**Arbiter**

**Starship**

**2020**

* Very old Starship – former military vessel, light cruiser.
* Belknap class ship.
* Formerly was a used as a patrol craft in the early days of the association.
* Now that the Association (Loose collaboration of systems) no longer maintains its own military – never really found anybody to fight, all of the former military ships are privately owned.
* Security is space is provided by planet based agencies which occasionally team up for jobs.
* The Arbiter still has some weapons capabilities but those are pretty suspect.
* It was designed for a crew of over a thousand but has been automated so that it can be manned by a crew of under 50 people.
* This ship has been modified to carry small amounts of cargo and passengers. Its last job was rescuing the people from a science dig on Fargonius.

**History**

* They are now involved in the rescue of some 65 science specialist from the research colony on Fargonius. They had to make a quick escape from religious zealots (fortunately practically the only ones left in the human race) and suffered damage while doing so. They found themselves outside the Tingies system and that’s where our story picks up.
* The ship is pretty much on it’s last leg, it’ll need help even getting people to the surface. There are 112 human souls aboard.
* They have no place to go and Tingies has the legal right to take them in or refuse them. Turns out that the religious morons who chased them off of Fargonius are accusing them of stealing. More on that later after I figure out what to do about it.
* The Deidre heard about the Arbiter before they left for this mission. Gossip still travels faster than anything, even light.