Banni: Farlot

I find myself upon the grounds. Cold as it was when it shot up my spine, making me shiver as if a cold breeze was washing through me however. I jolted awake due to the coldness and opened my eyes before glancing around, wondering where I was. The first thing I had noticed was that the road was stretched before me towards the horizon before me. Buildings were on either side of me; a variety of sizes however. But not one of them were of the same height. As I stared onto the horizon for a bit, I frowned momentarily before turning my head over my shoulder and glanced to the horizon behind me. A distance fog was there, rolling on by. I noticed a figure was there too. Standing in the middle of that fog too; but whether or not was he staring at me was another question for a different time. For instead, I turned back around and to the horizon behind me once more, taking a walk forth through the road that I was on.

Empty streets. Blank windows were all surrounding me. I had not seen any canine or reptile about lurking within the roads or sidewalks or alleyways surrounding me. I was alone. Isolated from everyone else. But I guess that never stopped me from ever trying to break through whatever this place was. For I had noted in my own mind that ‘this was not my realm.’ This thought was on repeat for a while, but at the same time, I had wondered how I gotten back onto the canine realm again. From the mysterious walk I had done earlier before this story had even started. Onto that had my eyes widened in fear that I find myself staring back onto the horizon again. Then turned back around, gazing to the whatever was behind me. Because of this, I had noticed that same figure from the fog bursting out from its prison hold. Eyes glowing so white that it looked something from a creepypasta game or story from the internet. But that figure had no smile at all. Instead, had small little horns above its own head. Pointy and sharp as if something had sharpened it. It stayed behind me for a few seconds; then came charging at me at blazing speed. I had no chance to even response to it however.

For when it caught up was the time I felt something upon my neck; it was tight as its paw was stretched out and caught me upon its own arm. Rose to the air just a bit off from the grounds beneath me, its spoke muffled words. But it was clear for me to hear what it was saying “You did this.” “I did not do anything!” I screamed.

I jolted awake again. Sweat falling from my own fur, damping my armpits and legs. I gave off another yawn before opening my eyes fully and I glanced around onto wherever I was upon the time given. A soft wind blew through the silence air; shuffling some leaves and trees about. They had surrounded me, rendering the atmosphere and my surroundings as pitch darkness making it hard to see anything about save for my nearest surroundings however. But I shook my head, closing my own eyes before raising myself from the chair underneath me. Gradually realizing that the chair was untied for some reason; that I had wondered ‘who had released me’? But I shook my own head; and ran off without hesitation. Fleeing through the only path that I had saw upon waking up.

Onto this point in time, I had wondered what that previous sequence was. That time when I was upon the isolated road with that shadow figure behind me together with that fog. I frowned when I had no answers. Nothing but more questions related to that dream. I just shook my head instead and ignored it while returning myself back onto the reality of where I was, running through the dense forest it had seemed. I looked behind over my shoulder, checking if I were to see that fog and that same figure again. But saw nothing there. Seeing how the forest was safe, I just continued running through hoping to find the exit that would lead me straight into the plains instead.

I kept on running; my panting was growing noticeable however as my speed was gradually slowing down. My legs ached from running too much and my head was gradually losing itself due to the lack of water or oxygen that was going through my own nose. But I had made progress regardless of what was going on through my own body. I was halfway through the forest grounds; where the forest’s barks and trees was slowly gaining their color. From brightest of brown and orange to somewhat of brown and some other unknown color that I cannot see due to the lack of moonlight hovering upon this very forest. I stand still and waited until my breath came back to me; where my aching legs gained their rest. I looked around the forest grounds, fixing my eyes upon the trees that were there surrounding me.

Everything was silent upon the forest. I had heard no noises about which was odd considering this was Virkoal Forest. Remembering such a name had surfaced a memory that popped onto my mind. Something that I had blocked and prevented myself from viewing because of how obscured it was however. That I find myself frowning and feeling sad whenever I find myself thinking about it however. I shook my head; repointed my ears again and aligned them to the soundless atmosphere above me, hoping to hear something or someone that would be sneaking up towards me. But I later realized that the place, the forest, was empty. Not a single sound was upon my ears or my surroundings at all. Something that I had grown fearful of.

But I shook my head and returned to the task at hand; sprinting again into a run through the remains of the forest grounds with hope of finding the exit somewhere within. It would not take me long to find it hopefully. As my eyes shift across the horizon hoping and searching for the exit that would pop out in front of me, I started hearing noises that rose up from the surrounding forest. They sounded like familiar wolves and foxes. Other noises amongst that group were Dholes and Jackals; but I had wondered why those two species were here upon Virkoal Forest of all places? ‘I should check it out.’ I pondered, directing my feet forth towards the direction of where that noises were upon. I stopped myself afterwards and shook my head growling at myself, ‘Idiot do not. It could be another of that trap.’ I mentally debated upon myself. Pondering whether or not should I go and check it out. With the noises still looming retaining their volume, I grounded my fangs and narrowed my eyes. Push my arms back and step with my foot in front of me. Before suddenly throwing myself back onto the original objective and once again I find myself running for the exit after all.

‘Coward’ I hear myself saying underneath my own mental breath. But I just ignored it anyway, feeling the harsh winds blowing against my own face and body. Trying its best to push me back, but in reality it did nothing but little progress as I continued running through the forest ground. Farther away from my original spot, my ears flattened against my own skull to prevent myself from hearing the sounds of canines behind me and the recent memories to surface. I kept my eyes upon the horizon and I felt a brief of silence for some strange reason. Something that I was careful of however when I had noticed the exit right in front of me. A brown sign arrow was pointing towards that exit too while it was off towards the side; besides some group of forest trees that was swaying with the silence of the wind, waving as if congratulating me. I ignored the group of trees and kept my eye upon the exit instead. For I raised my ears high allowing them to point towards the black skies above me, hearing nothing but the soundless surrounding me.

I reached the plains and here was where I had stopped momentarily. I raised my eyes high into the atmosphere line above me, staring down onto the stars that winkle upon the night. Peaceful and tranquility returned to me. Only briefly however when I started hearing voices once more. I turned to the forest behind me, staring down onto the brown sign adjacent to the exit. But the noises were not from there. They seem to be growing louder as they came close which had made me shiver as fear rose from the depths of my stomach; I snapped my head towards the side immediately hoping to find something there. A canine, a reptile or anything. What I got was a hoard of canines. I could not see what their fur color were; or upon their facial expressions however. For those were blocked by the darkness that was surrounding them. Only their height remained visible to me; and they were of a variety of heights however. I could see that most of them were taller than the ones that were next to me. Maybe even taller than me too however!

All their eyes collectively lay upon me. They were narrowed; but I could not tell if they were angry or jealous about me leaving the forest for their doom. Or something in between. I shook my head and once again flattening my ears against my own face while I sprinted down from the forest entrance behind me. Once again I felt the harsh winds blowing against my own face and body while my legs were kicked into overtime and burning very quickly than I had hope however. The other shadowed canines, I can call them that right? They sprinted down the hillside of which was their starting point. For they all ran down reaching the bottom of the hill or the level grounds of the plains and ran at me. They were like a tidal wave, rapid and fast from the depths of the ocean rushing forth ready and poise to drag anyone down.

I kept my eyes upon them. Watching them as they drew closer towards me. Seeing their narrowed eyes up close as they met my fearful scared ones. I had realized that they were running a bit faster than me that I never knew if it was the winds or something else that was pushing them along for their own objective. Still I pushed myself to meet their speed; but I feel like I was dragging my own foot down. I tripped suddenly that came out of nowhere and I fell upon the soft plains grounds below me. I groaned as I felt my aching foot throbbed with pains and needles stabbing against it. Preventing me from even moving or getting myself back up onto my feet while the tidal wave of canines came up close before me. I only had a second to look up towards that wave before it had swallowed me whole.

I hear rushing waters surrounding me. But my visions was going back and forth however. Perhaps between death and being live at all. I coughed and groaned, anticipating some water that would clogged up my throat. My ears were down; I felt heavy for some reason that i cannot raise myself up without something knocking me down onto the flooring below me. There were lights surrounding me; pale walls alongside those lights that I let off a groan frowning while trying to form words inside my mind or just talking in gibberish just to remove anything that was upon my throat. I realized that my throat was dry and coarse; perhaps due to the rasping of my own voice and how the salt water had gotten through my own mouth. I coughed a couple of times; shaking my head before trying to raise myself up from the grounds below me. My vision coming back to full force again, allowing me to see what was there before me. But upon taking a look; I realized where I was or at least I think I knew where however.

Underneath the canine realm; upon the sewers of the underground. Onto that moment I then realized how much of a danger I was upon. For there were stories of unknown creatures lurking onto here. Many of which were real and had taken some off from the streets of canines. So few of these stories were just legends, scaring the kits away from exploring the sewers upon. But was there a real story that surrounded all these fake ones however? Much like how my grandparents had always talked to me about the legends and stories that parents talked with their kits. Indeed my curiosity grew and alternating my objectives at hand to hopefully discovery the truth behind them. So I resumed my walk. Hearing the splashes underneath my legs and feet, ignoring how shallow the waters was roaring underneath me. Towards the opened hole that was behind me.

I walked the length of the cavern. Reaching far into the depths of it while I scanned upon the surroundings around me. I glance towards the pale walls; the flickering of lights that were there alongside of them. Additionally, I had noticed some opened holes that lead somewhere else; perhaps upon a different or the same destination that I had in mind instead? The more I search, the more curious I had became however that I unknowingly entered into the first hole that appeared upon my visions. Entering into it and disappearing from the main hallway room while the waters behind me fade until there be nothing else except for the silence that now loomed above me. Everything surrounding me was pitched dark rendering it hard to even see where I was going at all. But my footsteps underneath me were somewhat leading me the way. ‘To where?’ I had sometimes wonder as my eyes rose to the horizon; gazing down onto the darkened horizon before lowering my eyes to the nearby grounds beneath me.

For onto that moment, I had saw faces. Faces of the canines that were killed murdered within Virkoal Forest. Faces of foxes, wolves, coyotes, dholes and jackals and perhaps many more of them that I could not identify at all however. The faces had replaced the darkened flooring underneath me; stretched far into the horizon and illuminating little upon my own visions and the pitch darkness that was before me. Yet due to this little light, I can make due with it however as I find myself smiling faintly before walking forward. Once again raising my eyes high into the horizon, walking through the tunnel.

As I walked, my thoughts swirled around my own head in ponderance of the faces of canines underneath me and the canine bodies that I had saw at the plains before I was swallowed up and dragged upon here. I had wondered if there was some sort of connection between them. A relation between the faces and the bodies. Immediately I halted my tracks; my face grew white as snow with a thought that suddenly popped onto my mind. But it was not a sentence, rather it was two distinctive images. One from the plains with that huge line of shadow canines appearing upon the hillside, staring down onto me and the other the faces of canines that illuminated the tunnel that I was in. ‘There is a connection!’ I thought to myself with realization. These two images put together creates that canine; the faces were the heads of the shadow canines from the plains. ‘These were the murdered canines!’ I screamed mentally.

Thus upon that realization; I saw a white glowing something before me. It came at me with blazing speed that I had no other time to response directly upon it. With the white lights blinding me, I grounded my fangs tightly and closed my eyes. Poised to die for whatever reason as no thoughts had came to me.

I opened my eyes. Finding myself yawning at the time given. I turned around; gazing at the clock adjacent to me. Noticing that it was midnight already. ‘Wait. Midnight!’ I thought to myself, getting myself up from the softness underneath me with eyes widening in fear or curiosity about something. But a second had passed upon the silence looming over me where I scanned upon my new founding surroundings again, realizing that I was upon a room. A safe room more like it however. There were a bunch of stuff here; toys were upon the grounds. So few of them were adjacent to the soft square thing that I was upon while I knocked the blanket off from me anyway. I rose to my feet and jumped off from the square behind me. Thus, I set my eyes upon the door that was in front of me. It was slightly opened at the time. I ran up towards the door; grabbing onto the knob and pulled against it.

A soft humming sound came from the door that it had forced me to stopped temporarily before returning to the task at hand. For once the door was widened enough for me to slip through, I glanced around upon the hallway that I find myself upon. Locating the stairs which was to my right side, I ran down it. Reaching the next floor below where I find myself upon the main lobby instead. But no one was there. Not even the receptionist however. Growing curious but at the same time fearing for what was to come, I shift my attention towards the entrance doors of the building which was widely opened at the time being. A blank dull light appeared on both of them; but nothing came from these lights anyway which had me somewhat confused anyway. Disregarding the initial thoughts that I had upon my own mind, I silently walked forth towards the pair of doors. Reaching it with my paw; but missed the handle somehow as I stumbled a few inches forward. Regaining my footing and just stand instead.

With my face red; blushing with embarrassment of what I had committed, I had glanced upon a pale pillar in front of me. Surrounding it were four other vehicles, all of different sizes, shape and color. All four were surrounding the pillar. Something that looked like a black snake was attached to those four too. But it seems that it was rotten already perhaps to the core that it was preventing anything from removing them from the vehicles however. I shook my head; closing opening my eyes once more before turning my attention towards the pillar itself. Noticing a white piece of paper that was attached to it; with an invisible tape. I move closer to the pillar; drawing myself closer to the white paper in front of me and squinted my eyes suddenly in hopes of noticing what the words were saying upon here.

“Congrats. You found yourself in Reptiles realm. Find the VPD building, press the red button located inside Chief Yang’s room and get out of the simulation. ‘This is an simulation?’ I pondered to myself, frowning as I tilted my head to one side in ponderance before shaking my head. Ignoring the rest of my thoughts inside of my own mind and returned to the paper in front of me, “...Just be careful; the canines that were murdered in Virkoal Forest wanted closure and will not hesitate to kill you for real this time.” ‘Was everything else just a step into the next area?’ I thought to myself before shaking my head again and glanced away from the paper. From beyond the pillars and the paper itself too was a road that perhaps would lead me somewhere. Perhaps far from this starting point too. Quickly, I fled from the pillar and attached myself to the road; running to its intended direction.

I ran across the roads. My eyes up in front upon the horizon in front of me whereas the buildings on my side ran by me like some runner. There were lamps at the corner; some of them flickered upon the impending darkness while others remained lit and shining down onto parts of the road. I ignored the lamps and continued running through the roads until I spotted something there closed on by. It was another intersection with four paths stretched and separated from one another, each of them heading into their own destinations wherever that maybe however. Immediately knowing that the police station in Vaster was at the center of the town, I sharply turned left when I reached the intersection. Exchanging the old road that I was running upon for a new road. One that was more dirty and messer than the previous while I could see rocks and pebbles upon the grounds, scattered upon the surface. I frowned when noticed it. But additionally, my ears flickered upon hearing something that was close by.

A unique sound echoed through the midnight’s night that was different from the previous sounds and noises that I had heard when I was upon the plains and the forest. It was more sharper than the sounds of wolves howling in the night; something that would make my glasses break if I were to wear one. The glasses from the windows shatter; throwing their shards of glass upon the grounds, some reached upon the road that I was walking on so I stepped to the other side of the road to avoid them at once. The sharp sounds continued through the night which had me to flatten my ears to muffle the sounds. I sprinted into a run, coming from a short walk passed the first shatter of glasses behind me. More and more of those glass windows break; but none of them had reached the road that I was running upon which renders me safe from getting injured by them.

For I kept on running all the way towards the end of the road where it suddenly curved without alerting me at all and forced me to suddenly slowed down at once. I curved through the road; reaching another straight away road where no more buildings laid before me. Replacing them were brown signs and dead bodies all around. The majority of them were foxes and wolves; the rest were unknown identifications. I find myself staring at these bodies for a moment as I still hear the sharp sounds behind me. Screaming and wailing for who knows how long it had been however. I tried my best to ignore them and instead kept my eyes upon the corpses that laid on either side of me, staring at them for a short time. Studying their features for a moment before moving onto the next one.

There were thoughts that popped onto my mind. Some of which were related to these corpse. Others were about something else. I stopped suddenly and without my knowledge upon the center of the road; eyes gradually pulled to whatever was in front of me. A lone body was there, laying onto its side. Its fur gone, leaving behind bare skin that was easily recognizable for us as it was underneath all that fur that we have upon ourselves. I take a step forward; passed the corpse underneath me. The other step forth and joined together with the other as I had stepped over the corpse which is now behind me. I rose my eyes towards the night skies, staring upon how clear it was with stars twinkling around the huge moon in front of me. Staring at the moon for a moment, I closed my eyes and exhaled a breath. Releasing everything that I held from the depths of my stomach before opening my eyes again and lowered my head; now gazing at the horizon line before me. For I continued sprinting down the road.

The sharp sounds gradually turned into screeching and additionally I heard something new behind me. I never looked back for I fear it might be something I knew or recognized about as the sounds increased louder as if they were closer to my ear. I flattened them and tried to ignore them; but their sounds penetrated my flattened ears creating some sort of muffle between myself and them. I sprinted. Legs already aching just from the short burst of speed and the short walk running down the road. My panting came back, increasingly becoming heavier the more I sprinted. I felt my own energy rapidly decreasing, my legs burning with fire with the pains of needles pinching against my fur and skin. I grounded my fangs, narrowed my eyes and tried to ignore the pain that was exerted upon my own body. As I saw that I was closer to my own destination; the police building that was suddenly in front of me.

With its doors already widen to welcome me inside, I was suddenly motivated and continued sprinting down despite the pain exerted upon my tired heavy body. Till I reached the doors was when it shut behind me. The sounds and sharp screeching faded till only the sounds of silence had came. I then turned my attention towards the huge room in front of me, quickly noticing on how dark it was within. But I shake my head to remove any thoughts inside my own head and take a step forward. Hitting my knee against something hard. I yelped in response and stepped back immediately, raising my heel upward towards my paw and clasp it tightly just as the light had turned on.

For there in front of me stood the chief of the dragons officers; Yang I had so believed. She and I met eyes briefly before I narrowed them. Thus gradually raising to my feet, I opened my mouth and spoke. Yet she held her claw high and responded instead, “Lets go somewhere else. More quiet.” And I find myself nodding again allowing her to rise from her chair, leading the way upon a golden door in front of me.