

*One year after the Night Howler conspiracy.*

The being who had gone by the name of Dawn Bellwether for nearly four years now fumed in her prison cell. She had been so close, *so close!* A couple more years of work and she would have ruled this planet. Taking over Zootopia by inflaming racial tensions had been so simple, once she implemented the Night Howler crisis on a national level the federal government would readily adopt her control collars and the predators would start a civil war. Then, it would have only taken a bit more persuasion for the terrified populace who had abandoned even gunpowder to accept the “aid” of a sympathetic foreign nation with surprisingly advanced weaponry.

Yet it had all fallen apart thanks to a pair of stupid primitives who shouldn’t have even been working together according to everything she knew about their species. Even without her subterfuge they should have been at each other’s throats, but instead they had not only stumbled upon her agents, they had rooted out the infiltration all the way up to its’ leader. Herself.

The being that had called herself Bellwether had dwelt upon this over and over again for months, and still she had no answers. How had that bunny slipped past her? How might she salvage this situation? Why didn’t the Suzerainty answer her calls?

She imagined Xani ships raining fire down on Zootopia’s pretentious “organically designed” skyscrapers, Vheln troops marching through the streets and dragging that rabbit and her vulpine friend to the newly built slave processing center. Once they answered her, once they answered her.

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3rd Jaktox Husk Squadron to Zol Outpost: Requesting resupply and repairs.

Zol Outpost to 3rd Jaktox Husk Squadron: Damage assessment, critical repairs needed?

3rd Jaktox Husk Squadron to Zol Outpost: One cruiser at 43% hull integrity, other damaged ships could not escape.

Zol Outpost to 3rd Jaktox Husk Squadron: Infiltration team has been compromised, they must be eliminated before native population uncovers their origins. You are ordered to perform surgical orbital strikes on compromised agents.

3rd Jaktox Husk Squadron to Zol Outpost: Order confirmed.

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Judith Hopps was just finishing up her shift at the ZPD, it was the first anniversary of her and Nick’s solution to the Night Howler case, and they had plans for later that night. She’d let her partner work out most of the details, and was hoping for something big. But, as she stepped

out of the SUV she noticed the fox staring upwards at the sky, a look of cautious curiosity on his face.

“Something wrong?” She asked, trying to follow his gaze.

Nick kept his gaze focused on something off in the distance. “I was never much of an astronomer, but don’t you think those stars are moving rather fast?” He lifted a finger towards a cluster of dim lights visible in the night sky. The sun was almost set and the light pollution ordinances were starting to kick in, the moon and a few stars were already visible, but the ten or so her partner was watching were slightly brighter than the rest and moving much faster than their dimmer compatriots.

Judy considered them for a minute before suggesting “I’d guess satellites. But, they’re moving in a cluster, I don’t think they set those up that close together.” As they continued to watch the strange stars slowed seemingly to a halt and hung suspended over the city. Then, to their utter astonishment, three shooting stars sped out from the star cluster and descended to spots off in the distance.

They tracked one with their eyes as it fell to earth somewhere outside the city, and were almost blinded by the flash of a mushroom cloud as it detonated. Nick managed to turn away before the light permanently took his vision and threw his partner to the ground right as the shockwaves reached them. Around them, throughout the city, windows cracked or shattered entirely, car alarms went off, and disaster sirens resounded.

Blinking away the spots in his vision Nick glanced down at the bunny laid beneath him, trying to cover her ears. He gasped out, “I suppose we’ll need to cancel our dinner plans now.”

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The Xanid admiral watched the transponder beacons on his viewscreen blink out as the compromised agents were vaporized by antimatter warheads. Orders fulfilled, he began to issue the commands to move onward to the starbase for resupply. Perhaps later, when the current war was over, he might lead the invasion to put these xenos in their place as slaves of the Suzerainty. Some proper glory to make up for fleeing a battle with a mere defense station, even a Forerunner station.

They were just moving out of orbit when their sensors picked up the signature of a Jump rift opening on the edge of the system. The admiral had barely enough time to order a full retreat before the energy lance impaled his flagship, followed by a kinetic bombardment that pulverized the rest of his fleet, scattering their debris to the edges of the system. The warships dealt with, the Forerunner fleet turned their attentions to the starbase, vaporizing its’ defensive systems before landing marines that left no survivors among the Xani crew or their Vheln slaves. All that remained was the skeleton of a deserted outpost orbiting the star Zol. Work done, they left the system to assault the next Xani outpost, paying no heed to the planet or its primitive inhabitants.

But, the mammals of Zootopia would not soon forget that night. Now they knew that they were not alone in the universe, and that their neighbors weren't necessarily friendly.

Zootopian Star Republic:

Succession: Democratic

Ethics: Fanatic Egalitarian, Xenophile.

Civics: Idealistic Foundation, Parliamentary System.

Home System: Zol.

Home Planet: Zootopia, Gaia World with many species.

Red Fox: Charismatic(1), Thrifty(2), Solitary(-1). Continental

Rabbit: Agrarian(2), Rapid Breeders(1), Weak(-1). Continental

Buffalo: Nomadic (1), Strong(1). Savanna

Elephant: Very Strong(3), Wasteful(-1). Savanna

Lion: Charismatic(1), Resilient(1). Savanna

Sheep: Conformists(2). Alpine

Sloth: Industrious(2), Intelligent(2), Sedentary(-1), Slow Learners(-1). Jungle

Otter: Communal(1), Nomadic(1). Ocean

Polar Bear: Strong(1), Resilient(1). Arctic

Fennec: As fox. Desert