Forage: Nachat

I stared down onto the road in front of me. Towards the crossroads that was nearby. Two corner buildings were in front of me; between the road and myself. For it stretched forth, narrowing my views and only forcefully focused upon whatever was ahead of me. I frowned; exhaling a breath before closing and opening my eyes afterwards. I tried to calm down my own heart which was beating faster at the time as my own head hangs upon the solid road grounds beneath me. Staring onto the yellow dashes that was imprinted upon the road; ‘running’ across in my visions forth to the crossroads ahead of me. I take a breath, exhaling another and soon take a step forward. ‘Staring’ my journey forth towards the exit of Vastertown.

Within the few seconds, I had already reached upon the crossroads and I immediately turned my attention to both sides of me. Gazing onto the alternative roads that were there. I had wondered where I should take the first step forth into achieving my goal. However, before I could even move onward. Something caught my attention and turned my attention to it, I had noticed that an orange white blockage was in front of me. Stretched out to cover the three other alleyways that were in front of me. Shrouded all in pure darkness. I stared onto the three paths ways ahead of me. Frowning only slightly as to why. But when the question was formed upon my own mind, I just shake it off and turned my attention back towards the available roads that were on either side of me.

‘Left’ or ‘Right’ were the choices. Both were equal in length and had no obstacles therein, making their roads clear and visible for me to see however. I even stared onto the horizon of each side; staring down onto the starry nights that hovered above. Twinkling stars shone; but none were brighter than the last. Lowering my attention back into the two paths on either side of me; I take a breath and made my decision otherwise. For I turned my feet towards the desired direction of where I had wanted to go and stepped forward a step. I had chosen the left cause I do not know why. Maybe it was because of a certain phase; maybe it was something else. But instead of just dwelling into it however, I chose to move on. I resumed my walk down the left ward path. Straight towards the next intersection that was there.

Three new one branched out from the intersection that I was upon. One blockage presented itself to me and it was ahead of me. A dragon whose scales were aqua was standing behind the blockage; in his claws were something of a white piece of paper. Something was written onto it however. Squinting my eyes upon the paper, I began to read what it says “Do not talk; do not communicate; just keep going and also, do not be deceived.” I blinked upon the context of the sentence warning upon the piece of paper in front of me. I even raised my head upward towards the aqua dragon in front of me; but it just shake its head. I frowned, splitting my snout in an attempt to say something. But I had realized that my own words were struck upon my own throat. I was mute!

I frowned. Muffling or creating noises to gain his attention. But his snout remained sealed; his eyes bored onto mine before he just closed his own eyes briefly and shake his head slightly. Opening them afterwards. As I stared onto him briefly, I only vaguely nodded at him. My own heart beating fast as the words of the paper went through my own mind. “Do not talk, Do not communicate, keep going and…’ My thought stopped when I approached the final set of words of the warning paper. For my eyes widened in both fear and curiosity, wondering why it stated that. But with a grunt; I shake my own head and just turned immediately towards the left. Heading straight into the depths of the pure darkness tha welcomed me within. In between the two buildings besides of me, I continued to walk within the darkness. Eyes up front to the horizon in front of me as my own feet hit against the hard rocky grounds beneath me.

I had stayed silent. Quiet as the tranquility of the atmosphere hovered above me. Sweat was already submerging upon my own face and body; damping patches of my own fur while my thoughts continued circulating about. I continued to walk down the road; eventually reaching the next crossroads that was in front of me. The same number of roads submerged upon my own visions; the right path was blocked by the orange and white blockade which now leaves me with two. I stared towards the path extending the path that I was walking on. Staring down onto the horizon that was in front of me. I was tempted to take that path; pondering as to where it had lead. Even my thoughts seen to agree with me onto this. But I shift my attention to the left path; gazing at the downhill where the rest of it was shrouded in pure darkness. Preventing me from being able to see whatever was down there. As I stared, i felt my heart pounding in my chest. I wondered which and what path should I chose. But it had seemed that I had let my thoughts take control of my own body otherwise.

In such curiosity, I had taken the left path instead. Descending the hillside that was presented itself from the intersection then, I found myself upon the valley. Three blockages were here; each on every side it had seemed. There was no way of moving forward at all without even backtracking to the previous crossroads beforehand. As my eyes widened upon this predicament, I started turning around. Sprinting up the hillside and returned to the crossroads beforehand. It had seemed that the blockage had changed this time around as the path to the right was already blocked. Seeing that the path ahead of me leads back to the crossroads before, I had taken the left path once more. Yet instead of walking down it; I sprinted down. I never knew why however. Perhaps it had something to do with my thoughts gradually getting control over my own body than myself; or was it something else? From the outside of my own?

Regardless, I kept on going. Sprinting down what seems to be a long road ahead of me. Through the pure darkness, even ignoring the surrounding buildings and lamplights that were station at the edges of the roads that I was sprinting onto. Eventually reaching onto the next crossroads ahead of me. Here was where I had stopped immediately and raised my eyes high into the horizon to check upon my choices in the matter. One blockage presented itself this time. It was ahead of me. The paths left and right were opened. But Instantically, I had chosen the left path instead and once again headed down the hillside of the left ward path. Having recent memories of me seeing a dead end road from the previous path that I had taken, my ears unknowingly stand erected. I slowed down my own speed; trying my best to prevent speeding up at all; even once however either. My eyes lowered, staring down onto the valleys of the hillside before me which to my surprise was present and visible as the darkness was completely gone or wide out somehow.

I reached the valley then afterwards. A blockage was in front of me; That same aqua dragon was there. A new sign was presented to me; pointing this time towards the right. The dragon bore his eyes into mine, I just stared onto him silently. Even narrowing my eyes. With thoughts circulating my mind, I had debated about whether or not to trust his signs. But having debated, I suddenly remembered the sign at the beginning of my walk through of Vaster. Thus I had growled and shake my own head at him, sharply turning towards the side and fled the opposing way from what he was pointing too however. I ended up upon an alleyway it had seemed. Darkness envelopes upon my own eyes; preventing me from being able to see from such far distance. As my attention was drawn towards the other end of the alleyway, I walked forth towards it. Half hoping that it was exit from the alleyway.

Yet it had seemed that the exit was stationary; never moving closer towards me. It was either that or I was just walking in place. I even lowered my own head; gazing at the grounds beneath me in hopes of looking onto the flooring below. It had seem that I was propelling myself forward. Step by step; forth towards the goal and gaining ground at well. Raising my eyes and head back to the horizon, I stared back onto the exit in front of me. Watching is slowly turned purest of red or pink; I suddenly stopped. Remembering about this sort of ideal from somewhere. I was actually scared somehow, maybe even fearful. But I never turned tail at all; or at best, fled at the sight of it. Standing tall and proud in front of the gradually turning exit before me, I narrowed my eyes and grunted rather slightly. I immediately turned around and started walking back. Very calmly however, in hopes of getting back onto the crossroads again and choosing the other path.

However, somehow this had angered something or rather someone, a roar erupted from the tranquility of the night which had startled me. I flinched immediately and turned around; gazing at a white face ghost that was chasing me. I blinked three times in surprise; I was curious, wondering if it was just a psychological scare or the real thing. But as it had drawn rather closer towards me, I decided not to take the chance and run with my life intact. For I fled upon the moment’s noticed, sprinting down the alleyway that I was upon. Eyes up front towards the horizon in front of me, staring down onto the blockage that was there. Quickly I closed in onto the entrance of the alleyway and immediately stopped when I had reached it. The white face ghost behind me faded into the pure darkness; the red tilt of an ‘exit’ completely gone as if it was just my own imagination.

Yet somehow it felt real. I felt the heat submerging upon the back of my neck as I had noticed that I was growing exhausted all of the sudden. I weakly growled to myself and shake my own sweaty head; before slowly turning my attention towards the aqua dragon that was in front of me. I had wanted to ‘yell’ at him or something. But only a growl submerged from my own vibrating throat. Yet he himself was just smirking back onto me in response; a tale sign about his confidence of a real thing. Grunting; yet having no other ‘noises’ for the dragon itself, I just turned immediately towards the other path and walked. Entering and being swallowed by the pure darkness that envelopes me.

The alleyway leads straight into another crossroads. It was out in the opened apparently where the moon shines dimly from the night skies above me. It was already an hour before midnight as my attention was drawn towards the moon; then towards the roads and paths that was before me. But I was surprise into seeing that there were more roads and paths than normal and I just shake my own head; frowning before I casted my eyes towards the blockages that were here supposedly. To my surprise, there were no blockages however. All the roads and paths were present for me to choose and upon that point I had grown really worried. Deciding to take a breath to calm myself down and my own anxiety, I quickly turned my attention towards the first few roads and alleyways that were adjacent to me.

There were four; two roads and two alleyways or paths as I had liked to call it however. The paths were a bit distance from the roads itself. White signs were presented themselves adjacently to those paths too apparently. Showcasing words such as ‘shortcut’ or ‘deadend’. ‘Not this time.’ I would think to myself, shaking my head to get rid of the thoughts that entered upon my mind in hopes of entering into one of the two paths to find out if they were real or not. Instead, I turned my attention towards the two roads adjacently to the paths. The two paths separate from one another; each leading into their own destination. To my surprise, neither of them were descending a hillside or going up the hill like the previous roads that I had encountered beforehand. Both were leveled and extended into the horizon where they had disappeared entirely.

I walked passed them; shifting my attention towards the other road and three other paths that came after the pairs of roads and paths. The three paths were at a distance from one another. The road was in between the second and third path, acting as if it was a path itself either. Another white sign stabbed upon the road that I was upon; it showed no arrows. Instead, a sentence was written upon its surface. “Are you sure you know where you are going? Remember the rule.” I only growl at that. Yet before I could stump my way from the sign itself; something else stopped me and I turned to face it however. It was another white piece of paper; upon it was a map of all five paths and four roads. Upon initial glance, the paths and roads resembled a tree stretching outward with its branches. There were labels presented upon the paper itself either.

All the paths and roads were covered with these labels; only getting one apparently as an arrow was pointing upon each of the roads and paths therein. “Do not Cross here.” “Cross here” “Danger” “Warning: Do not use this road” and others were presented upon the roads. The same goes with the paths themselves either. As I stared and studied the map silently to myself, I had narrowed my eyes realizing that one of the labels that did not have these was towards the right. It was a pathway. Attached it it was: “Go here. If you want to live.” I had wanted to crumple the paper instantly; tear it apart perhaps from the deceivement that had happened beforehand. But I committed nothing of these things however. Thus instead, I find myself staring back onto the paper presented before me. Studying it again briefly before exhaling a breath, closing and opening my eyes before tossing the paper over my shoulder and walked off.

For a few seconds later, I had found myself upon the entrance of the path that the paper told me to enter into. Yet somehow I was hesitated; debating and doubting myself for ‘trusting’ the paper when in fact the rules of this game were “Do not trust anything at all.”. Biting my tongue, I snarled and shake my own head. Closing opening my eyes afterwards as I turned my attention towards the path ahead of me and taking a step forward. I entered in without hesitation.

I walked a few steps forward. But something stopped me however. Another piece of paper was in front of me somehow; I grabbed it immediately. Wondering what it would state to me. ‘Perhaps something along the mocking lines or blank and simple however.’ I thought to myself. But when I turned my attention towards the paper itself; all it had gave me was a smiling face semicon. I blinked, weirded out that it taken me out of focus upon what I was pondering about. But I had regained that thought again after a few seconds of ‘resting’. Thus I just shake my own head and exhaled a breath, casting the paper aside for now while I turned my attention into the horizon in front of me.. I had noticed at first glance of how pure dark the alleyway was. There was no flashlight about; either no light post either however too. I pondered over this; but shake my own head again to dismissed the thoughts that were circulating my own mind and just moved on.

The minutes had turned into hours as I continued walking through the alleyway that the paper had told me to go into. Thus the more hours that had accumulated, the more of my own thoughts doubted upon the trusting paper that I had seen. Even more frightening was the smiling face semicon that I was given earlier when I had arrived from the entrance of the alleyway itself. Questions popped onto my own mind in wonder of what those two papers had a connection with and ‘why had I not chosen a path or road for myself?’ I growled at the second question. Frustrated with myself for going along with the paper instead of my own thoughts and intuitions however. For I just shake my own head afterwards and just turned my attention up front towards the horizon in front of me.

Noticing how tranquil the alleyway was and the non darkness that had welcomed me then afterwards. I kept an eye upon my own surroundings; staring to the buildings on either side of me. Towards the skies and the moon side. Then glanced over my own shoulder, staring down onto the horizon there. But so far nothing had happened otherwise. I was growing more worriedly and fear had already gripped upon my own throat; making me cough and gagged for whatever reason however as I just kept going. Walking through the alleyway; alone and isolated. Away with nothing but my thoughts to myself upon the purre isolation of the alleyway that I was walking upon.

The path suddenly curved towards the right; I followed it down like a puppy on a leash. Although I only growled upon that sudden analogy however. Shaking my own head, I kept going. Kept my eyes up front into the horizon before me, staring down onto the moonlight as the path continued curving; left and right. But nothing more had came. Not even a descent down the hillside either. For everything was leveled and quiet and peaceful that it was slowly consuming me however. I shake my own head upon this; thoughts already filling up my own mind with endless comments. Both of which were arguing about whether or not to head on back or see this through. I tried to ignore them and kept going; even narrowing my own eyes to look to the horizon in front of me.

Perhaps it had taken a while; all of that tension and flinches upon the soundless of the night had caused me to become a walking pain of fear and anxiety. Perhaps it was what it had wanted at the end otherwise and I had compelled upon it regardless of what had I was thinking at the time. I glanced back into the horizon in front of me. Staring down onto the moonside that was still lingering in midair within the night skies, I had noticed the end of the pathway. The gates of Vastertown was in front of me. I grinned; already completely broken by the amount of fears and anxiety that I had accumulated and just sprinted down the remaining steps of the path forward. Reaching and exiting from the gates of Vaster, into the plains where I had succumbed to my own subconsciousness and cried.