Invane: Reaper Roles

I stand around the plains. My eyes up front into the horizon before me. Besides me were Harkell and Havlut; the later two who did not want to participate in whatever what the others were doing however. It had made me so curious as to what they were talking about; but upon me turning my head to face their snouts, they just shook and remained silent as if they did not want to speak of it anymore. I only responded with a blink towards them then dropped the conversation at hand and walked off. Harkell and Havlut continued pursuing me from behind.

As we continued through the woods; we listened to the silence and the tranquility surrounding us. I only smiled faintly upon hearing these sounds that I had taken a deep breath; before exhaling it all of the sudden. With the cold winds blowing through my fur, I opened my eyes and resumed my walk. Harkell and Havlut, blinked upon me, but remained silent as if they did not want to disturb whatever routine to what I was doing. I only smiled onto them, before nudging my head forth and walked as they jogged a bit to catch up towards me.

We walked further north. Through the woods where the sun was being blocked by the trees and leaves above us. Where no one was upon the forest plains except for us, which was perhaps a good thing for me however. However, after quite some time, we had reached upon the lakes where the other wolves were. I immediately stopped; fixing my attention upon them in surprise. Just as Harkell and Havlut submerged from the forest entrance to the lake behind me; both of which blinked fixing their attention towards the other wolves also, they almost screamed as they sprinted forth towards them.

“Stop!” Harkell and Havlut screamed or yelled or howled; not sure which honestly. I sprinted behind the pair of wolves, catching up to the rest of the pack where I hanged my head and stared upon the grounds below us instead. Pondering what they were doing with a red paintbrush and a large circle surrounding themselves. But I only shake my head; lifting my eyes and head high and turned towards the other wolves. Just in time for Harkell and havlut to argue with them. They were talking about some ancient ritual that was banned during the early medieval times, which I had presumed was after that empire ruled the world for some unknown number of years.

“...This ancient ritual is witchcraft. Not to be used during this time of year. Nor would it be done by modern or any time furthermore!” “But some of us are bored-” Complained Huzizu who started frowning and whining towards Havlut, responding to him with a glare or something close to it. The conversation stopped immediately; eyes fixed upon one another as if they were holding some sort of staredown. I exhaled a breath upon this immaturity and spoke up to clear the silence that surrounded us. “Enough. No one is going to get here hurt. Not when I am around. IF the wolves wanted to do such a ritual; they can do so. No one is hurting them except for themselves.” “But the witchrcraft.” Protested Harkell, I only shake my head at him. Growling gradually which seems to put Harkell in his place as he gave a nod towards me and backed off. Allowing Huzizu, Haizyo and Horizoki smiled upon response, continuing their work without a care in the world as Harkell and Havlut just mindlessly stared upon what was going on.

However, when I looked over to the two; they seemed scared somehow. Fearful or anxious about something. Something that I just frowned upon. Just as I walked forth to comfort them or to say some encouraging things; the circle that the three wolves had drew upon suddenly glowed. Brightest of white it had seemed that it had nearly blinded everyone. Huzizu and Haizyo widened their eyes and fled at the sight of it; stopping short upon the edges of the circle beneaeth them. I, Harkell and Havlut hanged our heads towards the circle. Gazing upon something that submerged from the surface; brought up into our presence.

A reaper. It was really tall that the cloth or whatever jacket that it was wearing was a bit too small for the likes of him. He had not fur or skin; just all bones it had seemed. The skeleton face was hiding behind the hood; but we never cared about that. The reaper was wearing a black clothing surrounding itself; covering its entire body it had seemed. It lowered his head; hanging to point towards me, Harkell and Havlut. The two british wolves backed up and stand behind me however. “Are you the one who summon me, mortal?” “I have a name, you know.” I growled back upon the reaper; unsure of what words I should piece together afterwards as a longing silence fell between us; the reaper raised his head and chuckled. But it seems to be a rattle of bones anyway.

Just before the reaper to speak; someone jumped into the air, snatching the scythe from the reaper’s hand and ran away with it. Horizoki and Huzizu followed Haizyo down the fields. Back into the forest grounds behind us; just as me and the reaper looked at one another then turned towards the forest entrance behind me. We both had mixed reactions; I was a bit surprised about the move. Even more surprise that Haizyo was the one brave enough to steal such scythe away from the reaper however. The reaper, in question, was gnashing his bone teeth. A low hiss vibrated his bones before screaming out with his hand raised up; he shouted out towards the wolves running away “Come back with my scythe! You will be sorry if you do not return it!” “Sorry!” Shouted Horizoki although his voice seemed faint; indicating that he was a bit far from where we were. “We needed it!” “For what?” I exclaimed, popping into the conversation. But they seemed to be long gone.

“Come on.” Responded Harkell; as he nudged into my flank and turned to where the wolves were running into. I exhaled a breath, nodding to Harkell while Havlut frowned. But complied anyway. For the three of us, plus the reaper chased down the wolves through the forest trees, trying our best to catch up to the other wolves. But by the time we gotten ourselves our of the forest; we were a bit surprise into seeing what Horizoki, Haizyo and Huzizu were using the reaper for. For they were in the center of the plains; Horizoki was the one holding the reaper up high above himself. His head was tilted backwards so he was facing the blue skies above him also. Haizyo and Huzizu; both grabbing onto the plains surrounding Horizoki, staring to ‘reap’ the rewards persay however.

I screamed at the three wolves; they froze immediately and shift their attention towards me. Just as I had walked forth towards them. Harkell and Havlut joined in behind me while Horizoki lowered the scythe to the ground and glanced upon me. A short staredown of silence submerged before Horizoki break into a smile and twisted his body suddenly. Forcing us to either duck or back off. We chose the latter however. As we removed ourselves from the fields behind us, we fixed out attention towards Horizoki who started spinning through the plains; reaping the harvest beneath them. Lots of crops were flying our way. Hitting Havlut and the reaper at once; both of which exclaimed out towards the wolf in question. But it had seemed that Horizoki was not listened to them and just continued then after.

Halfway through the completion of the harvesting; the reaper got fed up with the insanity of the wolves and chased after Horizoki instead. He chased him all around the fields; even weaving in and out of the forest grounds adjacently to us. I turned towards Harkell who said nothing in the following silence; while our eyes were fixed upon the chase that was unfolding before us. Surprisingly, it was a bit funny however that I just find myself shaking my own head because of it. Harkell and Havlut then chased after Horizoki when the reaper was exhausted and flopped upon the ground. ‘Dead’. Everyone was a bit surprise by this that they all froze in place; fixing their attention towards the lying reaper who was still for the moment. When Horizoki stepped up towards the reaper; tapping his head with the scythe that he had stolen from him, suddenly, something grabbed onto his foot.

We were all shocked while Horizoki struggled to removed himself from the hand beneath him. Yet we were even more surprise when the reaper sudden raised himself up; eyes up front towards the wolf in question and stepped forth towards him. An ensured confident laughing occurred; but it was not evil or anything as a matter of fact however. Rather it was more of a joking matter; although none of the wolves, including myself, were even laughing or having fun at all. As the remaining free wolves watched Horizoki forcefully hand over the scythe to the reaper, everything had went back normal again. The reaper was silent; still chuckling however with the hands that were tied to Horizoki, released their grip upon him. Horizoki flopped over, a bit surprised, but fixed his attention towards the reaper.

“What do you want?” Horizoki question the reaper. “It had indeed seem that he is not here for fun at all.” I heard Havlut commented, Harkell nodded; acknowledging it as I find myself staring at the reaper for a moment. Then stepped forth inbetween themselves, growling towards the reaper and said “Alright. What is it really that you wanted from us?” A short pause of silence; before the reaper lowered his head and eyes down towards me. Our eyes met; I was not a bit surprise that his eyes were eyeless. Thinking about it had made me shiver for some unknown reason however. As the reaper rose his head back again towards the horizon in front of himself, he spoke out towards me.

“I want to find my list.”

“That was what you are here for?” I exclaimed. Horizoki, Huzizu, Haizyo, Harkell and Havlut were surprise too that they wear ar shocked faced upon their own snouts. Ears upright; pupils in their eyes going white and a soundless silence hovering above everyone. Birds from an unknown direction and location started chirping outloud upon the tranquility of the silence. Yet it was interrupted when the reaper nodded his head, “Yes. My list. I had dropped it here when I doing my job in the intertwine realms.” “Where did you last lose it then?” I heard Havlut said, exhaling as he does it. Harkell shake his head in disbelief. Horizoki, Haizyo and Huzizu remained silent; yet they sat upon the plains beneath them while their eyes stared forth to the conversation between the reaper and Havlut. Another pause of a silence came between the reaper and Havlut; before the reaper responded to him afterwards “I last lost it somewhere within Canine. I think. It was some other town, I guess. After that was the beach.” “That is canine and Reptile; one after the other.” I informed Havlut who turned towards me and nodded his head; frowning before he turned tail and motioned the reaper with his tail. “Come on then, lets head straight into Canine first. You did say it was inside of a town somewhere.” The reaper and Havlut went, leaving us alone for the time being.

Yet, Horizoki, Huzizu and Haizyo ran off to join Havlut and the reaper leaving me and Harkell by ourselves upon the plains. Something that I just exhaled and shake my head before glancing over to Harkell who gave me an nod back; we joined up with the other three just as they had joined up with the reaper and Havlut. We found ourselves in canine. The place had looked deserted. No one was about upon the streets or roads therein. The houses and buildings to our sides looked abandoned and purest of darkness within them that it had seemed that no one was home therein. I exhaled another breath before turning towards Havlut, questioning him “Where do you think we could find that list then? It is here after all you know.” “Somewhere.” Frowned Havlut, fixing his attention at the surroundings around him then glanced back towards me, shaking his head.

Acknowledging it, I turned back towards the reaper. But was a bit surprise that he was already gone. Left to our own devices to search or his list; I frowned upon noticing it. But shake my head and glanced back towards my pack while Havlut snarled, Horizoki, Huzizu frowned and flattened their ears. Haizyo just sighed and spoke, barely a whisper “We should split up then. Retrace his steps and find where that list is after all.” “Yeah should be around here-” I started with a smile; but was interrupted when Harkell submerged from the stone on our right with a huge pile of some stuff upon his back. He was also humming by the way. As he regrouped with us; I blinked at him. Yet Havlut was the first to speak towards Harkell, “Where did you get that stuff and what were you doing in that store?” “I thought everything was abandoned.” Started Horizoki with Huzizu and Haizyo agreeing with such said wolf. Harkell just smiled at the rest of us and dropped his head to the ground; sliding away the items that he had bought which gathered at the grounds beneath them, he spoke to the rest of us “These are the items that we can be using to find the reaper and find the list. Wherever that is however.” “Then let just find it then.” Proclaimed Huzizu with his paw raised above his head; everyone else joined in also.

A loud one off cheer exploded upon the tranquility of the canine realm; after which came a series of rapid footsteps that Horizoki, Huzizu and Haizyo were creating as they split off from one another and headed off into different locations. Harkell and Havlut split themselves off too with Harkell heading south from where we were and Havlut joining in onto Huzizu and Horizoki who had already fled Northward. All of which had left me alone with the small pile of devices and artifacts that even none of my packmates ever knew how to use at all. For I just exhaled a breath and shake my own head as disbelief hanged over my own head. After which, I complied with it otherwise and just moved onward. Heading westward; joining in with the remaining wolves not mentioned during our split up and started running.

By an hour’s time, we all gathered back together. Everyone was exhausted, panting heavily which was visible. Ears straining, but were pulled back afterwards. As every eye was turned towards me; I gave the nod to them and they had revealed what they had ‘gathered’. All of the items were not the list that the reaper had expected. Thus upon which, I let off a growl towards them and narrowed my eyes for points while the wolves surrounding me whimpered and whined. But none of them protested at all. In all; the items gathered to me were the most ridiculous things I had ever seen ever. A chew toy; white bone from a museum no doubt, cup of tea that was shattered into a thousands pieces, someone’s pants which I presumed was from a mailcanine or something.

“Go! Just go and find that item, you idiots!” I exclaimed outloud; startling everyone as they fled at the moment’s noticed. Fading from my sights while I rapidly decreased my own volume which followed by an exhaled. I fell to silence while my eyes fell to the items in front of me. A shake of my head came afterwards before I unknowingly hit some of them, casting them towards the sides afterwards. For within silence, I sat upon the hard warmth grounds beneath me and raised my eyes and head towards the bleak skies above me. Pondering about something.

It had taken some thirty minutes or something longer than that for the wolves to reappeared upon my sights. Dropping their items upon the grounds; panting heavily once more while their eyes fixed upon me. I stared upon the items that they had offered. But something amongst them had catch my eye somehow. A piece of paper that was damped by the wolf’s saliva somehow. Disgusted, I grabbed it with my paw; unfolding it afterwards and looked upon the revealed information in front of me. A map was showed. Two realms adjacent to one another; two black arrows pointing to each of the realms, labeling them. A red symbol was marked at the center of the map. Leaning over to Reptile it had seemed. I exhaled another breath and frowned, before turning my attention towards Harkell and spoke; “Go to Vaster. Find this red mark.” Harkell gave a nod and fled at the moment’s notice just as I had turned towards the others.

But before I could say anything to them, a puff of grayish magic submerged from the grounds. Then it had surrounded us suddenly that we all forced ourselves to turn towards the side. Glancing towards the reaper who stepped forth from the grayish magic and rattled at us, “Stop playing games with me. Where is that list! I know you dogs has have it!” “Hey Mr. Reaper.” Spoke a voice which had interrupted the reaper for the moment’s time. For just as he turned towards the one speaking to him, a sudden bone came out of nowhere; bonking him onto the skull head. “Here is your bone. I heard it is chilling with us lately.” Commented Horizoki with a grin upon his face. This had pissed off the reaper so much that he swung his scythe at such said wolf who started avoiding the attack altogether. All the while taunting him for whatever how long or perhaps he was bored to death, we would not know however.

“Glad he is distracted…” Trailed whispered Harkell to Haizyo; Huzizu and I gave our nods while watching the reaper trying to ‘kill’ Horizoki. We continued watching the ‘game’ in front of us. Well into sundown when Horizoki grew exhausted and was cornered at the time. The reaper watched with ‘gleed’ upon his ‘victory’ and raised the scythe above his head. But just as he was about to swing it down; someone screamed behind him. “I got it!” Popped Harkell just as he submerged from the bushes behind him. He ran up towards us; I snatched the list from him and set it down upon the grounds in front of me. The reaper turned towards us; then to the white piece of paper beneath me and walked over. Snatched the white note, read it for a moment before giving us a nod. “That is the one.” Then he faded into existence.

A pause came: everyone fixed their attention to where the spot of where the reaper was once was. The gradually, everyone turned their attention towards Harkell. I exhaled a breath and nodded; everyone cheered. Throwing their black hats into the air above us while a lot of chatting was involved. I turned over to Harkell who was grouped together with Huzizu and Haizyo for the moment, I walked up towards the three and sat down. Harkell acknowledged me momentarily just I had spoke to him “So was that list real or not?” Thus came a pause. Harkell narrowed his eyes upon me, letting of a smirk of deceit. Gradually; me, Huzizu and Haizyo widened our eyes and break into a smile. But mines was short lived after realizing the situation that Harkell had set us upon, I screamed after Horizoki and Havlut who turned towards me. I motioned them for a regroup which they did; as we fled the scene immediately. For we had already knew how deep we were in trouble for.

“But it is so worth it in the end!” Exclaimed Havlut with gleed as Horizoki responded to the rest of us “We might not be able to gather back upon Virkoal Forest at all.” “I agreed.” Harkell acknowledged, giving a nod to Horizoki while he and Horizoki stopped, forcing the rest of us to stop also. “We should head to Vaster. Hide out there until the reaper grew tired, then we can flee back to Virkoal.” “Alright.” I nodded at the suggestion while everyone turned their heads towards me, “let hide out in Vaster.”