

Spring Clean

Tyranus Citadel

Aliso

40 ABY

Battlelord Khryso Mallus strode carefully around his office in Tyranus Citadel, his harsh red gaze slowly scanning every inch and surface that was visible. Behind him, Shizu stood silently watching and waiting for her master's final verdict. After many long minutes of protracted silence, Khryso turned to the BD-3000. "Satisfactory. Inform Ky-ellus I would like the air in here cycled and refreshed, but her team is then free to move on to the lower levels."

"Right away, m'lord." Shizu turned and steadily marched towards the door, a soft *woosh* signaling her exit. Khryso turned to cast his eyes across the office one last time before pulling his datapad from its pocket in his cape. With a few quick taps, he cleared the inspection from his checklist. Tucking the datapad beneath his arm, the Sith stepped gracefully towards the door.

As Khryso passed into the hallway, the soft silence of his office was replaced with a steady murmur of activity. Personnel in white coveralls and masks were scattered through the Citadel, meticulously cleaning and sanitizing the headquarters of House Tyranus. The scent of various chemical cleaners tinted the atmosphere with a fragrance Khryso found comforting.

Since his appointment to Quaestor, one of Khryso's first orders was a complete scrub-down of the Citadel. He had some minor remodeling he wanted to do, but didn't want to risk letting any dirt get closed in behind a new wall or linger underneath fresh decor. The work was going smoothly and moderately quickly, and the Chiss found himself enjoying the atmosphere of a large-scale cleaning endeavor. It had even inspired him to order a thorough sanitization in his other properties. He hadn't been to his penthouse in months, but he trusted Seibas to oversee the cleaning there. Ento wasn't quite as independent as Seibas, but Khryso could spare the few minutes it took to ride to the Barracks District and check in on her.

The only thing he was truly worried about was Sallo and FMC. He knew the offices would be sterile and beautiful, they always were, but maintaining the cleanliness of mining facilities seemed an almost fruitless task. He wasn't sure if Sallo was up to it and at what point diverting costs to operations would be more efficient. Perhaps it was time Khryso took a proper tour of the facilities again. He had been dedicating less and less time to the company recently due to his duties within Tyranus, and for the foreseeable future, he didn't see himself getting any time off. However, he couldn't get the feeling out of the back of his mind that something within FMC required his attention.

Khryso was drawn out of his thoughts as he arrived at his next destination. The Tyranus Aedile's office, previously his but currently vacant. As he stepped through the door, Khryso's eyes narrowed. With this particular office being empty for the past two months, it was much

more likely that stray cobwebs or dust particles had accumulated. It was cleaned daily on the custodial staff's regular routine, but Khryso wasn't leaving anything to chance. Just as in the Quaestor's office, a thorough inspection was necessary. Taking up his datapad, prepared to take any notes, the Sith began his investigation.