

Aylin ran greasy fingers through her tendrils. She wasn't really sure what she was to do with the new mission she had gotten through the boards. Sure, she wanted to help out where she could, but this time she wasn't sure. Trying to get a space wizard out, even an inexperienced one, would be over her head.

She sighed deeply and glanced over to Siky, "What do you think? Should I help her?"

Siky tilted his head curiously and chirped an answer.

"Yeah, I guess you are right, she might need saving from what I read."

Straightening her shirt, she got up and started to gather items she might need on her mission. Reading over her mission again as she did so, to make sure she got what she needed.

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Dressed in modest clothes she stood waiting before the tall doors of the mansion. The complex looked huge on the outside, and the maps she had found confirmed her suspicion that it was even larger than meets the eye. There were several more floors below the surface with tunnels leading to other parts in the city and she hoped she had memorised them enough to get out quickly.

A metallic voice pulled her back from her thoughts and she looked up. "State your name and business"

"I'm Roxa'tufa, I'm the new caretaker for the little girl of Baron Barblicks," she said with a smile.

"You are early, wait here."

She nodded and waited for the doors to open. A few days before she had been snooping around in the networks and found a good opportunity to get herself inside without too much problems, and at least it would be easy this time.

After a moment the doors silently slid open and an elderly looking man stood in the doorway. He seemed to look her over before he stepped aside and gestured her to enter the building.

"This way, ms Roxa'tufa," he said with an even tone as he started down the long hallway.

Aylin followed a few paces behind the man and glanced around. The hall was fairly bland, only a few lights and some paintings were hung on the walls. This clearly wasn't the main entrance to the building or they would be very boring people.

It took them some time, but finally Aylin was lead into a room were she was to wait for the baron to show up. This room was nicely decorated, it even looked homely. It was a vast contrast to the coldness of the hall she just came from. It had curtains around the windows, various paintings on the walls and ornate light fixtures. The desk was nicely decorated with all kinds of wood carvings showing off various wildlife and plants. As Aylin was studying the desk a clean cut man stepped into the room, startling Aylin with the sounds of his boots.

“I see you have a liking for my desk.”

Quickly standing up she let out a nervous giggle, “It is beautifully carved, Baron.”

The baron nodded, “It’s been in the family for years.” He walked around the desk and sat down in the leather chair. “I gather you are Roxa’tufa. The new caretaker for my daughter, Laylanis?”

“Yes, that is correct,” Aylin replied with a smile.

“Good,” he said as he rested back, “There is a small thing you need to know about her and need to keep a secret too. You can keep secrets, can’t you?”

Aylin nodded, “I can keep secrets really well.”

The baron stapled his fingers together and nodded slightly as his face grew stern. “You see, my daughter has the Force gift... or curse... and no one may find out about this. If someone does spill it, we will find out who and the consequences are... painful to say the least.”

Gulping slightly she nodded silently.

His smile returned and got up, “Well, then. Let’s meet Laylanis, I’m sure you will do fine and will have no problems with her.”

They both left and walked down the endless maze of hallways, away from the more homely ones were the room was.

“How do you not get lost here?” Aylin mused softly.

The Baron chuckled and handed her a datapad with a map on it. “I lived here most of my life, so I know all these hallways, but I can understand that for new people it might seem like a maze. The map will help you navigate around here, though I don’t think you will have much need of it. My daughter is not to leave the tower, it’s her home and she has everything she needs there.”

Aylin nodded slightly and wondered if that was really, to her it sounded pretty lonely.

There was a high security door at the end of the hallway and the Baron punched in a code and scanned his hand. A few seconds later the door opened and they entered the base of the tower.

“We are here. This whole tower is her home and will be yours too as long as you stay her caretaker.”

She looked around the hall and the few open rooms on the ground floor. They had the same homely feel as the room she met the Baron in.

Walking a bit further he motioned to the turbo lift, “She stays at the highest floors.”

Turning around she shot the Baron a curious look, “Aren’t you coming along to introduce me?”

He shook his head solemnly, “I have other obligations to attend to...” The rest was a mumble, but enough for Aylin to make out that they had some family troubles.

“Oh? Ok, I’m sure it will go just fine then,” Aylin replied and got onto the turbo lift.

A slight smile appeared on his face and nodded, “Thank you.”

The door closed and she swooshed up to the top of the tower. It made her feel sad that her father was so distant from her. Sure she might be a Force user, but she had learned that not all of them are bad ones. And even worse, she was still a young girl, who needed guidance from her parents, but instead she gets caretakers and guards. She shook her head slowly, she would make sure that she would get a better place to live, at least a better resemblance of what a family could be.

The door slid open and light of the morning sun spilled into the room. Silently she took a step out the lift and looked around. Everything was neatly ordered, paintings, displays, cases, displaying all kinds of locations, flora and fauna, toys and the likes. She walked over towards a table and it was littered with drawings, pencils and paint. Looking through the paintings she saw either a happy family or monsters that would give you nightmares.

“What are you doing here?” a small voice asked.

Turning around she saw a young girl, probably not even ten years old. “I’m asked to be here by your father, to see how you are doing.”

“Again?” She sighed heavily and sat down on one of the chairs at the table. “My dad just keep sending people to keep me happy... why doesn’t he get here?”

Placing the paintings back on the table she shook her head, “I have no idea, but I’m sure he tries to give you the best he can with his busy life.”

"I guess... I'm Laylanis and this is my room" she said as she matter of factly waved around the room.

Aylin chuckled softly, "I'm Roxa'tufa, but you can call me Rox if you want. And your room is bigger than my house."

Laylanis blinked. "Really? I don't believe that."

"It is. I can kinda fit a bed in it, a table and something to 'cook' on, and I have a little bathroom thingy."

"Your house could fit in my bathroom," she said with a chuckle.

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Hours were spend talking about anything and everything. Seems she really was as lonely as she thought she would be. Lucky for her, she had a plan, in two days she would be out of here. She had read the plans from the Baron, he was going to change a team of guards from one location to another in two days. That would be the best time to escape from here. The map the Baron had given her would help with that, it was a newer version of what she had found when she sliced into the system a few days earlier. Digging via the datapad also revealed various security systems, though the security was a joke to her and had easily sliced into them. Part of the pieces were set, she only needed to find a way to get her to follow her. After that it would be easy and the rest of her team would be waiting for them to get them away from there.