

Port Ol'val

Jael Valsi Chi'ra was leaning against a crate in the port when he received a notification on his datapad. It came from the SIS.

*"A droid of unknown origin, specialised in infiltration has disguised itself as Aru Law, former Aedile of House Qel-Droma. It is using the target's former privileges to wreak chaos in the port's cantinas. Your mission is to intercept and neutralise the droid. Do not destroy it if possible."*

Law. The name was familiar, albeit for the wrong reasons. The Gray Jedi was known in the Clan for his enormous debt and drinking problems.

Jael's slicing skills were the reason he had been chosen for this mission. And also his fighting prowess, should it come to that.

The Techweaver decided to start his search in one of the bigger cantinas in the port, the Titillating Twi'lek.

Inside, the artificial lights, the upbeat music and all the vices being practised here and there proved a big temptation to the Sephi. But the mission came first. He went straight to the bar counter.

"How may I help you?" said a green Twi'lek lady. Her voice came out slowly and sensual, her attire more revealing than it probably should be.

"I'm looking for Aru Law, have you seen him?" Jael queried.

"Master Law passed here about an hour ago. He was mumbling something about a lifetime deal and supply of Rum. We don't pay much attention to our patrons' business, as long as they have the means to afford our services. Are you in need of some relaxation?" the woman carefully extended her hand to touch Jael's shoulder.

He backed off carefully, "Not today, I'm afraid."

The Sephi turned to leave. "If you see him, tell him I'm looking for him." And he tossed a credit chip to the lady, who smiled back and nodded.

Outside, in the Blind Spot plaza, Jael pondered where to search next. He couldn't waste time going inside every bar and strip club in Port Ol'val.

His answer, however, came in a way he certainly wasn't expecting.

"What's a Bantha doing outside a strip club?"

It was no ordinary Bantha though. It soon dawned on Jael that Law was famous for going everywhere with his huge Bantha. It made him very easy to recognise and find. The chances of another Bantha being in Port Ol'val, so far away from Tatooine were very slim.

The Sephi made his way towards the Lucky Lekku. Before entering, he gave a slight pat on the Bantha's leg, which was eating a patch of dry grass laying on the floor.

Inside, on the opposite side of the establishment, Jael found Aru Law, wasted on a big couch, surrounded by three almost naked Twi'lek young women. They were all tangled so close it almost looked like it would be impossible to separate them.

"I gotta admit. That droid surely captured Law's way of life."

Trying to blend in, Jael ordered a drink and pretended to enjoy it, while glancing towards the *fake* Aru every now and then, to control his behaviour.

As the Sephi continued to drink the tincture of alcoholic booze, he noticed a change in the would-be Aru imposter. The stuppered target sat upwards from his slumped position intermingled amongst the Twi'lek women. The women groaned as they were pushed aside before they dozed back off to the honey filled sleep. Jael maintained a series of glances back and forth from his drink to the imposter Aru until he understood the situation.

Aru awkwardly arose from the couch with a focused stare, seeming to not realise he was being studied by the Sephi. He began to stuffle out of the room as if he looked around the room with a studious glare.

Jael realised that he would need to act now instead of waiting for this imposter to showcase reason to respond after a harmful act was perpetrated. The Sephi slammed back his drink, shaking off the stinging sensation of it burning down his throat, and then withdrew from his position within the establishment.

The imposter Aru continued out of the main entrance and turned to make his way down the walkway. Jael continued to follow him, holding back just a few seconds as he stalked quietly behind. He watched as the imposter walked past the Bantha and did not show one inkling of comfort and care as he moved on. The Sephi studied the Bantha's response as it grunted in disapproval, realising the master was not going to pat the creature's fur as usual.

*Truly this is a fake ass bastard.*

Jael looked away from the Bantha until he realised the Aru had walked around the corner of the building into the alleyway. He started to run towards this spot muttering obscenities under his breath. Just as he rounded the corner, he ran right into the imposter, feeling the full brunt of his speed and strength reflected back. The Sephi fell backwards with a groan. The imposter reached down, grabbing the man by his collar and yanked him back to his feet.

"Why are you following me?" The Aru spoke while attempting to continue the same tone and pitch of the subject.

"Hey bud," Jael spoke out with a scratchy and out-of-breath speech. "I was just trying to find you since we need to work together to find this droid." The Sephi figured he could feign ignorance of what this imposter was.

The Aru narrowed his eyes, staring hard into the Sephi's eyes before throwing the man into the wall to his side.

"Tell me why you are really following me," the voice cracked slightly in which Jael's ear twitched as he heard the minor distortion of sound. A much less trained individual would have missed this sound. The Sephi studied the imposter again, now that he was closer and made attempts to figure quickly a way to get out of this predicament. Realising that the imposter was still awaiting an answer, Jael awkwardly smiled with fear oozing out.

"Well you see, I'm just doing as I was instructed which was to find this droid," the Sephi spoke up again and groaned as he felt the imposter now tighten its hand on his shoulder. "Ow-I thought maybe you could help me find this droid."

The Aru paused, awaiting to see if Jael would continue to speak as he watched the entrapped prey seemingly crumbling within its grasp.

"What's going on here?" a dragged voice came from the alleyway's entrance.

Both Jael and Aru turned their heads at the same time, the latter easing his grip on the Sephi's collar.

Jael was surprised to see an exact copy of Aru walking his way, leaning against the wall.

"Aru?" he asked.

"Yeah, that's me! You see another around?"

Jael's face was neutral. His lips drawn in a thin line and his eyes narrowed. Could the Qel-Droman be so oblivious?

"You don't see the other Aru that's holding me right now?"

Law got closer to the pair and almost sniffed the other Aru to try and see him better in the dark.

"Huh? This runt ain't got nothing on me! I'm the one, the only, Aru L..."

His speech was interrupted by the other Aru's quick attempt to escape, which ended badly, since both Jael and Law grabbed hold of him.

"And where do you think you're going?" said Jael. "We have business to take care of."

Taking out his blaster and pointing it directly at Aru's face, caused the other Aru to panic.

"Don't shoot me in the face!"

"Wh-what?" Jael was confused. "I'm not shooting you. I'm shooting him."

“Yeah. but him is me! I can’t bear to see myself get shot!”

“The look away or something...”

Aru closed his eyes and there was a blaster sound. Then electronic zap. And then silence.

“I was killed right in front of my eyes.” Aru sobbed.