Venturing: Paregon

We walked the streets of the market. Turning our attention towards the boards and sales that were on either side of us. There was silence, the slight ringing echoing upon our ears while I just exhaled a breath and frowned. Zander just ignored me momentarily and looked. Eventually picking out some that he had fancy for the time being. In the case that no one knew about, we were defeated by a mysterious faction that had came out of nowhere. It was not from the underground or REC however. But someone else however. And we never had any chance to see what had hits us for the moment.

As I was stating about the ‘mysterious faction’, we were forced to give tribute to them because they were the victors of the ‘war’ or ‘conflict’ that was going on between the reptiles and canines. As such, many of the reptiles and canines have indeed hated and loathed this somehow. But it does put a dent towards our military funds however. With an exhale of a sigh, I shake my head as we turned the corner of the road, towards a new stand and road that stretched ahead of us; where broken or ripped off rooftops and tents were above these stands which stood no chance for any ravens or crows from eating whatever was left. I only growled to Zander who immediately stopped when he tried to take a fruit that a crow had initially. Only reminding him about the case we were given by Chief Yang that he was narrowing his eyes at me and nodding his head silently. Shortly before pushing himself forward a bit ahead of me, turning and scanning his attention and awareness about upon the silence and darkness that is the market street before us.

For what we had known, every note and email that was handed over into the VPD database stated about the tributes being here. Hiding in one fruit amongst the others. According to the note, they had said about the fruit being isolated from the rest of them. No raven or crow had taken the liability of eating them however, for fear of the notes and pieces of paper that was held upon such said fruits. But as we were walking, I had wondered what kind of fruits that we were talking about here. Were it be the common or rare ones? And if they were isolated from the rest of the fruits, would it be eaten by now by someone else? The thoughts of the possibilities had hampered my own brain, to the point that I felt some sort of tapping upon my own shoulder that I stopped my tracks and turned to face him. Just as his eyes met mine, he rose a claw and pointed upon northeast from where we were. It was the only time that i had decided to look that the fruit that we were looking for was right there. At the distance and underneath some sort of roof; making it shrouded in darkness and hard to see to the naked eyes and amongst others as well. For with a smile, I nodded acknowledging towards Zander who zipped passed several of the stands therein. Reaching upon the fruit in front of himself and backtrack towards me afterwards.

When he handed the fruit to me, I lowered my eyes upon such said fruit. Noticing how it was a different kind than the ones that we were used to however. It was a mixture of an apple because of the red texture that it had upon the surface. With a small looking vine attached to the apex of it, perhaps from a grape or raspberry or something else. Regardless, we had found what we were looking for at the time being and I forcefully opened such said fruit right down upon the middle. It opened cleanly and revealed a small piece of paper that we had needed. “Looks like we found it.” Responded Zander to the silence following us, something that I just gave a nod towards him before commenting “We should return to the base right now. Yang might have something that we could commit in the meanwhile.” “What about the others?” “They be fine.” I swatted a claw with a follow up smile. Despite Zander looking at me curiously.

But shake his head and nodded; giving into whatever was I had said while he spread his wings and take off. I brought out my walkie and pressed the button. “We have the fruit and the reveal piece of paper within.” “Great.” I heard Yang speak through, “Everyone else had gathered upon the station, we should piece them all together for now.” “have you all figure out what it says or any leads for the tributes missing?” A short silence fell before I exhaled a breath, raised my eyes up towards the skies before taking off from the ground.

Thus we have arrived upon the frontal door where Natty and Kyro were waiting for us at the time being. At our arrival; both dragons faintly smiled after noticing us and have taken to the sides allowing us in. The door shut closed behind me while my eyes adjusted to the sightings upon the darkness surrounding us. We were upon a single room. Empty with only the brown desk in front of us. Behind the desk was Chief Yang, sitting upon the chair we had bought from the canine realm stores at the time being. But that was not important now that I nodded towards Zander who acknowledged it and stepped forward. He set the paper, the fruit adjacent to the iron that was sitting upon the desk too. I take a look upon it before shaking my head silently and exhaled a breath afterwards.

At my exhale; Kyro just stared at me with narrowness upon his eyes. But said nothing in response and allowed the silence to take over while his attention was turned towards Yang as she glanced towards the three items in front of her before nodding towards everyone within the room. Thus, the light from the computer screen had shut off and she rose to her feet. Her claws attached upon the table in front of her as her wings were spread; she turned to look upon us before stating something within the following silence. “A piece of paper, a fruit and an iron. What do these three have in comment. What do they have in relation for the case that I had given to you? Sargent Ling?” Upon the mention of my name, I stood up straight and stared at her. Eye for eye.

“Yang; we had believed that these items were left upon ‘them’, them being the nappers of the tributers that we had sent straight to the unknown kingdom.” “And where?” She questioned without hesitation as her eyes narrowed to me. I spoke immediately to answer her question before even allowing the silence to sink into our conversation, “We do not know where. For the paper was tightly sealed with a tape that almost seem impossible to be taken out.” “A tape?” Questioned Kyro. “A tape.” Repeated Yang, her eyes dropped from me. Back towards the tape in question. For she rose the piece of paper; studying and analyzing it a bit before giving off a nod towards me, responding and answering to the silence “I see a piece of tape stuck upon the paper for some reason. I will take this out. For the meantime, our attention draws towards Moon Kingdom.”

“What goes there?” Asked Natty, out of the blue to which she glared at her momentarily before answering her question. “Scouts had reported that the moon kingdom was where all of the thieves were located. No doubt that the paper and the fruit had proven this otherwise.” She took a moment to glance at the iron for a moment before shaking her head and resumed her order, “Ling you will take your unit there in the meantime. Just do not engage them for the time being.” “Guess that means we will be kept in the shadows and darkness.” Commented Zander which Ozkun and Marjur nudged him to the side growling lightly. He growled back at them in turn while Yang growled at all of us in response, “Leave. Ling and Kyro, I will get this tape off from the piece of paper in the meantime, we will see what lies within Moon for the time being. Dismiss.” “Yes ma’am.” Responded both me and Kyro as our unit fled from her sights. Back out upon the cold breeze and entered into the black skies once again. Feeling the cold winds brushed against our own scales to which Ozkun and Natty shivered. But the rest remained silent. We fled northward with many more questions inside our mind. Wondering how this case is all connected with the clues we had found within the reptile market.

“I found something here.” Exclaimed Kyro as every head was turned his way. Natty was the one who tilted her head to the side, pondering as to what he had found at the moment. With her walking forth towards him; I exhaled a breath and Zander frowned for a moment before shifting his attention towards me questioning about whatever that the red dragon had saw. But I had ignored him somehow. For instead, I walked forth. Trailing behind Natty at the time being, till I reached over to the red dragon was when I had noticed what he was holding at the time. I blinked. So did Natty. We turned to one another and shake our heads, silently agreeing about whatever that Kyro had saw and grabbed currently.

We had arrived upon the Moon Kingdom, by dawn’s early light. It was a bit peaceful here persay however. With nothing but the pitch silence hovering above us that is. I exhaled a sigh upon this morning’s warmth, enjoying the sun’s rays lightly beating upon my scales and heating them up at the same time too. But my attention was already drawn towards Kyro. Because of whatever was upon his claw, was important towards the case at hand however. As me and Natty drew a bit closer to Kyro, he rose his claws into the air and adjacent to his face, for a bit of an easier use to see whatever that he was holding at the time being. That was when we had spotted it however, much to our surprise and shock. For the item that Kyro had found was a collar. Bleak and rotten as it was; metal and hard too which Kyro complained about it being heavy despite it looking a bit light somehow. “Where did you find such an item?” I questioned him, he extended his claw behind himself pointing towards the wall to which both me and Natty turned our attention towards. Shocked to see more onto the wall behind him too. All lined up neatly against the wall.

Several of those collars had some skeletons upon them. Additionally, the collars were of different sizes too as well. From largest to the smallest beings, I gulped nervously while approaching them and crouched down when I drawn near. Extending a claw outward towards the collar in front of me, I had noticed how blackish it was to my eye. Moldy too based on the number of fungi festering upon the surface of the collar however too. Natty gagged; I mirrored her as Kyro walked by her side. Calling out to me while I listened, “Those collars had been there for a while. I had sometimes wonder what they be use for when Moon kingdom was abandoned already for months by now.” “It is a good question.” I responded immediately to the red dragon, just as he had nodded following me. Natty only frowned. But spoke her mind after a slight pause of the silence looming over her and me and Kyro turned our attention towards her just as she had spoke, “But if these collars were used during the Moon Kingdom then. Why were they used now after Zephyr was gone?” “Someone might had control over the kingdom.” Kyro suggested, I shake my head “No one dared into capturing this place.” Both dragons were silent and I gave them a nod before stating,

“Like I said earlier ‘no one in their right mind would take over an abandoned Kingdom’. Not after the incident that had happened here. Taking place at the mansion two months prior however.” “Do you know what happened?” Natty questioned me, I shake my head sadly “Not even I. Yang seems to know although.” I answered her and she gave a nod acknowledging it before I started, “We should regroup with the others. I bet you they had found something then.” “Something identical to the collars, I hope. There is something about them that I do not get however.” Kyro commented which both me and Natty turned towards him in question. But he was never prompted however and kept that answer towards himself. Yet his face was hardened as if he was pondering about something related to the collars in mind. I, onto the other claw, just stared at the collaras for a moment then frowned. Lifting my head above the collars momentarily, just to see what was at the ceiling. I was later shocked to see several saws up there however.

Each of them were drenched in blood. Dry blood as a matter of fact. Some of that blood did dripped; pooling upon the hard cold grounds before us which was later dried off at a moment’s noticed. Yet I was curious what kind of animals did the moon kingdom slaughter at the time and why did they abandoned the place already at the time’s killing? Though at both Kyro’s and Natty’s stares, I just shake my head. Acknowledging them for the time being before remaining silence following afterwards as I spread my wings; Kyro and Natty does the same and we started moving westward to regroup with the others.

For upon our arrival, we were a bit surprise upon seeing a shed in front of us. Its door was opened slightly and someone was inside, shrouded in the darkness enveloping him or her however. He or she seems to be humming something as indicated by the soft melody that he or she was committing. At this, Kyro turned towards me. I shake my head, not wanting to intrude whomever was inside of there. Yet the red dragon sometimes never listens to me as he moves himself forth towards the shed again. Abmushing whomever was there. Yet upon his inflation upon the shed’s interior, we were a bit surprise upon seeing a decoy which was what Kyro had grabbed at the moment. The door shut behind him just as Natty had growled out towards him. I watched the door closed then before frowning afterwards. The shed then jumped several times as shouting and yelling was comprised behind the door. A bit of cursing was thrown in the mix too however before the door opened shortly afterwards.

The decoy was gone; in its place was another dragon whom we were familiar with at the time being. In his claws was Kyro who looked a bit unconscious just as he had stared upon him angrily before departing his gaze from him towards the pair of us. “Zander, you idiot.” I responded without hesitation, just as the black dragon chuckled. Red cheeks bloomed upon his scaled face however. But he remained silently shortly to emenced upon the moment before he remembered what he was going to say to me. For he coughed to gain my attention when I was turned to the red dragon; trying to wake him up. Natty aided me too with some kisses along the way. “Ling.” I heard my name and I turned to Zander as he and I locked eyes upon the silence. He smiled only faintly before responding silently to the atmosphere surrounding us, “There was something about those collars that you should know.” “What is it?” I called to him asking as he laid down the folder that he was holding. Threw it towards the steel table in front of me Kyro and Natty as we all turned towards it.

A yellow folder; it looked it be opened. There was even a label written upon the side of it for multiple uses at the time being. I was hesitated to grabbed it; but it had seem that Natty had already grabbed it before me however. As she skimmed through the notes written upon the folder, I watched for any sign of responses or reaction to whatever she was reading. Thus sure enough, she did. But it was for a long time however, so I had logically guessed that she was reading the middle to end points of the paper. She turned her attention to me, splitted her snout and spoke quietly “Listen to this Ling. The collars are different sizes for every canine and reptile. They are automatically clicked and can be controlled at the same time. These are not the shock collars that most media had used. Rather a superior one than them at most.” “What would they be used?” I questioned her as she skimmed through the paper again and spoke, answering my question “They would be used to control both canine and reptile into my own bidding. Less the factions dared to interfere with them however. I had already gotten word from the WWA and REC for approval; guess this does mean that this whole operations would start at once.”

“WWA and REC were approved of this. Yang was right not to trust them at the time. Their CEO was insane at the time.” I commented which Kyro interrupted me by answering to that pinpoint however “Actually Ling. The current CEO is indeed Villican Collax. The doe that had been a thorn to our side these past few days and cases.” “I know.” I acknowledged him, knowing whom she is “We had met formally at WWA during our investigation of the Moon party incident.” “That massacre, right?” Natty commented with the short silence answering for both me and Kyro. With tears in the dragoness’ eyes momentarily, we turned our attention to her while she hanged her head, gazing back down upon the paper in question before resuming whatever that she was stating about formally.

It had taken a while. But she was done at the time. When the paper was dropped upon the surface of the steel table in front of her, she turned her attention back towards us and gave a slight nod. Kyro turned to me, I exhaled a breath before nodding responding after the short silence again. “We found what we were looking for then. Lets head outside and see if the others had any luck finding the secret files that Yang had wanted at the time being.” “There must be more than this case than what we had initially thought, Ling.” Responded Kyro to no one’s question as Natty had found him muttering that to himself. But was loud enough and me being close to him was enough for me to hear him to which I gave a nod towards him and faintly smiled, “Indeed it is. But whatever that the Moon kingdom had in store of us.” I hesitated in silence, closing my eyes before reopening them and spoke “Guess we got it anyway.”

At the end of my own quote; our walkie had burst towards life. Static had came seconds after the click and Ozkun and Murjur’s voices were called out from the speakers. Although their voices were a bit distorted at the time being, we could hear them loud and clear. However, long into their investigation they had stumbled upon the immediate answer that their voices were getting louder and almost impossible to ignore at the time’s being. Kyro and Natty held their ears; I shake my head at them to prevent them from ignoring whatever the other two had to offer at the time’s being. They had talked about the secret files that they had discovered. In addition, it was not just use that they had dirt upon. It was the entire intertwine realms. “They were going to backstab REC.” I exclaimed, realizing the immediate situation we had found and fallen ourselves upon. For immediately upon acknowledging such, I take towards the skies once more with Natty and Kyro following close or struggling to close the distance between us. I immediately pressed the black button and called out towards the second group and Yang as well. Warning Yang about the potential dangers of staying inside of the building that somehow ‘they’ had knew about however and to regroup with the second group over to wherever Yang had decided to relocated.

Yet despite me repeating my mate’s name several times over the walkie, I never gotten her response at all.