

Aboard the *Flamboyant Mercorn MKII*, Aru Law woke up earlier than everyone else. He had slept in the crew cabins instead of his bigger personal room.

It didn't feel right.

Sitting by the mess table, the Savant tilted his head backwards, closing his eyes and reminisced.

"For 2 years we were together," he thought, "and after all that time, you always saw good in me." The picture of a smiling sweet blue Twi'lek invaded his thoughts, quickly to be replaced with a gory scene of a crying Amis who was bleeding out, in front of a helpless Aru.

He slammed his fist against the durasteel wall.

"Fuck this!" tears were running down his face.

"Mr. Law?" a soft voice came down from the corridor. "Is everything alright?"

Law sniffed and quickly wiped his tears from his face.

"Yes, everything's good."

From the right side corridor, Kagna Kalisa appeared, dressed in her sleeping wear. Her hair, equally as long as Aru's, was very unkempt, and she had her eyes more closed than opened at this point.

"What's the matter? You're up early." she said, sitting on the other side of the couch. "Can't sleep?"

"Yeah. Just having some trouble sleeping." he lied.

"You know? Alana told me this was a rough time for you."

Law smirked and let out a heavier breath.

"And that you would try to mask it, or do something stupid." Kali continued. "So, I just wanted you to know that I am grateful for the opportunity you gave me."

Law remembered the day he met Kali, back on the streets of Coruscant, in the lower levels. It baffled him at first, how such a pretty young lady was fool enough to be singing and dancing out in the open of such dangerous streets in the planet city. And how he felt bad that everyone was ignoring her performance, when she was displaying incredible mastery over the same Echani moves that had taken him years to pull off.

"Hmpf. Perhaps I just wanted to use you." he said. "After all, your performances are quite lucrative to me."

Kali leaned closer to Aru and rest her head on his shoulder.

“Others tried to explore me before. And I never allowed it.” the Echani woman explained.
“You’re different. I know you care. You gave me a home, a studio where I could practice and even got me into venues where I could perform. All without asking anything in return. Doesn’t seem like exploration to me.”

“Perhaps...”

Before Law could finish his sentence, a huge figure popped out of the darkness. His skin was a dark red, due to the dim lighting. Kali averted her gaze, for the huge man was walking in just a speedo.

“Looking for something big guy?”

“Just a snack.” Even when trying to speak low, Sage still managed to be heard on the entire ship. “The Boss is hungry.”

“You’re gonna wake up Alana.” said Kali.

“Oh, Alana-ne is awake already. She came to my room just earlier to ask me something.”

“Figured.” Law smiled.

His brother and he had reunited one year ago. A long lost brotherhood that had never been lost. And they’d become even closer since. Aru had used his connections when he was still Aedile to make Sage the local Pit Boss of Ol’Val. It was both profitable and safer to have the biggest Zeltron alive working under him to keep him in check.

Their bond was unbreakable. Nothing could ever stand between these two brothers. Aru recalled how Sage was always the first to step in to protect him, and how he helped him get his blasters back from Ruka, knowing damn well the Mirialan was a death machine. Trust was too low a word to describe how much they both respected each other.

“We’re having a family party?” a more mature feminine voice queried from the left.

Kali smiled and Sage turned, happy to see her.

“Ne-ne!” he shouted and ran towards a blue haired woman, standing by the corridor entrance.

Sage picked Alana with no effort at all, a visible carefulness in the way he handled her.

“There there, sweetie. You can put me down now.” she said.

She then took Sage’s massive red hand.

“Did you do what I asked?”

“Of course! The Boss always fulfills his promises!”

“Lovely.” the Hapan woman then turned towards Kali. “And what about you sweetheart?”

Kali blushed. She wasn’t used to having someone act so nice towards her.

“I did. Just as you wanted it, Miss Mistar.”

“Please. You can call me Alana, or big-sis if you prefer.”

Aru eyed the blue-haired woman with suspicion. He was all too used to Alana’s secretive ways and sometimes mischievous ideas. She noticed him looking and smiled at him. The purest and warmest of smiles. Law smiled by reflex too. Couldn’t help it.

She then sat right beside the Gray Jedi and turned towards him. Her eyes were as beautiful as ever.

“And you, love?” She kissed him on his cheek. “Did you do what I asked?”

Aru was confused. He didn’t recall Alana asking him to do anything.

“I’m sorry baby, but I don’t think I know what you’re talking about.”

“Oh but you do!” She excitedly announced. “All you had to do was sit right here and look pretty while...”

She waited a bit longer than she wanted, for it took Sage a while to understand that was his cue.

“WE GOT YOU A PRESENT!!!” He shouted, his voice almost rocking the entire ship.

Kali facepalmed slowly and hid her laughter, while Alana just enjoyed the look on Aru’s face. All the while, Sage placed a small box on the table. Immediately, Law could feel a strong pull on the Force, coming from that box.

“Happy Life Day, love!” Alana said. “Open it!”

Aru unwrapped the box slowly. The pull was getting stronger and stronger. Inside, was a crystal of yellow hue. But not any crystal.

“This is a Solari crystal.” Law recognised it to be a special type of kyber crystal, specially useful for Soresu adepts, since the crystal’s special properties made a lightsaber’s blade wider and easier to deflect blaster bolts. “How’d you know I was looking for one?”

“I can’t reveal my secrets.” Alana laughed. “I’m just glad you enjoyed it.”

“I did. Thank you so much. All of you.”

Aru and Alana kissed slowly and passionately.