Banni: Rusher Runner

I was mostly tired by the day’s end. Just staring out onto the window, looking to the moon that hangs into the midnight skies. Watching as the tranquility of the silence go right by. I yawned following the pause and just shake my head afterwards, not wanting to delve into staring into whatever was out there. Instead, I stepped forward onto the bed in front of me. Lying down with a hard slump that threw the pillows into the air above me. Flopped down onto the surface of the bed afterwards, lying adjacent to where I was. The ringing echoed into my own ears as they flickered steadily in the silence, for nothing would perhaps ruined this entirely night however.

But during the first few seconds of my own sleep, I heard a weird whirring sound that popped out of nowhere and filled my ears suddenly. I aroused, blinking my eyes while they gradually opened. Groaning vibration sounds came from my own snout while I rose from the bed, fixing my attention towards the window adjacent to me. That was when; I had noticed my packmates. All sitting there at the edge of the road and sidewalk, formed up together. But their lips were silent. I blinked suddenly and stormed to the window. Pulling it up instantly and popped my head outward. I started shouting out towards them, “What are you guys doing out here in midnight? We already done our shift and plans for the day, right?” A pause later and I groaned when the packmates turned to meet my eyes, “Do not tell me there is one more right? Can it wait until morning?” “It is not about that, Rannar.” Responded the wolf, raising his paw towards the side which I followed instantly and gasped suddenly in response.

For there was something there in the horizon; something glowing dimly against the black night skies. I frowned, wondering what that was and I leaned a bit forward unknowingly in hopes of getting a good look. Unfortunately, that had threw my balance off from the window that I had popped out of and quickly succumb to the gravity therein, falling to the grounds. Hitting the bushes later on. The others had laughed and chuckled about it; I just responded with a grumble to them. But kept silent, knowing full well that it was indeed my own fault. Raising to my feet, I stepped forth towards my packmate as they gathered up. All poised and ready to go, I gave a nod to them. They raised their paws into the air, charging forth towards the glow in the distance.

Perhaps we had taken too much time in the meanwhile before we had reached upon the destination at hand. When we do, the glow had stopped suddenly. In its place was a note; an pawprint was imprinted upon the note at the south corner. The coyote instantly grabbed it before the wolf or dhole, both of which grumbled and growled as their attention was drawn towards the coyote who just simply smiled onto them, teasingly. Holding the note at a good distance from his own face, he began to read the contents that was written onto the note. To our surprise, it was short of brief. Only telling the juicy important parts of the mission at hand: or the problem at hand. I frowned, ears pulled back after the coyote had finished. Everyone else turned to me while I responded upon the silence. A good five seconds later apparently. Then I spoke, “We should split up then. Find the device in these following locations, it should be there.” “And if not?” “Then we will have to brace for whatever comes out of it.” “How much time we got?” Questioned the dhole, turning his attention towards the coyote who reread the note statement in his paw, “About five hours. Plenty of time.” “But not enough time to cover everything.” Stated the wolf. Everyone was silent; yet their eyes were fixed onto one another. Thus in a silent nod, they all peel from me, leaving into their own intended directions and faded from my own sights.

My ears flattened against my skull while I started whimpering upon the limited time that we have upon finding that disk. Yet despite there being worry, there was also curiosity about the disk and its connection to the glowing atmosphere that we have been seeing these past few days ago. The more I had thought about it; the more I had received a headache about it and I gradually growled to myself to refrain myself from thinking anymore. Just leaving the spot that the meeting spot once taken place and charged southward first to find the device there.

Upon reaching the southern end of the canine realm, I shift my attention towards my surroundings. Looking to the rows of buildings and towers that were there; all adjacent to one another apparently. As my eyes stared onto each of the buildings, I looked onto the blacken and shadow windows that were imprinted upon them, with false faint hope that there would be a glow from any of them. For the first few minutes, everything was darkened that I had forced myself to walk around the series of blocks surrounding these buildings and towers to passed the time. But nothing had happened as a end result. Clenching my paws, I was tempted to storm into the first building that I had saw in order to charge up the stairs and look for the device onto my own. But knowing full well that would be ‘invasion of privacy’ a rule that had been given out to officials and police of the canine realms, I held myself back. Yet my ears flickered upon hearing something humming nearby.

Suddenly turning around, I glance towards a building that was three buildings away from where I was. Southward, which was behind me of course. I stared onto the similarity of the greenish blue glowing that had came from one of the windows. Dimly like the atmosphere at the very beginning of this event. Quietly, I walked over to the source of that glow. Coming up upon the building’s door in front of me, I suddenly raised my paw and stopped. Instead, I latched my paw against the knob beneath me, turning the knob gradually and opened the door afterwards. A sharp bell rung forcing me to freeze. But I had noticed that no one was around. Not even on the inside however either. Knowing full well that I was not safe, I just take a step forward and entered through the building. The door slammed behind me, the bell struck but due to how hard the door closed, the bell was dropped onto the ground. Shattered into a thousand or more pieces which now makes it easier for anyone to invade right on in.

A voice called out into the distance; my ears had picked it up. I froze by response, my eyes widened in fear and I felt the paleness upon my own cold body. Instantly, I shift my attention towards the left. Dived right into a pile of cans that was upon the entrance of the aisle however. Due to my force projection; even the pile of cans fell over. Shattering things upon the grounds and even opening up the cans which exposes the food that contained inside. Such the smell was good that I was starting to hear something in the distance; coming right close for me however. I remained still underneath the opening of cans piles above me while a new set of walking sounds erected into my own ears. I was screw no matter what!

On the other paw, I had noticed that the owner of the building was an old wolf who a shotgun armed to his paws. He seemed angry for some reason; something that I would not messed with considering that it was me whom invading his own property. As both of the sounds emerged and merged together making it both impossible and indistinguishable to know them apart, I squeeze my eyes shut and growled silently to myself. I rose up onto my own two feet; the mess of meat already piling onto my fur that it had already covered by entire body, leaving behind that meaty mess. The wolf turned around instantly and stared onto me; gasped in shocked before firing. Yet it had missed and he repeated the action once more. Missing each time that he had did. Meanwhile, I had sprinted off from hsi view. Running straight through the aisle and reached the very end of it where I had immediately turned towards the right and sprinted.

I heard shouting which I had preseed it to be that old wolf whose paw was rose into the air, shouting something angrily at me. That voice had faded into the distance; where only the silence and ringing replaced that now forgotten sound. I was already at the other side of the building’s room; reaching upon a pair of silver doors which I had unknowingly passed. But stopped suddenly before shifting my attention towards it. For instantly I entered right on in, finding myself in complete darkness where I cannot find anything else however. It was peaceful and quiet upon the shadows of the room that I was now starting to hear ringing in my own ear. Ignoring that sound, I stepped forward. But hit something that was on the ground. It popped. Then an alarm went off; red sirens wailed through the room, cutting off the silence while I sprinted immediately down the room. Never caring what or who was coming after me however as I went into another room afterwards. Then another and then another until I find myself in front of the stairs. An black arrow with sign was imprinted to the side; adjacent to the stairs. It was pointing diagonally upward and towards the left. Black words were written onto that arrow; something that had said “Computer room.” ‘Perfect.’ I thought to myself, climbing the stairs.

Reaching the top of the flooring was a door in front of me. It was red; blue and white pattern stripes were wrapped around the red door eventually becoming its outliner. A warning sign was imprinted upon the door’s surface; but I had ignored all sorts of warnings however and just stepped to the door. Pushing forward and the door opened for me, I entered right in. I had found myself upon a simple small room; three glasses that were invisible were in front of me; all adjacent to one another. Beneath the windows was a set of controls; all in a form of a million buttons apparently. I stared onto the buttons; a frown formed upon my own snout while scanning through each and every one of them. Noting that there were no labels attached to each and every one of them that I had started groaning in frustration because of it. I would had to think and guess which button would I had to pressed; all the while avoiding anything that was practically dangerous for me and the building that I was upon.

‘But which button…’ I trailed off; staring once more upon the million of buttons in front of me before I just cursed silently to myself and just pressed them all; one at the time, all at the same time. A collection of beeps erupted into my own ear which was erected and pointy from hearing all of that sounds. I started blinking, kept my eyes upon the million of buttons beneath me in wonder if I had done it. Thus in a few moments after me pressing everything came a wailing alarm; it was not red like the previous room however. But a different color. Yet the sound was eerily the same as the previous room which my ears flattened against the surface of my own skull while I turned around and headed for the door in front of me. Only to find out that someone was there occupying it already. It was that same owner that I had met upon the building floor; his entire face was steamed with pure redness. His head was formed into a volcano poised to explode into angerment and blissed. I frowned upon noticing it, closed the door by jamming my paw against the button adjacent to the door. Turned around and sprinted out towards the window in front of me, shattering the glass as I bursted through the building and upon the road in front of me.

It was not that high considering that I was only on the second flooring of the building itself. Yet I felt that I was trapped and this was the only way for me to get through alive without even being caught by the wolf whom was still shouting at me from above. Landing upon the grounds beneath me, I rose to my feet despite my entire face and body stingy because of how hard I had crashed upon the grounds beneath me. Yet somehow I was alive. Alive and well which were good enough however. With an exhale of a sigh I just shake my own head, lifting my head afterwards towards the two story building that I had jumped out of, looking to that wolf whom was still shouting insults up there before disappearing afterwards. Perhaps already reeling his head back inside of the building already. During that time, I sprinted off from the road, down towards the crossroads ahead of me where I had immediately turned to the right, disappearing around the corner anyway.

Things had been relatively chaotic from what I had found out. The coyote and wolf had stormed the beach; looking for a note and the device that glows. They were promptly kicked out afterwards for digging through the sands, dirtying others that were there trying or struggling to enjoy their time on the beach. Yet that was not the only ones that had contributed to the cause however. For even the coyote and the wolf explained further about using stolen construction instruments and vehicles to even find what we were looking for at the time. They had even ran towards the shore waters and dove right in; strangling fish and among other species that were upon the see before they were caught and prompt kicked out by the Oceanic Federation police force. I was rather surprise to hear that the Federation have already gotten their own police force already considering that they were against it previously and during their earlier days.

Shaking my head to rid of any sort of thoughts that were within, I turned to the dhole whom explain to the rest of us about a last stop; somewhere within the head of the canine realm. An odd building was constructed there. “We should explore that place.” I stated, looking a bit interested. “But we still need to find that device although.” “It might be in there.” Said the wolf, “We might have not enough time.” Commented the coyote shifting his attention to both the wolf and the dhole in silence. Both of which fixed their attention to him; but silently nodded in response, agreeing with what the dhole was stating about considering how much time that we had lost trying to find such a device that glows and the relation to the invasion to the canine realm. I groaned silently remembering about the invasion to canine realm that I had started face palming myself while the others just stared onto me. Waving them off, I turned around immediately and sprinted across the sands. Straight out of the beach and back upon the roads once more where i had started heading straight; ignoring all of the other crossroads that I had came across however.

Eventually I had reached upon that destination. My eyes lifted upon the horizon; staring down onto the odd building that was in front of me. It was indeed odd; but also tall at the same time and reached the lower half of the moon. I gulped nervously; lowering my vision aim to the horizon instead and just stared onto the front door that was there. Something shined in the distance however; but I had ignored it while I walked slowly down the dirty road, leading up to the odd house in front of me. Finally closing up towards the door; I shift my attention towards the right. Gazing at the key that was shining brightly from the distance and scooped it up from the grounds beneath me. Shoving it into the keyhole immediately. The door clicked and opened automatically which had allowed me in. I stared to the darkness that awaits for me inside.

I felt the burst of cold nipping away against my own fur as I stepped forth through the door lines. Entering right on in. The pure darkness had covered my entire vision; rending it completely useless unless I would have myself a flashlight or something. But for so far; I had noticed nothing anyway. Gradually drifting my attention up front into the horizon, I stared onto a parallel of walls on either side of me, both of them sporting that same disgusting design that I had seen somewhere on an older store web or in a physical building elsewhere and just stick out my tongue; gagging slightly.

I had not noticed how disgusting the smell was upon here however for the smell was like old wet cheese or something that hatchlings and kits were to play in wet mud or puddles after a rainy or storm day. I only shake my head in response to all of this. Hardening and wrinkling my face also while I take a step forward and started walking through the path that was in front of me. For so far everything had been completely silent that only the ringing were to accompany me now. The walls continued to stretch farther than I had imaged for it had showed no signs of stopping at all even. My eyes widened upon this realization however. But I still continued to walk forward.

Step by step through the haunted darkened halls that I laid upon; I stretched my ears outward and listened to the silence and ringing that was around me. I had not noticed that I had became tensed because of this silence as if I was half anticipating a jumpscare or an enemy to pop out of nowhere. But for so far; nothing had happened and it was getting way too worrying because of it. I still continued forward. Staring at the walls on either side of me, looking to the normality sized doors that were rarely seen beforehand. I had also noted how the colors remained consistent upon the walls and flooring surrounding me. Also, I had noted that nothing came out to scare me at all.

It was about thirty minutes after I had entered into the hallway that I had noticed some changes to the halls themselves. The halls have started curving towards the right; the walls and flooring had changed their color now with white or blue coloring now. Blood now seeps through the cracks of the doors; pooling upon the flooring beneath my feet as I had stepped onto them by accident however. I had looked disgusted by them; but tried my best to ignored it however. For my attention was drawn towards the source of where the blood had came from and I reached out automatically and grabbed hold onto the doorknob in front of me where I opened the door and looked. Noticing a fox skeleton there in front of a device that was now glowing brightly. A disk was properly place above the device; I stepped over to the fox skeleton, crouching down and staring at the disk before flipping it over.

For there imprinted upon the disk’s surfaces were the words: “Cracks of the Underground”