Banni: Howlance Terrors

I was constantly hearing the sounds of the howls surrounding me and filling my ears and my own bedroom in the following shattered silenced. My eyes were shot opened; ears pointed upward while listening to the sounds just outside of my own room, I think was where the sources are however. So I raised myself from bed, walked over towards the window at the side of my room and started opening it. For I glanced outside, staring to the shadow darkness of the horizon line in front of me. But saw nobody there besides the werewolf and the constant sounds of the howls wailing through the midnight of the day. I frowned, my mind pondered upon wondering where those sounds were. But my attention was drawn towards the werewolf beneath me who started waving at me, I waved back. No hesitation as I reeled back into the window of my room. Heading out the door of my bedroom, down the stairs and into the first floor where I ran immediately towards the right. Grabbing hold onto the front door in front of me, which had allowed the werewolf to enter inside.

“Thanks.” He would respond to me silently while all I can give was just a silent head shake before following it up with a question, “What is going on? Why are there howls just outside of our realm? Had we called the VPD on this yet?” The werewolf just shake his head, frowning while he had responded to me “No. The howls are coming from the wolves and coyotes; but it was not from Virkoal Forest at all.” “Then it is just outside the perimeter of the realm, right?” The werewolf nodded his head, “What should we do?” “We have a problem, before we could address with the wolves and coyotes outside however.” The werewolf ignored my question, slightly making me irritated by his answer as all I could do was just narrowed my eyes onto him. A pause of silence prompted the werewolf to answer back onto me, “The lampposts of the canine realm have turned to darkness. The howls are coming and we need to bring them back into light.” “The lampposts?” I questioned the werewolf who nodded his head back onto me, “Yes. There are eight in total; scattered around the realm.”

I gave a nod onto him. The werewolf nodded in response too before he departed from my house. Out the door where he disappeared before my eyes, I gave an exhale of a sigh and frowned before shortly following him out the door. My heart was beating fast as the grip of the reality fell upon me. Thoughts and anxiety hinder upon my mind while the door behind me shut automatically. I had half anticipated that the werewolf would be here, awaiting for me. But he disappeared from my front porch; ‘just as he always do however.’ I thought sighing mentally. But I shake my head and returned my attention back onto what was in front of me and the mission at hand while I leave my house behind, searching for the eight lampposts scattered around the canine realm.

I first began upon the road; at a crossroads however. With two roads stretched from the center of the crossroads heading elsewhere, I glanced towards the two roads in front of me. Staring at each one. I had decided to take the road on the left and walked alongside of it, heeding down the road. Shortly, I had bypassed some developments where jackals, dholes and hyenas were gathered together. All eyeing onto me with their blindness eyes stars. It was really making me uncomfortable however that I had just refused to look down the development roads. Each development were similar to one another; yet they were unique because of one small difference that set them apart from the other developments. That small difference was harder to find, especially if when the citizens of the development were staring you down. I felt cold shivers when making eye contact onto them that I just walked on from the entrance of the development I was standing, frozen upon. For I just continued walking; bypassing each one until I had reached the next stop sign at the very end.

One road curved passed the sign; heading forth towards the left. It was indeed the last development then that I had no choice but to enter through it. While my eyes were staring onto the development houses that were erected here, I had noticed something in the far distance. Something that was shuttered upon the pure darkness therein. I squinted my eyes staring at this object that was there and I had found myself heading closer towards it as if I was drawn towards the object at hand. Before I had knew it, I was already hitting onto the grass. Stepping onto whatever was hiding inside of it. Yet I never cared for I continued on. Closing in onto the object and walking through the blades of the grass underneath me, shortly until I had reached upon the object in front of me. A lamppost. It was the first of the eight that I had needed to find. I smiled faintly upon seeing it; though I find that warmth of the smile fading entirely.

While my ears were flattened against my own head, listening to the constant howls just outside of me, my attention was drawn towards the lamppost in front of me. I reached for it; extending my paw into the surface of the lamppost and knocked onto the surface. Hearing the hard knocks reflected onto me, entering into my ears had tell me that this was real. But why was I checking if it was real or not? I frowned onto this question, pondering. But I had less time to think when the lamppost suddenly turned on. Its light completely blinded me temporarily that I flinched back and frowned, raised my paws onto my own face. Covering my eyes while I tried to regain my sight. It had taken a while before I was able to. Luckily, everything had remained the same.

When I came to, my attention was back towards the lamppost in question. Something appeared upon its surface surprisingly which had startled me considering that it was not there beforehand. A while piece of paper was taped to the lamppost; a red arrow was drawn onto the white paper. Pointing westward it had seemed. My attention was drawn towards the west, gazing down at the distance of the crossroads ahead of me; where another stop sign was there stabbed upon the grounds beneath itself. The streets of where it intersects the crossroads, were both empty. But I swear I thought I saw that same figure standing behind the crossroads; staring at me with that soulless eyes however. I shivered upon seeing that figure, but had chose to ignore it otherwise and just keep walking forward. Bypassing the first lamppost which was now onto my right, following the parallel road that leads me straight into the intersection ahead of me. Here, I kept eye onto the figure. But it was gone when I drew close towards it. Another sigh escaped from my lips while my head shifts left to right; gazing down onto the following roads, their horizons and destinations.

However, before I could make a decision of where to go; I had noticed something onto the stop sign adjacent to me. Another piece of paper was tapped onto the surface of it too; showcasing a map of the entire south half of the canine realm. There were three lamppost drawings here. One of which was at the bottom corner of the paper. Two others were to the left of the paper. None of them were at the right. Except, for a dead drawing of a fox that was there. It was something that I was curious about; but was anxious to see or even meeting whomever had killed this fox however. With thoughts relating towards the figure whom was now ‘stalking’ me apparently, I frowned and shivered following one another as my eyes shut close; turning my head towards the left and headed down the street then. For I had hoped that the piece of paper was right after all. Considering I was following it to the T.

I found myself walking down the street, eyes up into the horizon staring onto the pure darkness that was the skies. There was no developments over to my left and right sides. Yet somehow the buildings were still there. As my eyes turned towards the building’s position before me, I had initially noticed that their front doors were opened wide. Darkness from them were pouring out into the night where it would be able to mixed in through the darkness. For so far, nothing terrible had happened upon the interiors of these opened doors. Thus, everything was indeed fine and dandy. Or at least I hoped it was however. I had not realized that I had slowed down my speed; I was ‘crawling’ through the road that I was walking in. My eyes turned to the opened front doors in front of me. Staring down onto the abandoned houses that were in either side of me. After a while of boring silence, I had already reached upon the end of the road. There I spotted a lamppost that was adjacent to a lamp and a house for some reason. I sprinted the rest of the way of the road; reaching onto the lamppost where I had committed the same process again. The light within the lamppost opened up and brighten its surroundings while I departed from it suddenly.

I headed off towards the right of the lamppost; bypassing the house over to my left. A bunch of trees followed in from the house. Then came the plains shortly afterwards. That was changed into a white fence as I continued down the road. Soon I was out of the development and back upon the main road once more. As my attention was raised high into the horizon, I had noticed someone at the center of the crossroads. Far from where I was. It met my eyes briefly; I had noticed what color eyes it had. They were purely red; bloodshot as realistic blood seep from the sockets of those eyes. Additionally, upon a second look, I had noticed that they were not ‘his’ eyes. Rather, they were someone else. Whether it be a fox, wolf, coyote, dhole, jackal or hyena. I would not know. Nor I do not want to figure that out however.

I felt afraid that my body was starting to shake and shiver upon the mention of the canine eyes being implemented upon the sockets of this ‘it’. I immediately turned towards the next road that interconnects to mine and left the main road at that. Yet while I was walking down the road, the image of it bores into my mind that I closed my eyes and shake my head; wanting to rid of that image at all. However, I bumped into something in front of me. It was so sudden that I opened my eyes and glanced upon the new founding surroundings around me. I had noticed that the entire scenery unfolding before me was the same as before. Nothing had changed at all. But when I turned my attention towards whatever was before me. I had noticed the werewolf. He was turned; facing me. Eyes looking rather worried however. His body was tensed, I could feel it upon that first impact that my attention was drawn towards his eyes. We fell silent shortly after; yet the werewolf breaks that silent.

“You see it do you not?” I gave a slow nod, the werewolf frowned suddenly and shake his head. He started muttering something underneath his breath; his paws clenching while he silently growled to himself. “We should do something about it.” I started, “No. We only had six more to go; we need to find the lamppost at once.” “But that thing-” I exclaimed, only to get immediately interrupted by the werewolf in front of me who just bore his eyes onto my, I shivered. But compelled; becoming completely silent as I felt a paw onto my shoulder, “Do not worry. He will be dealt with at all.” “You sure?” “Positive.” Thus that was the end of that conversation as I felt myself been pushed forward ahead, the werewolf ran in the opposing direction. I had wanted to go after him; to ensure of his safety because I was not sure of that ‘being’ that was now with us. With me. With my eyes closed shortly before opening again, I had immediately turned around and sprinted in the opposite direction of the werewolf, now heading up the road. Towards the end of it where another crossroad was before me.

Having brought back that picture that was still within my own memory, I had remembered that the other lamppost was somewhere close by to where I was. For as I had recalled, it was somewhere within the north corner of the paper, which meant it was somewhere northwest from where I was. I glanced towards the left; staring down onto the hillside that was there. More buildings and houses were parallel to the road; following it down towards the level grounds below. I shift my attention towards the right; gazing at the hillside that was there. A being was at the apex; its eyes staring onto me now. My eyes widened in response, noticing it. Thus sprinting to the left; descending the hill while the being howled into the night and gave chased. More and more howls joined in onto the initial as I hear more sprints and running all around me. I felt heat running down my spine while my own body ran into overtime. I felt the wind howling into my ears while I propelled myself forth after reaching the level grounds of the hillside behind me now. I ran down the remains of the road; in being pursuit by thousands of werewolves behind me. All changing their howls into whispers of the words; but I had blocked them out all entirely.

We reached the crossroads after a few minutes of running. Thus I had turned myself over to the right and headed down that road instead. The werewolves continued their pursuit of me. Running that line behind me as I tried to run left and right roads; heading into new founding roads that were being built around the realm. It had taken long and hard to shake them off; for by that time I was already somewhere within the shadows of the night. At a corner of a road; hiding behind some bushes that I had already immediately seen. The werewolves themselves had split into two; each of them heading north and westward. Fading from my sights and sound; until everything had became quiet once again. Only the howls were filling the night skies. But they seemed distance as I exposed myself out into the public and backtracked the road that I was running to before reaching the bushes behind me. I ran some roads; and reached upon the destination of where I was deterred by them.

Thus instead of heading eastward like I did in order to shake them off from me, I headed towards the east which was probably north at the initial time. Heading down that road now; my eyes rose high into the horizon. Gazing towards whatever was ahead of me as something had started to appear. A light that shines upon the ground; coming from the lamppost therein. I had found another one. I walked forward, grabbing onto the lamppost before me which had immediately turned off suddenly. My ears perked upon listening to the soundless silence surrounding me, having heard that the howls were constantly dwelling with the number of lights that was turned off. It was something that I had noticed while trying to turn them all off however. Something that perhaps cane be useful at an event of an invasion however.

A long bang was what interrupted my mental thinking as I had immediately turned my over my shoulder. Gazing onto the werewolf that was there; faintly smiling to himself and to me. “Great work.” “I think that those werewolves that were chasing us were phantoms. Individuals that used to belong to the realms before being driven out or extinct afterwards. Such that, we only heard of them from fairy tales and mythology.” “Partly right.” The werewolf answered me, though shaking his head upon the other half of the answer “Werewolves are real. We just do not see them here. Yes, they were driven out. But they were not extinct. Mainly because, we exist.” He pointed onto me and himself. I had remembered that I was a werewolf too.

Blinking onto that, I suddenly frowned and glanced onto him while he walked passed me and headed down the road in front of him. We walked down the intended road. Bypassing garbage bags and trash cans that were off towards the side and corner of the road. Another white fence, something that I had not seen before in a while, was erected parallel to the road that we were walking on too. As we walked, we walked in silence and our attention was raised towards the horizon in front of us. Staring onto the moonless night whereas the stars twinkled amongst the night skies. Buildings and houses soon appeared before our own visions after a while of walking in silence. Thus we had reached upon the end of the road.

The werewolf adjacent to me exhaled a breath; turned his attention towards the road over to my right side and said nothing as he slightly pushed me off from him. I stumbled, a bit surprise by his actions. But nonetheless never questioned him as his eyes met up with mine. A short silent conversation followed before the howls had erupted again upon the horizon of the night, something that the werewolf immediately turned his head over his shoulder. Gazing behind himself before sprinting off; fading rapidly from my sights. I gaze onto where he was heading, but he had already turned the corner. Disappearing from my visions completely. Until I had realized that I was alone and isolated and still hearing the howling of the noises behind me while sprinting and running came rapidly towards where I was. I instantly turned around; gazing towards the first thing that I can see upon the street I was at and hid myself there.

It was a trashcan. Something that was bigger than me. I closed the lid, a loud sound erupted the silence while I waited for the sounds to fade. Gone were the sounds of rapid footsteps and sprinting after some thirty seconds. It was like a fast moving storm with harsh winds blowing behind it. I exhaled a sigh; relieved before jumping out from my own hiding spot. Whereas a wolf was in front of me already tackled upon the ground and dropping the bag in the meantime. I was surprise to see a wolf here that I had called out towards him. “You alright?” “Never better, Rannar.” The wolf remarked, chuckling afterwards. I lifted off my own body from him while he dropped the bag into the can. Immediately turned towards me and crossed his arms, questioning me “Where were you? We had a meeting like two hours ago but you never showed up? Did you forget?” “Never.” I responded suddenly, “I just caught myself up to a chase right now. Had you heard those howls?” “The possessive corrupted wolves and coyotes?” The wolf questioned me, gave a hesitated answer after my nod “I figured as much.” He said, “ ‘figured?’” I questioned him, though he just shake his head. “When ya done with that, just come back into the meeting. We have something to discuss after all.” “Got it.” I responded, resuming down the road once again. With the wolf waving behind me just as I had turned the corner, a thought burst into my mind. It was something that the wolf had said during our short conversation and had indeed got me thinking somehow.

I shake my head upon the following thoughts Returned into the reality of the situation in front of me and prepared to run for the remaining lampposts that needed to be shut off.