Forage: Changed

Things had changed for the worst. No one had suspected it except for me as I was the only one not enjoying the party that was thrown upon this store. I find myself shivering in anticipation or fear as my attention was drawn towards the surroundings of the store where I was visible being able to see about. But there was nothing ordinary going around in the store; even as the music that was adjacent to me was getting louder by the five minutes mark. I shake my head again when my eyes were laid onto the participants, a mixture of coworkers and customers that rather just boogie down than to know the danger of the situation that they had found themselves upon.

While my head was tilted backwards and glancing towards the ceiling above me, I watched the illuminated lights therein. Flickering often and at times nothing at all as nothing ordinary or interesting was ever coming from them. I frowned, and leaned forward upon the chair that I was sitting on. Hearing the slight creaking underneath me, I raised my paws onto the bottom of my own chin and kept my eye upon the ‘party’ that was going in within the store itself to which everyone was now in a line, dancing with their paws or hands out in front of themselves, hitting onto the shoulders of the other person or canine that was in front of them. I only shake my head onto that response.

I fixed my attention towards the items that were surrounding the store; for indeed we have everything that a customer had needed after all. From pet supplies to canine supplies and everything else in between, we do indeed have it. I was not sure why our boss had the intendancy to just ‘buy’ everything that is rather needed for the store. In addition, I was not sure whether or not I should be happy about that either as I turned my head back toward the ‘dance’ that was now going on where everyone was just ‘freestyling’.

Raising myself from the silvery metal warm chair underneath me, I turned my attention towards the silver door that was a few feet away from where I was sitting at. I walked forth toward it; grabbing hold onto the door’s knob and twisted it, before pushing forward. The door opened immediately to my response and I was able to get in without any trouble however. Releasing the door, I turned around and glance onto the surrounding around me, noticing that the place was empty. Except for some process food and other supplies laying about. I kept my eye upon the ground; placing my feet in spots where I would not be able to touch upon the products and ‘damage’ them entirely as we were yelled at a couple of months ago, constantly for that reason and I shivered, not wanting to experience that ever again.

I make my way through the empty room; weaving myself through upon the piles of food and other things that were scattered upon the grounds beneath me. All the way towards the other side of the room where I had turned myself towards the right and walked right through the passageway’s entrance, entering immediately into another room in front of me. Here; there were four more square boxes. Each upon their own corners of the room. Several more were stacked upon which, reaching upon the ceiling above themselves. The boxes covered up the outline of the room; making it visible for anyone to see it through aerial view or if someone was hiding within the ceiling like some thieves long ago. I exhaled a sigh and just calmed myself down, gradually removing the scenario that lingered inside my head and immediately turned my attention towards ‘my goal’ here.

For immediately, I walked towards the closest brown box that I can find or get towards. Crouching down until my knees hit upon the cold hard grounds beneath me that jolted me awake; I flinched. But bared through that jolt to hanged my head and glance towards the box beneath me, lowering my paws to the sides of the boxes and opening the flap of it. The box opened on its own, revealing the object that I had needed however. ‘A flashlight’, I thought to myself, grinning mentally upon how I was able to ‘smuggle’ this upon the ‘party’ that was unfolding at the front of the store. Before I could raised myself up and ‘stash’ the flashlight into my pocket, I heard a loud bang that echoed through the silence of the room and atmosphere that I turned around immediately and glanced. But had found nothing about; for the place behind me was empty. It was just me alone.

I was a bit concern that I had not realized that my own heart was pounding inside of my own chest. While my eyes scanned upon the atmosphere surrounding me, my eyes narrowed as I take a step then another and looked about. But nothing was here; all was silence that I began pondering to myself. To doubt myself upon another being that was here along with me. As I scanned, I had already returned towards the door in front of me to which I had already grabbed onto the knob of the door and saw myself out from the room which I had left behind. Exiting out, I had found myself upon the hallway as I drift my attention towards the entrance of which I had came from however. The faint sounds of the party music was still blasted out from behind the door which had done a poor job into blocking out the sounds entirely.

I make my way towards the door; completely ignoring the silence and the ringing that was around me. I hardly looked over to the right side of me, to glance towards the lounge that was there. With two huge chairs and a lamp in between them however. By the time I had already reached for the door; I extended my paw outward and grabbed hold onto the door in front of me. To which I had pushed myself forward; unlocking the door from its stem and allowing me to escaped from the backrooms of the store. Entirely returning to the entrance where, I had noticed that everyone was gone. The entire store was empty and upon this, I was rather surprise. Blinking a couple of times before raising my paws up towards my eyes; rubbing them. I repeated this cycle three times before accepting what had unfolded before me, I then shake it off and turned around. Glancing towards the switch that was in front of me and adjacent to the backroom door entrance. Immediately flickering it to turn the lights off.

However, the light turned back on just a second after I had flicked them off. I was startled, that I had turned around and raised my head up towards the ceiling above me. Glaring onto the lightbulbs, yet pondering about how had this happened however. But after a few more seconds, I just immediately turned back off again and the cycle continued. However, as the lights were constantly turning on and off; my ear flicked upon hearing the bell rang behind me. Someone knocked onto the surface of the counter, I had turned around. There was a coyote in front of me, smiling only faint to me as if I were there. I blinked only a couple of seconds before ordering the coyote to leave, considering that the store was already closed off to the public. But he remained here; still staring at me suddenly as if he was some sort of statue or something. I growled lowly and stormed up towards him. Immediately place a paw onto the shoulder of the coyote, I was rather surprise to see that my own paw was going through him. Then, the lights turned off and shattered. Remaining off for all entirely.

I was startled that I flinched immediately and raised my head back towards the ceiling above me. Without wasting a second, I immediately turned towards the switch adjacent to the door and tried them. But the lights remained off and gone entirely. I panicked, as my paws were raised up towards the side of my own heads, frowning while my ears flattened against my own skull. My entire body fur was in stitches and all standing up suddenly as if I was scared, or fearful that something ‘bad’ would happened. As I had turned my attention back towards the door leading into the backgrounds, I felt cold fear brushing through me and ‘heating; up upon the back of my own neck. But I still went through with the plan and had myself dive forth towards the door adjacently to me, grabbing hold onto the knob and pushing forward as the door immediately opened for me. I entered in without hesitation.

With the door closed behind me, I turned myself around and glance towards the surroundings around me. I had noticed that the entire place was empty; gone and looking rather abandoned at the time. I turned my head over to the left side; gazing at the once pair of chairs and lamp that was there beforehand. Now replaced with something entirely different and I was not even sure what that ‘things’ were however. Shivering upon the unknownst of it all, I just shake my own head and immediately disregarded everything however. Turned my attention towards the horizon in front of me, and marched right down the halls; returning to the room of where I had last found the flashlight however. Entering right in, I had found myself into the small but familiar room surrounding me.

Hanging my head, I glanced towards the ruined opened box that I had once destroyed. It was still lying there, faceplanted upon the ground. Its bottom visibly showing itself to me. I removed my sight away from it and glanced around the room; back towards the four boxes that surrounded me and, I had walked forth towards there. The first one being, the top right hand corner of the room which was towards my left side when I had entered right through the doors. I grabbed hold onto the box that was stashed upon the corner of the room and ripped it opened. I left the contents of the ruined box upon the ground as I had found myself staring onto a stash of lightbulbs sitting cleanly within the boundary of the small square box before me. Satisfied that I had found what I was looking for, I had turned around and started for the door.

But when I had exited out of the room behind me, a loud moaning sound echoed through the room. Its sound had bounced from wall to wall. Ending up upon my ear in the end. I blinked, pondering if the party gooers were still here and ‘this was all a prank’ as my eyes narrowed and I sharply turned my attention towards the right; glancing further down the halls into the pure darkness that inhabits part of the hallways now. Pondering, but a bit interested, I waltz down the halls. Step by step that echoed through the silence of the hallway; intermingled with the sounds of moaning. It was perhaps one awful sound mixture however. One that I would not even dared to published it into the music indracy if such a time arises. Instead, I continued down the hallway and came up upon my destination where that moaning sound was at upon its highest.

So closed now that I could taste it, I immediately grabbed tightly onto the knob of the door. Twisting it to the side and pushing against the surface of the door. Forcefully opening it as I entered into the room. Yet to my surprise, I had saw nothing here. For the place was empty. The sound byte that was making those sound were gone either as I saw neither canine or person here making those sounds. The place was quiet and rather empty; but it was also eerie too by the looks for it. While my attention was drawn towards my surroundings, I glanced towards the features that the room offered. Two empty beds were on either side of me and at front too. Both of which were clean as their blankets were pulled up towards the white pillows. A small rectangular window was above the two beds, a huge moon with its top and bottom parts cut off; filled the window. A cabin was over to the second bed’s right side, sitting upon the corner of the room. There was nothing over on the opposite side of the room. Except for another door which I had suspected was the bathroom however.

But never minding it now, I shake my head and turned around. Opening and entering through the door until I had found myself out upon the hallway. I drew a breath while my eyes were closed; releasing the tension that I once held upon my snout while I raised my head upward into the horizon, gazing once more upon the hallway that was in front of me. Everything was silent, only the ringing echoed within my own ears. I blinked, having not realized that it was this silent already that I had found myself faintly smiling because of it. Why? I never knew why, even in the pure darkness either too. As I just walked right back through the hallway; straight towards the door onto the other side where I grabbed onto the door and opened it, leading me right back onto the front side of the store. And still, nothing had ever happened here either. Yet I was not sure if it was a good thing or not.

I shake my head upon that thought while I had laid down the box that I was holding upon the counter’s surface. I grabbed hold onto a silver ladder that was off towards the northern eastern corner of the store and returned to the box by the countertop. To which I grabbed hold onto one of the lightbulbs and unfolded the silver ladder afterwards, climbing it high towards the apex where I tilted my head backwards and glance at the lightbulb inserter before me. However, without knowing, I had immediately inserted the bulb inside of the hole where two smaller white pupils and a smile was staring back onto me. Gone from my sights apparently. I repeated the same with the first row of broken lightbulbs; shortly after I had taken a break as I had not realized that my own fur was sweaty and damp because of the ‘work’ that I had put out.

A distant fog was rolling through the front parking lot of the store; obstructing my view from being able to see further than I hoped to realized. The coldness had invaded right into the store; slipping through the cracks of the front door as I had now found myself shivering. With clattering fangs that was making sounds and me shivering from time to time, I had not noticed that the door was already opened behind me. In addition, somehow, I had dropped the lightbulb that I was holding because of my shivering and the cold temperature that wrapped around me now. I had suddenly blinked, making a face as I had turned myself around and glance to the front door of the store; I saw a figure there staring back onto me. With eyes as bright as the sun staring back onto me, I flinched upon being aware of it. The rest of the being’s body was a bit different than normally canines however. It was more thin than most, to the point that I was able to see its white bones being exposed to the fresh cold air surrounding me. I frowned, eyes widening as I take a step back. Having remembered that I was upon the silver ladder that I tripped and fell onto the grounds beneath me.

A loud thud was what blanked me down as all I see were purely darkness then afterwards.

A few minutes draw into the midnight hour as I aroused to awakeness, yawning while stretching and extending my paws outward and well in front of me. I had blinked, pondering about where I was as my visions had returned back to me then afterwards. I had found myself back upon the room once more. Upon one of the two beds that I had saw moments earlier too. Realizing this, I flipped myself up from the grounds of the bed beneath me and twisted myself about to remove the blanket that was wrapping around my legs. For once I was free, I began rolling the short distance off the bed, hitting the ground then afterwards while I raised myself back up onto my feet and sprinted across the room. Towards the door, out towards the hallway once more.

The familiar hallway was empty as before; yet to my surprise it was also abandoned at the same time. I gaze down the halls; with a frown that lingered upon my own snout. I draw my eyes towards the attention of the door adjacent to the door that was opened and which I had came through from. I went for the closed the door; immediately opening it as I looked inside. There was no room; instead it was a closet with a white note sticking upon the silver surface before me. Immediately I grabbed hold onto it and pulled it from its stem, reading the contents that the paper holds in hopes of getting out of here and back upon the store.

But after I had read the contents of the note; the lights above me started flickering; objects that I had not see before within the hallway were not shivering as if they were scared about what would happened to them. My own eyes watched the objects and surrounding objects that decorated the hallway started to shake and sometimes I had wondered why. It would not take long for me to notice when I started hearing something moaning, loud and proud somewhere behind me. I turned my head immediately over my shoulder, gazing now onto the white wall that was there, replacing the darken abyss that I was once familiar with. Fear and cold started up again that my own two legs were set on autodrive and sprinting automatically down the halls. Straight towards the exit that was onto the other side. Before I could opened upon the door, I froze immediately and turned myself around. Gazing onto the white wall that was now staring back onto me.

It was some sort of contest between the two of us however as the silence was often interchange with the loud moaning sound and thus the objects surrounding both of us were starting to shiver and flinched upon the sound as if they were somehow reacting it to. But I paid nothing to them and instead kept my attention still towards the white wall in front of me, squinting my eyes. Pondering while thoughts were drawn onto my own mind as the followed up silence befallen upon the atmosphere between us. It had taken long before I had started noticing that the white wall was breaking into pieces; that the moaning sound that I once heard has drastically changed into something roaring which vibrated the grounds surrounding me. I was surprise that immediately I had opened the door. But not yet had went through it however.

But I did so immediately when I had noticed a white head with two red horns sticking out from the apex of its head, drew itself out from the wall behind it and raised its head, meeting my eyes as a small smile was form upon its face. Regardless, I was not even sure what it is anymore as the door immediately closed behind me after I had went through it.