

The alarm klaxon sounded, its piercing wail screamed in time with the warning lights, bathing the room in flashes of amber and dark jagged shadows. Liam woke with a start at the sudden noise and struggled to untangle himself from his sleeping web, once free he pushed the wall and floated into the vestibule and clambered his way into the control room.

“What the hell’s going on Bren, why’s my ship cryin’? Are you crashin her?” Liam yawned wiping the sleep from his eyes.

“It’s only the collision warning captain, S-type with all platinum we surveyed was real close to two C-types that shifted when I sent out the collection drone.” Brennan replied in his usual metered tone, not once looking away from the LiDAR readout.

Liam narrowed his eyes and smirked, “You know any damages to Tyche on your watch come outta your pay right Bren?”

“Of course captain, why would...”

“Kirisuto! Why is the alarm still on if you two are here and we’re not crashing!” Came a shout from the vestibule loud enough that even Brennan looked up from his console.

“Sorry Uemi, we jus’ got to chattin and I tuned it out.” Liam said as he toggled the override silencing the proximity alarm, and turned to Brennan. “What time’ve you got Bren?”

“15:38 captain, there is one hour and twenty two minutes remaining until shift change if that is why you’re asking.”

“Well I guess I’ll jus’ stay up here an’ let you go whenever then. No sense tryin’ta go back ta sleep.”

With that Brennan shrugged, unfastened his harness and pushed himself out of the control room, nodding at Uemi as he passed her and disappeared into the common area. With a huff Uemi glared at Liam, who regarded her with a goofy smile before she too floated back into the ship leaving Liam alone.

Staring out at the vast asteroid field before him, Liam took a deep breath, admiring the beauty of this small patch of something in the otherwise emptiness of space. He began changing the HUD settings to his to his defaults and keyed the comms.

“Hey Nals, I jus’ relieved Bren. Uemi’s awake and probably headed up ta you now. Want me ta jus’ take over from here for yah?”

“Sounds good Li, thanks!”