

Defender of the Universe by art1stic

Chapter 1

Pidge is conducting his personal training exercises at dawn. He starts off with his personal martial arts Kata. Then he dons his uniform, mounts his Lion ship, which roosts among the limbs of a sequoia-like super tree, and begins with a training for his Lion ship. Lion training includes climbing, cloaking, balance, reflexes, long-distance sight, and sonic location training. By nightfall, he looks up at the sky watching. Pilots' pledge (all pilots speaking): "I must remain vigilant. I am a guardian of Arus, protector of my people, hero of my culture. I have been trained from birth. I will submit my greatest skills to this task without question, hesitation, or regard for my personal desires. I will never compromise my values. I will not surrender, I will not submit, I will not give up, I will not fail!"

Pidge's monologue: "I have observed and obeyed this creed for as long as I can remember. Since my father's passing, I have never felt so alone at this post. But to see my people survive to the next generation is worth this sacrifice. Thankfully no threat has come yet that I could not handle. If one did, I would only hope that I would not be the only guardian left to fend for myself!"