

"Hi there, I'm Silvas Clarke, and I'm currently the most wanted person in the Sol system.

"In the last three days a lot has happened. The moon seceded from Earth, which caused the I.P.F. to launch a defensive force "just in case", most of Earth's nations are scrambling to calm the population down, there was another large scale attack from that AI during the UN's summit meeting, and while all of this was happening, I stole probably the only working Medusa Spacecraft left in verse.

"This relic was up on the moon in a museum. I was up there visiting when I heard what the moon government was gonna do. They started by shutting down the ports, and being effectively trapped I decided I'd make my own way off.

"I realize I should have probably commandeered a different ship though. The Medusa is an antiquated ship design that basically throws a nuclear bomb at a parachute and detonates it to pull the vessel through space. I didn't quite think about how Earth would react when they heard someone stole a small nuclear stockpile. Actually I guess the I.P.F. might be after me, not the lunies. Needless to say, I'm running.

"There's a colony on Mars that might take me in, and if Earth sent word to bar my entry I'll just try to near Jupiter. It'll be a long trip but the medical facilities on this old boat should keep me alive. And if I have to go to Jupiter they'll probably forget about me before I arrive considering how slow this thing moves.

"This is Silvas Clarke, signing off."

He sighed and flipped the recording switch on the black box off.

"Damn I really hope I can land on Mars. I do not want to spend a few years in a medic bay."

He putzed around the Medusa trying to keep himself occupied.

"I should have brought company. I'm gonna go crazy by myself in this little box. But I guess grand theft isn't as bad as grand theft and kidnapping" he laughed to himself.

He took up playing tic tac toe with the ship computer, and when he got tired of looking he found other things to occupy his mind.

He had expected to be hailed by an I.P.F. ship by now, the Interplanetary Police Force had much faster ships than the Medusa, but they were probably worried he'd open fire on them. There were 31 nukes aboard the little ship.

Silvas spent a few weeks reading everything in the ship library. Three hundred year old newspaper stories, thousand year old novels, and papers proving the ship he was in would really work.

He was terrified and yet unsurprised when he discovered the ARGUS AI was on the ship's computer. He played chess with it a few times.