



## SHACKLETON

What have I gotten myself into? I've hijacked a Federation super-spaceship named RUBY! And with an illegal clone and a boy genius, fled to the Moon, where my guardian, Li Rizin, is the manager of mining. The World Federation of Nations wants to arrest us, so it's a matter of time before the security troops will be here. Until then, the Moon is home.

The Moon. The mining camp is mostly underground, sprawling over several miles and connected by tunnels and domes. Above us is the sister city to Atlantis, the biosphere we just escaped from.

Here the biosphere, called Shackleton City, is constructed like a big flowerpot with a teacup-shaped dome sitting on top of it. The whole city is placed in the center of the Moon's Shackleton Crater, securely inside, where it's protected from asteroids and other space debris.

Next to Shackleton are other craters. The largest is the Pole-Aitken Basin, a big hole in the ground the size of Australia. In some places it's 1,500 miles wide and deeper than the oceans of Earth. That's where miles and miles of underground mines and tunnels are located. Rizin says Moon mining is the

backbone of the world economy, and even though Rizin is a cyborg — and no friend of the Federation — he gets the job done, so they tolerate him.

Li Rizin, the legendary base mining manager and the first cyborg to hold such a responsible position, supervises 1,900 cyborg miners and laborers. A First by the name of Lawson Keefer, but better known as Big House, was appointed to serve as governor by the WFN Moon Operations Committee back when it started. But Big House and Rizin have an understanding. Rizin runs the place. And nobody questions him; nobody challenges him. Especially me.