across the room, with a roar of either joy or anger, yanking the arm of the Zabrak guard away from the comms unit and throwing him. With a satisfying crunch of bones, the guard fell limp.

“...Well if he gets back up, we need to be outta here. Can you get the box?” Zuza commented, walking over to her friend after tearing a chunk of cloth out of the first guard’s shirt.

Sage watched as she made a temporary bandage to go around the wound on his arm, letting her do so while using the other hand to heavily pat her on top of the head. “Easily. We are UNSTOPPABLE!”

Zuza giggled, tying off the bandage before stepping back, “Let’s get going then. I’ll take lead this time, just in case Aru falls asleep waitin’ for us,” She drew her blaster rifle off her back, waiting for Sage to pick up the box before beginning to move back to the door.

“Open ses-”

The door opened.

She sighed slightly, grinning as she moved back into the hallway “Coulda waited half a second, would have been perfect.”

Sage, however, boomed with laughter as the pair made their escape.

Somehow, mostly thanks to Aru’s competence, they had made it.