

## **Opportunities are born in chaos**

### **Entry in Xantros' personal journal**

**39 ABY, Imperial Palace, Ragnath, Cocytus System**

It has been the second month since my unfortunate adventures on Chandrilla, which kept me away from the last great conflict that internally divided Clans. My absence during the war was not very welcome by anyone. All members of Clan Scholae Palatinae have been suspicious about me since my return, because I was not there to make my own choice. I still refuse to side with any of factions involved in the conflict, so all of them, Expansionists, Retributionists, Harmonists and Restorers, suspect I may have my own agenda or that someone else may be behind me. I have even decided to resign from the job of Aedile of House Empire's Chosen. I could not continue my service to the Clan without certain level of trust from his subordinates. There was a high chance that they would sabotage his tenure with more or less direct insubordination.

Since then, Clan Scholae Palatinae has been reconstructed. One House was transformed into two Houses – Caliburnus and Acclivis Draco, which had been long standing Houses in the distant past of the Clan. The Clan and the House Summits attempt to rebuild mutual trust and cooperation, just like they try to rebuild the Clan. They have tasks for every member of the Clan, including me. There are many targets on Seraph and its moon, Ragnath. People directly opposing the Empire and its rule. People making profits on conflicts between the Empire and other factions in the Caperion system. People doing their shady businesses without approval from the Imperial administration. They all had to be eliminated before they would cause too much harm to the Imperial citizens and damage to the Empire itself. The most dangerous or difficult targets will be assigned to me, assassin extraordinaire. I will be ordered to depose them quietly or to bring them to the Imperial palace for further interrogation. The truth is, if I am not the last person seen by them in their life, they will wish so. However, their wish will not be granted before they will turn out to be useful to us, either by providing information we are looking for or by destroying their organizations from inside. I have already received a hit list including seven targets to be eliminated.

I presume that I will be ordered to seek out for potential new recruits for the Clan too, though my efforts in this area will be limited to the Caperion system, due to my primary duties limiting opportunities for offworld missions. It is a part of large scale conflicts to see many casualties, but we have lost way too many good soldiers, pilots, officers, support staff and Force users. Some of them were killed during the war. Some others simply left, especially Mercenaries, when their contracts finished. We definitely require new promising candidates, so I will do my best to bring fresh blood to the Clan. Despite limited area of searching, I hope to find at least few of quality candidates. Many people manage to rise to power in various organizations, because of their talents, either specialized skills or Force powers that they might be more or less aware of. I could try to convince at least some of them that their abilities would be put in a better use, if they joined ranks of the Imperial Clan, which offers much better development opportunities than any rag tag militia or criminal organization.

I guess I will probably comply with the tasks ahead of me. It is going to be a busy time for me in the upcoming, but I see it as an opportunity to further my own agenda. Chaos and distrust among members of the Clan caused by the recent conflict creates a vacuum in relationships and allies between various factions within the Clan. As far as I know, there are some Palatineans that have not taken part in the war and refused to take sides. I might approach them to convince them to follow me and to accept the philosophy of the Unity. New joiners would make good targets for convincing them to join the Unity before they are indoctrinated into loyalty to the Empire as their primary affiliation. I could approach them even before recruiting them into the Clan so that they learn where their loyalty should lie.