

The Rogue Jedi

Folio One



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You've Been Lied To. But So Have We All.

When Emperor Palpatine was killed by an audacious hit squad of fugitive Jedi, led by Luke Skywalker and aided by the treacherous Lord Vader, the galaxy lost its best, and some would say last, hope for throwing off the yolk of stagnant Jedi rule.

The centralized and egalitarian government of the Sith philosophy was, in one act of cowardly betrayal, replaced again with the millenia-old oppression of chaotic feudalism.

Never again would the rule of law, merit, and procedure protect the weakest members of the galaxy. Instead, the farce of the Galactic Republic would keep the strong in power and the reformers divided. At least if Jedi have their way.

Although Palpatine had succeeded in destroying most of the Jedi Council, the oldest Jedi warlock, Yoda, had eluded the Empire's reach. With him the knowledge of Force-Ghost creation remained stubbornly extant.

Using the greatest and most terrible secrets of the Jedi at their disposal, the "rebel alliance" managed to destroy the Empire's battle station, and with Lord Vader's son, Luke, put together a plan to suborn the elder Jedi turned Sith.



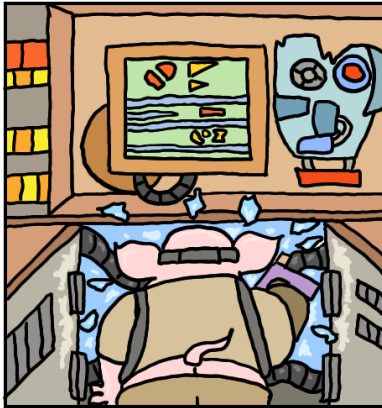
For although Vader had initially thrown in with Palpatine, he had given up the main prize of Force-sensitivity, the chance of becoming a ghost after death.

So Vader killed, and died, and, betraying the galaxy, lived forever.

A Short Time Ago, In A Galaxy Far, Far Away

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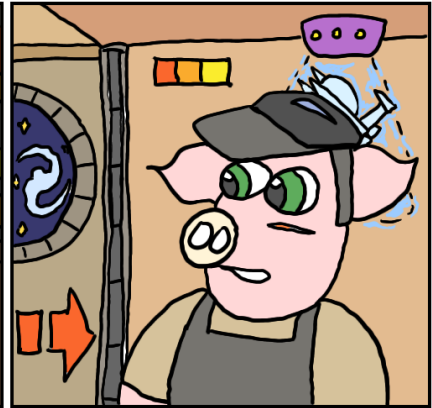
A Pigian assistant was carrying out routine maintenance on the ship navigation computer



"C'mon, join you stupid thing...
There we go..."



"I should be paid more
for this sort of thing...
Maybe time to bring it up
with the boss."



"I'm the only one
keeping this hunk of
Empire surplus junk
running, after all."



"Man I hope she's
decent...
and in a good mood.
A decently good mood."



"Let me guess.
You want a raise?"
"I... uh... no... it's just
we're approaching the
waypoint. Got the
computer working and all.
It should route us directly.
Just wanted to tell you..."



"Good. Because all of
our credits are
currently accounted for.
But I will keep your
contributions in mind."



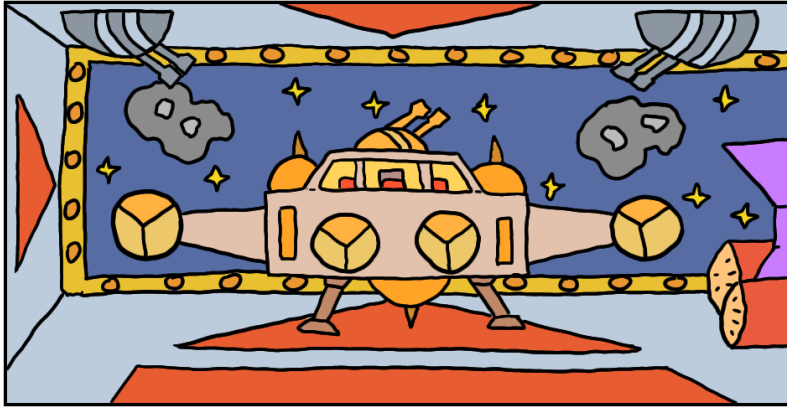
"Are you sure this is a
good idea? We're trying
to keep a low profile
after all."



"As of now no one is
looking for us..."
"They are always looking
for us."



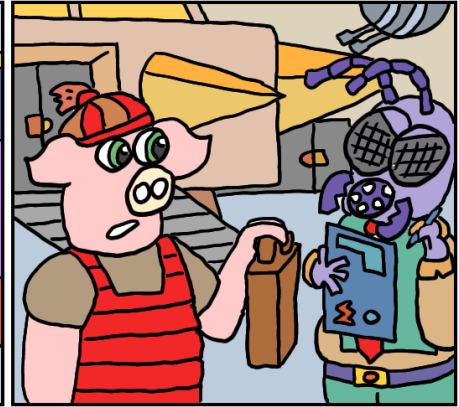
"Valerion Beta 2. The bastion of
what passes for civilization
in the star system."
"Excellent. I sense our
path forward lies inside."



"Unaligned shuttle Pegasi NX309, proceed to the docking bay and prepare for customs inspection."

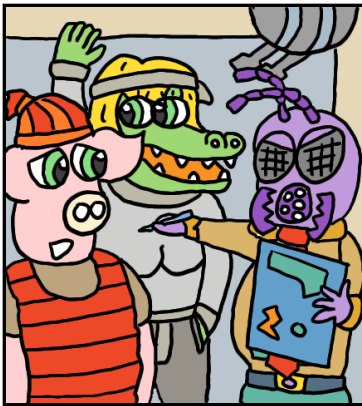
"They accepted our docking request."

"Why wouldn't they? We're just a humble traveller."



"We are an unaligned courier, carrying sealed messages between factory hive world..."

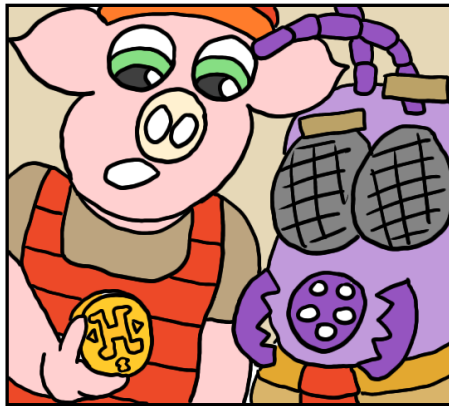
"Courier eh? The docking fee is 5000 credits."



"C'mon Endy, let's hit up the local cantina."

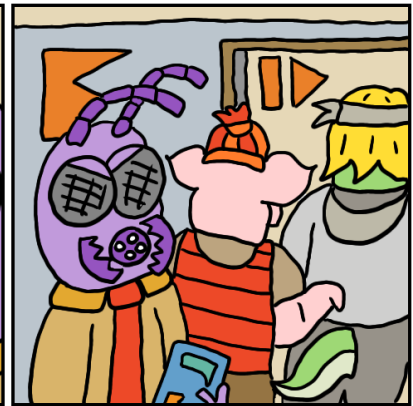
"Hey, wait a second. You can't go without paying the docking fee. Or leave without paying the egress fee."

"Show him the coin."



"Um, if you say so. Here, take a look at this..."

"A Hutt coin! And it looks legitimate. What are you guys doing here, really? Wait, I don't want to know."



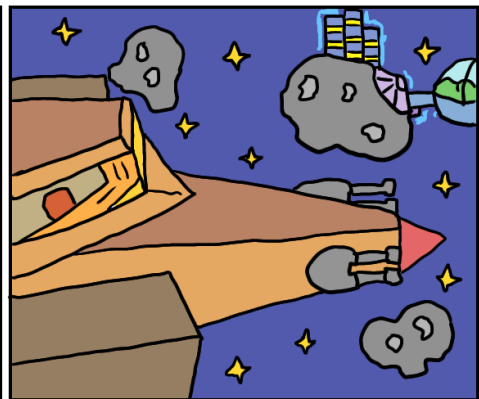
"Then our docking fee is taken care of? I thought that might be the case. Take care!"

"You gangster wannabes watch yourself. The Hutt name doesn't mean as much as it once did!"

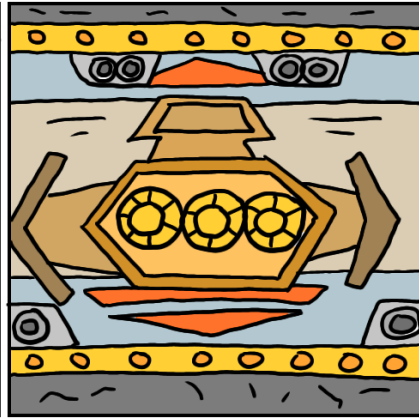
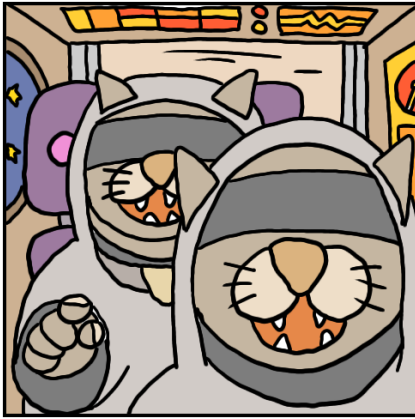


"Ah, the cantina. The center of spacer depravity, corruption, violence in every star port. Not to mention mediocre tunes and reasonably-priced hors d'oeuvres."

"We flashed the Hutt coin just to enjoy some music?"



"Enjoy some music. And enjoy the company of some odl friends."



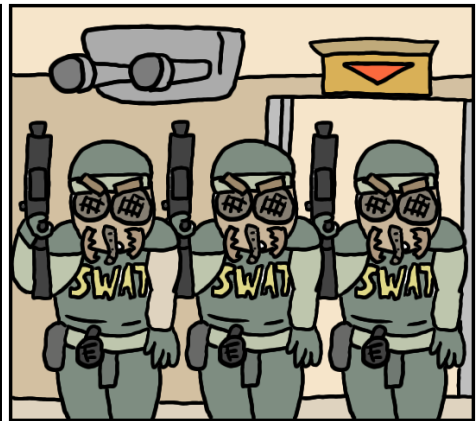
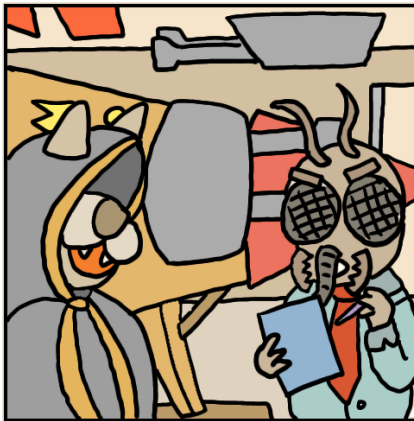
Meanwhile, aboard another vessel, two Jedi are approaching the space station.

"Open the comms, Felix. Let the insects know their masters are here. I sense we will find the rebel soon."

"Unaligned shuttle Sigma Terres Theta, proceed to the docking bay and prepare for inspection."

"Valerion Beta, prepare a welcome party. The will of the Council arrives."

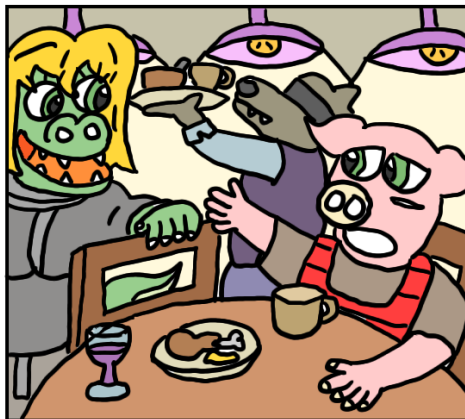
"It has come to our attention that a fugitive from Galactic Law has taken sanctuary in your space port."



"Greetings, Bugian."
"Another unaligned shuttle, huh? Well, the docking fee is..."

"Perhaps you did not get the message, Bugian. There is no docking fee. **We**, however, do require something of **you**."

"Prepare a security detachment to perform a sweep of the station."



"Wait Jacob, I sense a disturbance in the Force. As if a long forgotten memory is trying to come to the surface of my mind."

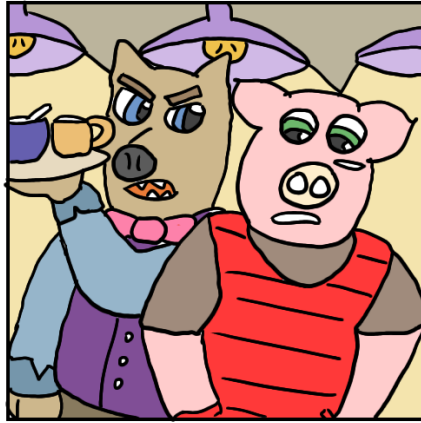
"Hey, wait up boss. Where are you going, you haven't even finished your food."
"Just stretching my legs. Don't wait for me. I'll find you when its time to leave."

"I hope this thing keeps working. I have to find a shuttle out of here, and fast. And find out how to save Rex..."



"Wait, what am I supposed to do while you're gone?"

"Take it easy. Explore a little. It will be useful to know more about this station."



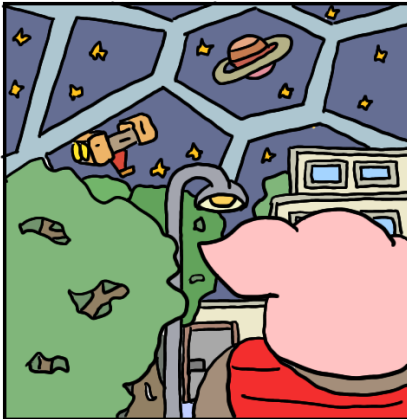
"Know more about this station... I know that we shouldn't have stopped here... we had enough supplies..."

"Hey, watch it!"

"Oh, I'm sorry, I was distracted..."

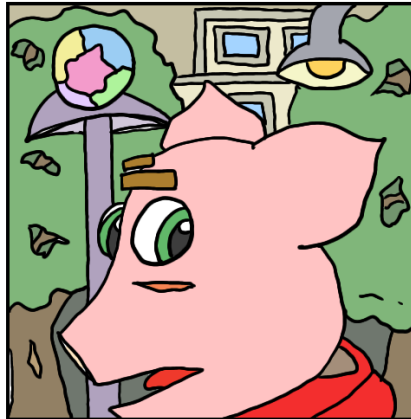


"Maybe I'll check out the biodome... If I stick around in the cantina I'll just meet some unsavory types..."



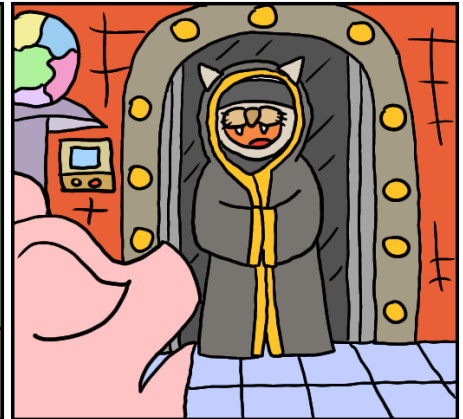
"Wow, it's beautiful. How many cycles has it been since I've seen a real biosphere?"

"Impressive, isn't it, that insects can create..."



"That insects can create such an orderly and well-functioning hive..."

"Hey, what, who said that?"



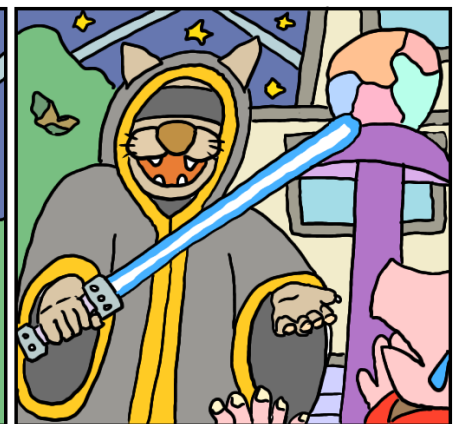
"Someone who crushes insects when they crawl out of their nests. Hello, Pigian. I sense you have something for me..."



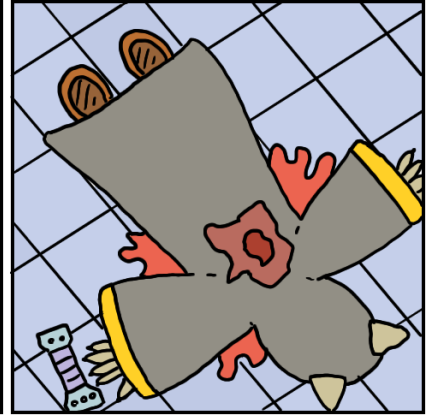
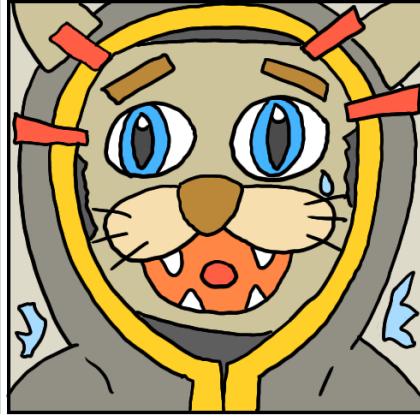
"Oh, I don't know... I think you've got the wrong person. I was just taking a walk... Well, I'll see you later..."



"You **will** see me when I **wish** you to see me!"

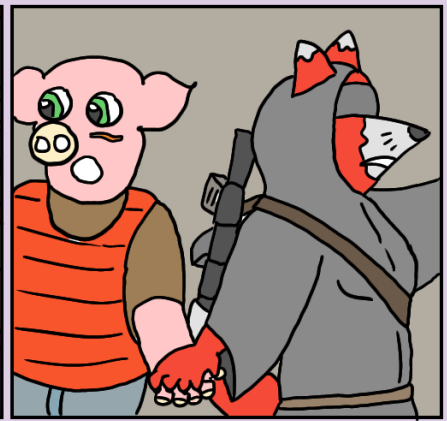


"I recognized you from the archives. Now, tell me about the **Rogue**. Where is she?"



"Let me give you some advice. "... What? Ugh, I can't
You are aiding and abetting
a dangerous criminal.
Yet you may still save yourself.
Now: **where is she?**"

*And so it occurred that,
in this particular case,
Force sensitivity did not
warn the Jedi of the imminent
danger.*



"You.. you killed him!"
"He would have done
the same to you. Now, let's
go. There are probably more
of them around."

"Hear that? Blaster fire!
That way!"

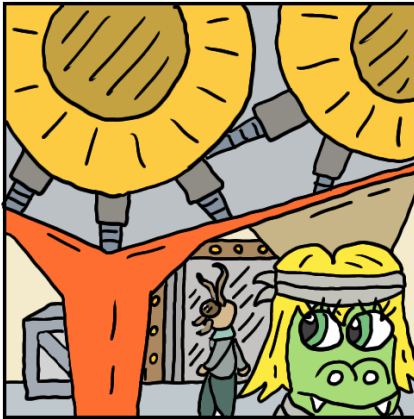
"You killed a Jedi... but how?
He didn't sense you? Oh,
this is bad, really bad..."
"C'mon! I said move it!"



"I sense a disturbance,
another one. Jacob,
where are you?
Captain, move all your men
out now!"

"What are we going
to do? We have to
find the boss. We can't
deal with Jedi on our
own!"

*Meanwhile, the Rogue
Jedi had crept back
into the hangar bay, using
her Force-given abilities
to remain undetected.*



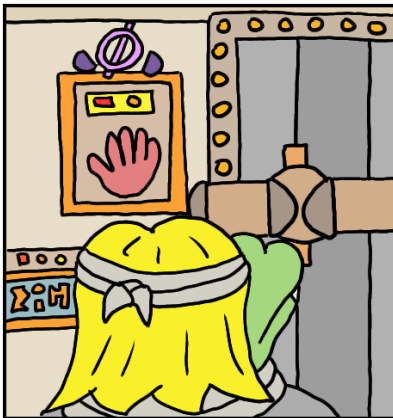
"So this is their ship.
I sense that no one's home.
Good."



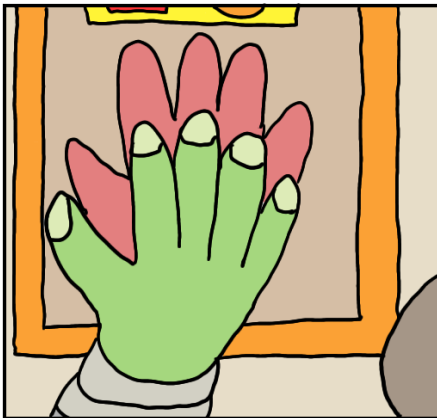
"And they even left a
door unlocked. The Council
is nothing if not welcoming!"



"Let's see if I can repay
their generosity."



"A sealed door and
a Force-sensitive lock.
Interesting."



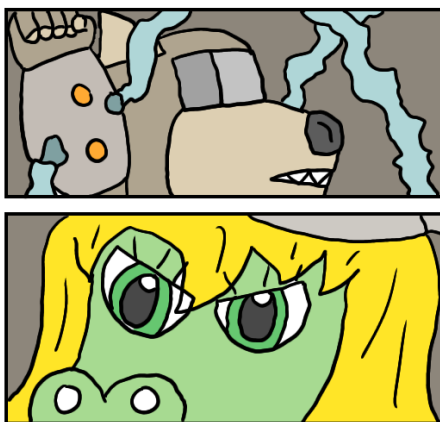
"Let's see if I've still
got it... Open Alderan!"



"And what do we have here?
Who in the Council's
magnanimous name are you?"



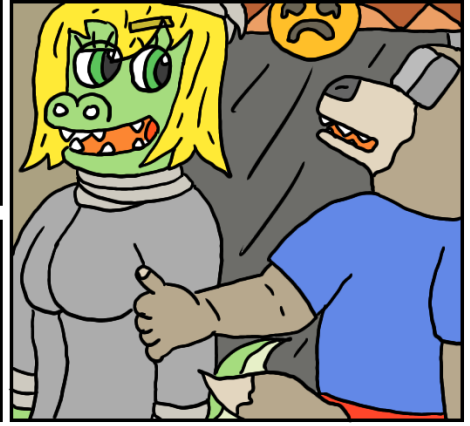
"If the Jedi are transporting
you, you must be someone.
Someone important. Sorry,
but that leaves me just one
choice."



"Just get it over with, Jedi.
You have toyed with me
long enough."
"I agree. Time to get it
over with for you."



"Your imprisonment is
finished! If the Council
wants you dead,
I will see you free and
whole."



"So long. So long I've spent in their clutches. Thank you stranger. I did not think I would ever have anything good to say to a Jedi."

"Come, let's get you up. And don't judge all Jedi by the Council. Or by any other Jedi really. Now, tell me why they had you imprisoned."

"No time for that now. Events are unfolding. We must hurry."
"Okay. And how would you know what's going on, seeing as you were stuck in here?"

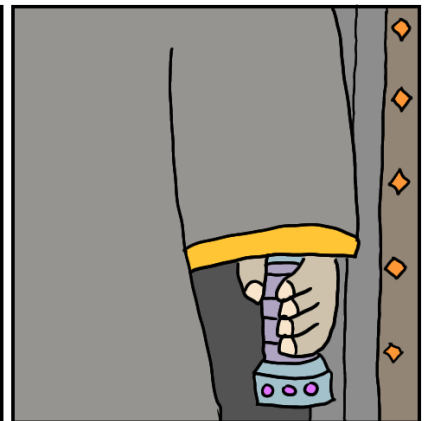


"You say you have a ship?"

"Yes, but it's in the other hangar bay. And we can't leave without the boss."

"I want a full sweep of this entire station. Find the Loaylists. And I must find Jacob. I sense that something bad happened."

"I can no longer see his silhouette in the Force. And I sense a new presence. A shadow so dark the light of the Council cannot pierce it."



"Jacob!? Curse their insensate souls! How could this happen?"

"In the Council's name, **who did this to you!?**"

"No matter. I will make sure you are made a Ghost. And in the meantime, the Rogue and her allies will pay!"



"It's over this way. The boss doesn't usually tell me much, but she's there when she's needed..."
 "Hey, watch where you're..."

"Oof! Hey, you're the Pigan captain told us about! Fellas, we've got a live one here!"

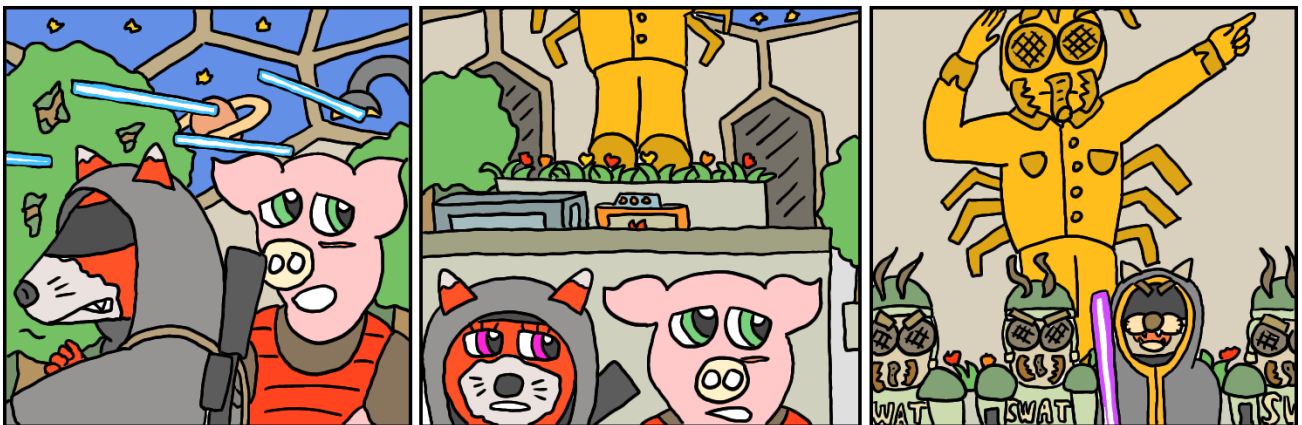
"My lord, we have some chatter on the com disks. Looks like they've run into someone near loading zone 3Alpha."



"Now you boys just play it cool. No sudden movements or my blaster is gonna..."

"Ugh!"
 "I hate it when the bad guys get all chatty..."

"Oh no! Not again... Was he a bad guy? Seems like he was just Bugian station security..."



"Shit, shit, shit! The boss promised me no more blaster fire after the Taldoran gig!"
 "Be quiet and keep moving!"

"The firing stopped. You think we lost them?"

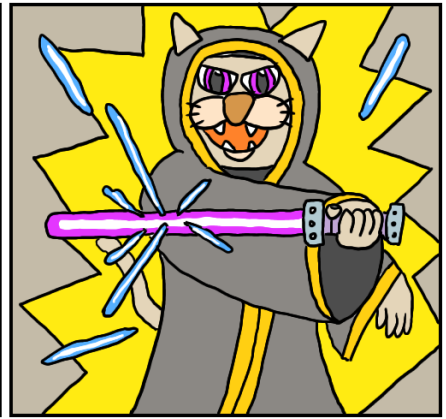
"...I think we better get to your ship and hope your 'boss' has the engines warmed up..."



"Here goes nothing...
Hey Bugians, back
to your nests if you
don't want to get hurt!"



"Sound advice, but I see
two problems with it.
First, I am not a Bugian..."



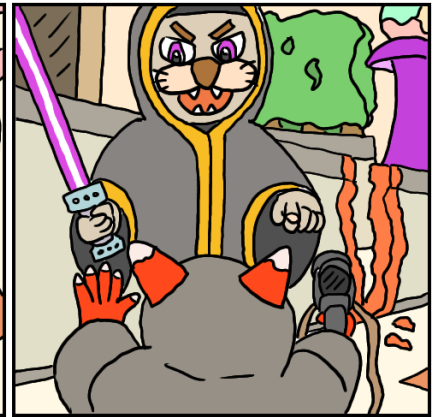
"And second, it is you
who are about to
get hurt!"



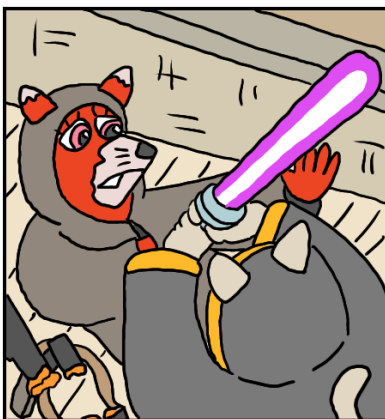
"You disgusting insensates
dare defy the Council!?
You may have removed
Jacob from this mortal
galaxy too soon, but his
Ghost will remain."



"Although I will enjoy
punishing you regardless..."



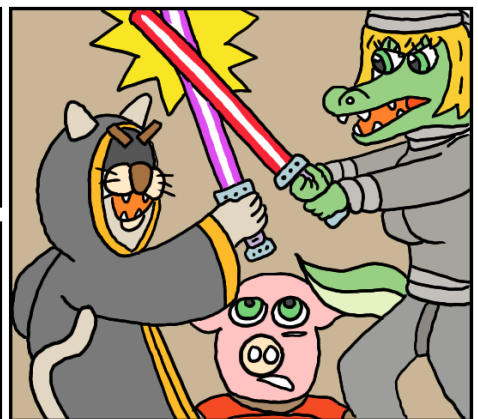
"Now tell me, how did you
do it?
How did you hide your
worthless intentions from
a **Master of the Force**?"



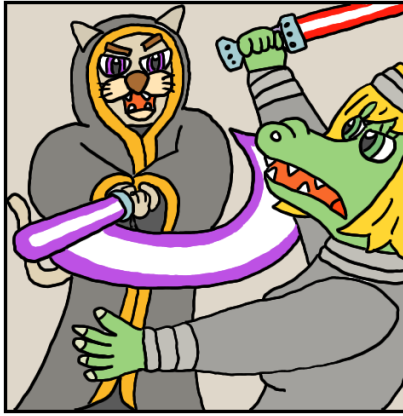
"Do you wish to beg
for your life? Go ahead.
I might let you live longer.
I might even let you keep
all your limbs before I
kill you..."



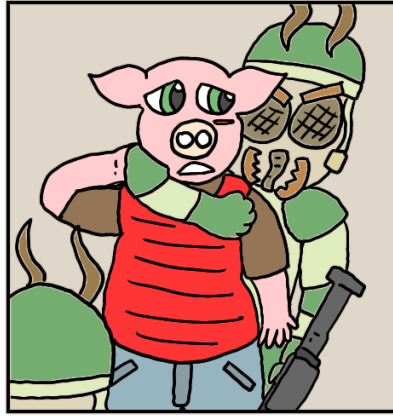
"If there was ever a time
I needed this thing to
work..."
"What's this?! Who dares
interfere with our
vengeance!?"



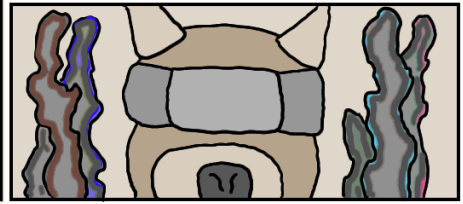
"Who dares interfere with
my assistant and his
friend, I should ask you,
Council-licking scum?"



"Rogue! Long have I waited for this moment! I, Felix Jegetha, will be your doom. I was the first swordsman of my creche. You will not survive!"



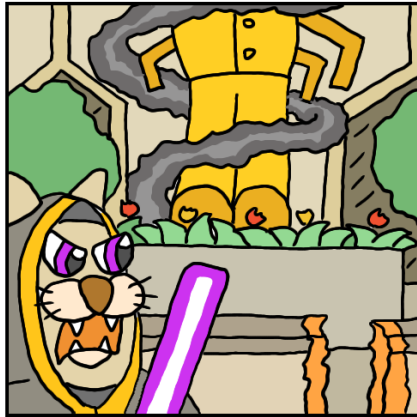
"Got this little Pigan going to market. What should we do about the Jedi?"
"Let them handle it. It's above our pay grade."



"Now, I know you only turn on when you want to, but we could really use some outside help about now..."



"Work! It's working.... it's doing something... hope it's something good!"



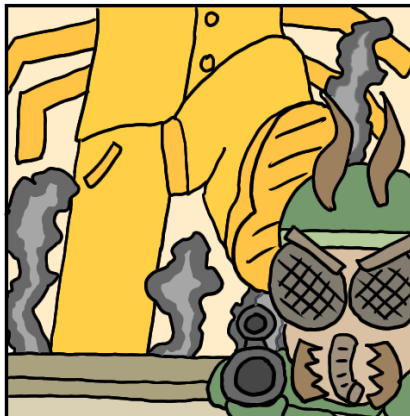
"What devilry is this? More disturbance in the Force? I thought there was no other scum like you left!"



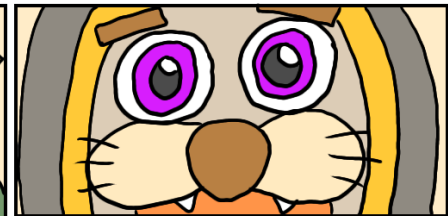
"Funny, I hope to say the same thing about you someday..."



"I got a shot at the bad one, captain! This is the chance of a lifetime."



"In with the Jedi Council, off this backwater and a made Bugian for life."



"What the!?"

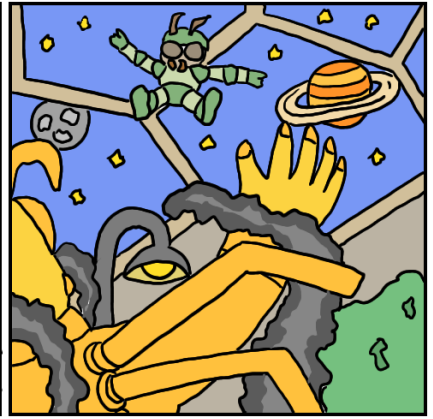
"Don't try to distract me, *first swordsman*, I see through all your Jedi... oh... what the!?"



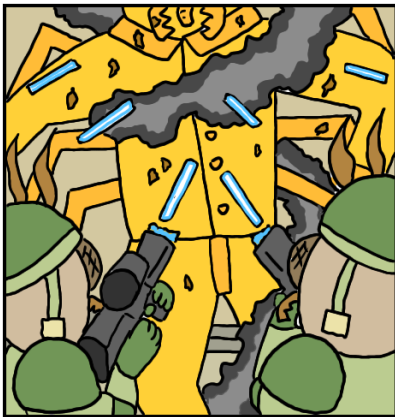
"Oh shit! The statue just deleted him! What the hell is that Jedi doing?!"



Be not afraid, little Pigian. I oppose only those who would help evil in the Galaxy.



I do not consider you inherently evil either, little Bugians. But today, we must regrettably be on opposing sides.



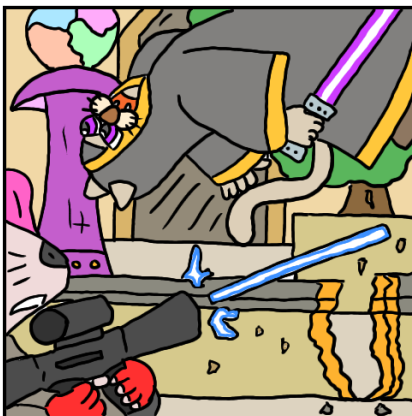
"Blast it! Take it down! Before it takes us down!"



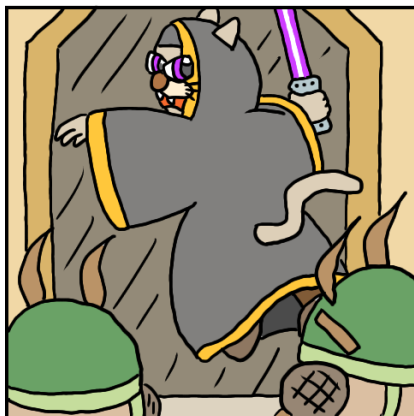
A time of strife and conflict approaches, once again, for the Galaxy. I am sorry.



"Let's see if your Force can save you, like it didn't save your friend!"



"Insensate scum! I am as a God to you! Can you strike down a diety?"
"Did it once just an hour ago, friend!"



"And yet Jacob will live forever as a Ghost, while you will die. And you will rue the day you defied the Council and the Force!"



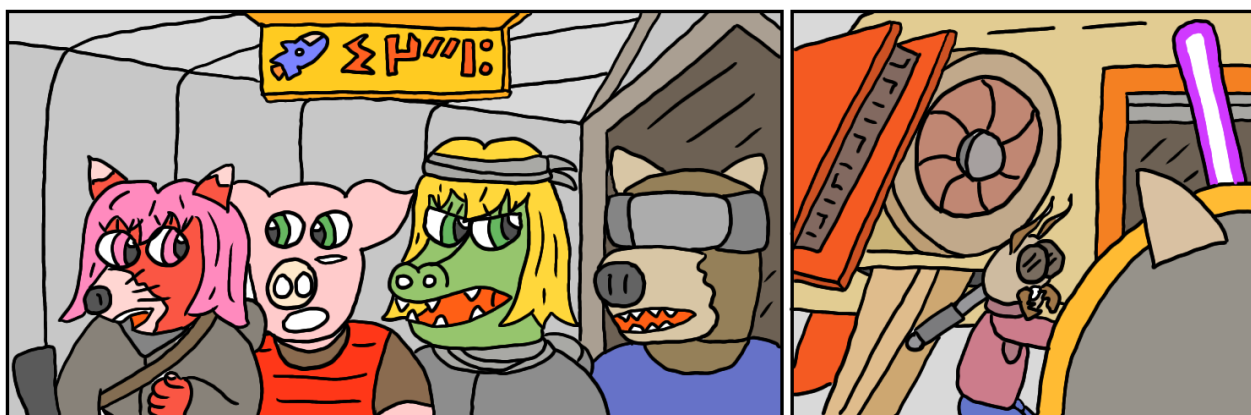
One lives forever and one lives but a minute. Such is the speldour of the Galaxy.



"Goddamn Jedi. For all their swagger, they sure know how to run when it's needed!"

"We're not done, *first* swordsman, even though I never..."
"Stop."

"We have done enough here. It would be pointless and dangerous to chase him."



"Lionel! You're free! I didn't think I would ever see you again. I was trying to rescue you, of course, but I still didn't think I'd see you again!"
"I am free, Fiona, thanks to this unusual Jedi and her companion. Your concern and efforts are appreciated."

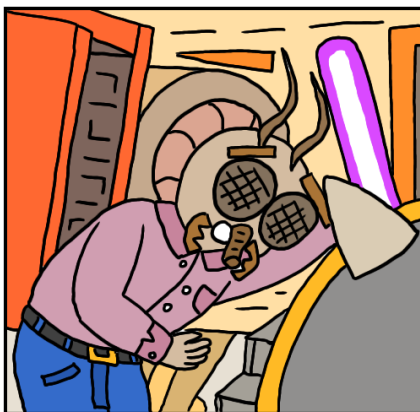
"I must get a ship. I sense they compromised my own. And likely the prisoner as well. The Council will not be happy with me, but I must salvage what I can..."



"Hold it right there, this ship is under impound!"

"Let's see if I can remember my courtesies. *The Will of the Council* says the first Bugian who runs gets to not know the Will of the Council!"

"Shit, it's another Jedi. We're sorry ma'am. We'll let ourselves out!"



"Hail, my lord. What can I do for you today?"



"You can be quiet about ever having seen me! Preferably forever..."



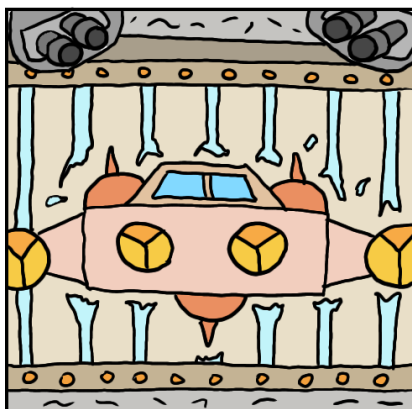
**"Engines Start
Hyperdrive Core
Initializing"**

"Now to get out of here before the Rogue and the Prisoner track me down..."



"Are we ready to go, ma'am?"

"Yes, I think it's time we blow this joint, so to speak."



**"Shuttle Pegasi NX309.
You are performing
an unauthorized departure.
Action may lead to
revocation of landing
priviledges and
activation of defenses."**

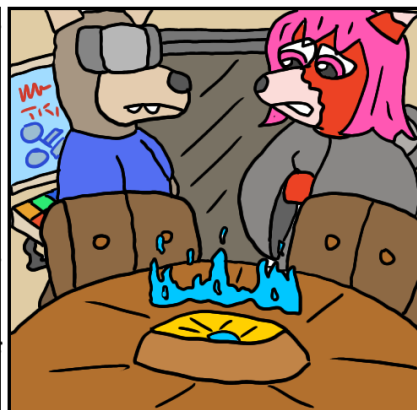


"Nice of them to let it slide, this time..."

"Security is probably glad to see us gone. They don't want trouble with the Council."



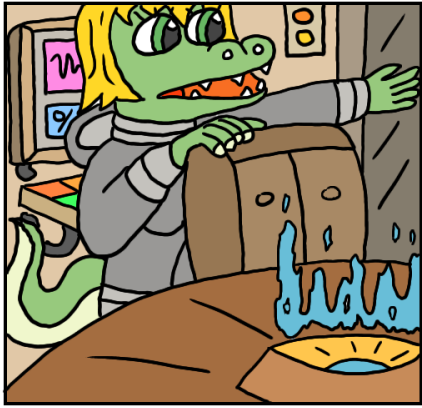
"Let's see how our new friends are doing..."



"I'm sorry Lionel, I thought I could keep it safe for longer..."



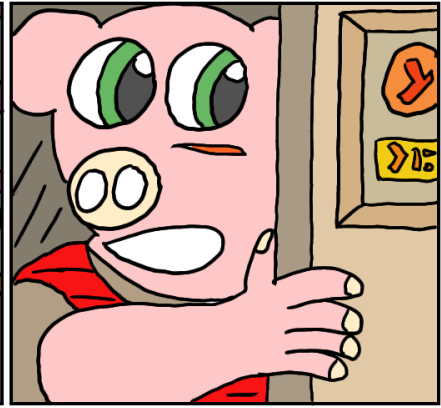
"You did your best. But you may hand it over now. It is spent, anyway."



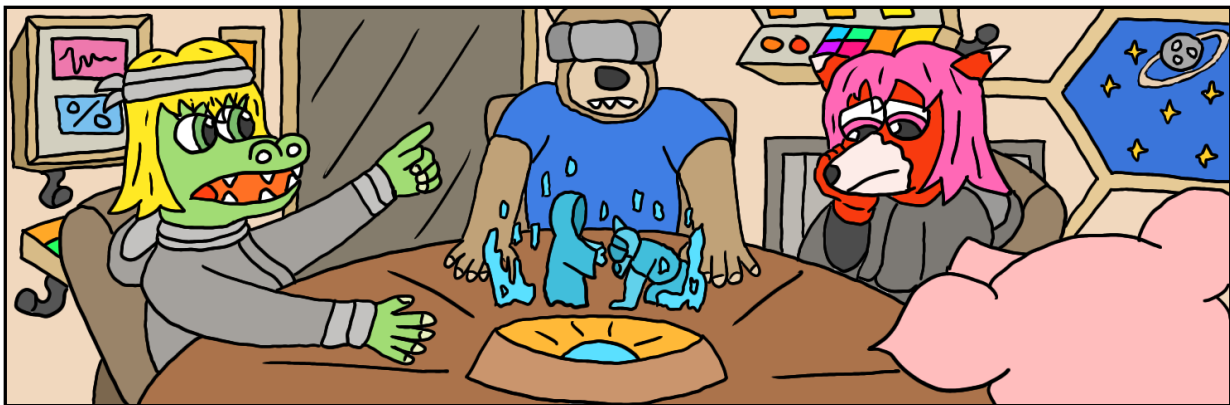
"What were you keeping safe? And, I'd be remiss not to ask, but what in the hell was that statue? I've never seen anything like it before..."



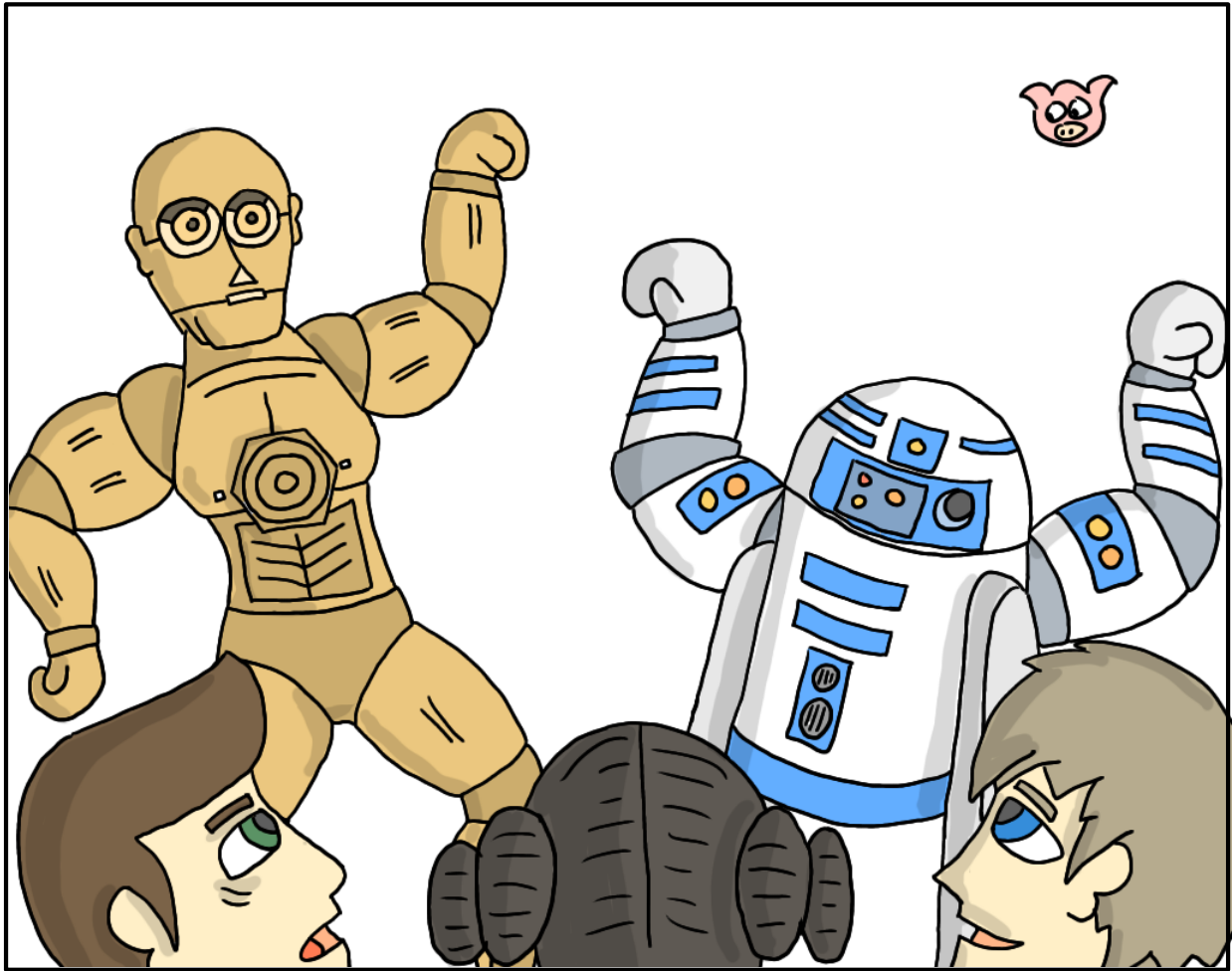
"Dear Seneschals of the High Council, I regret to inform you of the death and unavoidable apotheosis of Jacob Ularian. And the existence of a new problem."



"We're getting ready to jump to hyperspace, ma'am. Hey, what's everyone gathered around for?"



"It is only right that you are curious about the statue, the icon, and my presence aboard the Jedi cutter. Fiona and I have been on the run from the Council for many cycles, a situation I'm sure you and the Pigian can appreciate. It all began (the most current part, anyway) on the Mining Colony of Halcyon VIII, in the somewhat recent past..."



Find more at

<https://aorliche.github.io/art.html>