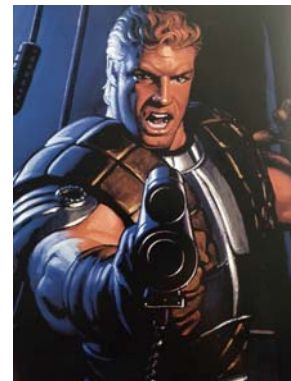


And Leebo Makes Three

I choose to read this short story from the Stars Wars Insider: The Fiction collection as my “book” for August. The story is about how Dash Rendar (my personal favorite!) meets his droid Leebo for the first time! If you didn’t know about this duo, they were introduced in 1996 during the Shadows of the Empire campaign. Dash was prominently featured in books, comics, and even the N64/PC video game! Alas, they were thrown into the Legends category and retconned. However, their legacy remains and their tale is told below.



The story first takes place in a seedy bar, like those seedy cantinas we’re used to seeing. Dash is working with a partner named Eadan Vrill, a Nautolan, as they conduct a transaction with a scummy looking Rodian named Kood Gareeda. The typical villany takes place here where the seller always wants more money or changes the terms of the deal. It



turns out that Dash was looking to buy a new droid, and what kind of droid may you ask? Well it’s an LE series! And it ended up being Dash’s faithful companion, LE-B02D9 aka Leebo!

When I read through this story I was surprised it would be basically an origin story on how the two meet and it was really cool seeing this backstory unfold. The seller ends up running off after taking the credits which is always a bad sign, Dash believes he bought himself a hunk of junk.

We get to see Dash’s first interaction with Leebo, which was pretty funny as Leebo asked about his old owner and realized he sold him, for a fifth of what hes worth! You can definitely see Leebos personality, snarky sassy responses, which reminds me of L3-37 in Solo. Dash actually ends up giving Leebo his nickname after overriding his programming and designating the nickname. Not too much time is spent on Dash, they basically make him parallel to Han Solo as another smuggler making deals to get by. I would have hoped they put more life into Dash in this story but what can you do?

At this point the trio of this story embark on a new journey, already utilizing his abilities, the author tells us how intricate and precise of a navigator Leebo is, calculating over 200,000 trajectories in a short span of time. I really liked this because we know droids are capable of these but it really brings to light how important these calculations are. One wrong path and BOOM! You end up crashing into a planet or worse. Shortly after the trio depart, they are already being targeted by an unknown ship, which turns out to be a bounty hunter group looking for Leebo! A whole lot happens in this scene which I wont spoil here, but the author definitely made sure to show off Leebos personality, his cunning intellect, and basically makes you end up really liking the character.



If you’re interested in reading this story, and more, here is a link to volume 1 of this Legends collection.
https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/1787736377/ref=ppx_yo_dt_b_asin_title_o02_s00?ie=UTF8&psc=1

- TheBlackxRanger