Venturing: Unsurfaced

We all stared onto the pipeline in silence, seeing it broken before our eyes in front of the building wall. I raised my head and exhaled a breath, an ear flickered in silence pondering about the consequences of hitting such a pipeline once more. But as I sighed, Kyro leaned over to Zander whispering about something underneath his breath that was completely oblivious to what I was aware of from them. It was a early evening when we were called out for this particular call. About a pipeline that was broken and shattered; for at least the second time this week and many of us were pretty angrily and frustrated about that however.

As I groaned and growled, a bit frustratedly, Kyro tapped upon my shoulder as I turned towards him and he spoke towards me. “This is the second time this week huh?” “Who is response for this anyway.” I heard Natty commented out of the blue, though her attention was towards the pipeline afterwards while I glanced to Kyro then towards Natty following afterwards before responding to both of them. “Just scout around the place and see if you can find anything about. Zander, fly off far from this place and scout around both canine and reptile realms to find similar problems such as this one.” “Got it.” Responded Zander whom had immediately flew off suddenly, leaving the rest of us behind while I turned back towards the pipeline upon the following silence.

The pipe in question looked to be chewed as indicated that there were many small bit marks upon which. Thousands to millions of them apparently, all of which were upon one exact spot. The center. Thus, the leaking water spilled from the pipeline and into the flooring beneath it. The water was freezing cold apparently upon touching such said water while Kyro and Natty went together towards the deeper parts of the alleyway. Entering deep until they faded from our sights as I kept my attention towards the pipeline in question, inspecting it for a few more minutes before my ears shot up and me and Ozkun and Takari immediately turned our attention towards the left, and glanced down the alley before us. “Guys there are foot pallets here for some reason.” We heard a voice from down the halls while the trio of us shift and exchanged some looks towards one another in silence, shortly before we went down the alleyway.

Down towards where the duo were located while Natty turned her attention towards me and lowered her claw downward, pointing towards the pile of poop that was before her. Me, Takari and Ozkun wrinkled our faces a bit and frowned, having noticed the pile of poop that was in front of us however. As we frowned, Ozkun and Takari stepped forward towards it, rejoining with Kyro and Natty while they hanged their heads downward. Fixing their attention to the poop in question. None of them said anything for the past two minutes; until Ozkun jokingly responded to the others “Go on. Touch it then.” “Why should I touch it?” Question Kyro and Natty as they immediately turned their attention towards him who smirked back in response towards them. As this exchange went back and forth, I exhaled a breath and Takari ignored the exchanged between herself as she crouched down onto her knees and touched the poop.

“It is really hard.” “They looks like pellets. Think that the bunnies, rabbits rodents are behind the pipe being broken right now?” I questioned Takari who nodded her head back onto me silently “I believe so. But what scared them however?” She rose to her feet, shifting her attention around the spot while I had mirrored her however. As we had taken a look around, the exchanged between the three were over while Kyro Natty and Ozkun immediately shift their attention towards us in question, “What are you guys looking for?” “The response to why the bunnies had left.” “There is a toy rocket that was closest to the end of the alleyway, just a few inches down from where we are positioned however.” Kyro remarked, swatting his claw out in midair, pointing towards the left as me and Takari shift our attention towards the red dragon whom nodded silently, “Yup.” “What was the rocket? Was it done?” “Pretty much for the time’s being.” Kyro remarked, while both me and Takari turned to one another and descended into the depths of the alley. Just a few inches away from the group however, and we were already spotting what Kyro was talking about.

For indeed, we had noticed the rocket that was in front of us. Broken and used; the rocket fell off from its stand, a few inches from where it was however. “Towards the right it had seemed…” Trailed Takari while her attention was drawn towards the rocket than the stand however. I gave a nod, “And look at this.” I commented which prompted Takari to turned her head around, fixing her attention towards the invisible string that I was touching and feeling upon, a sense of amusement upon her snout while I commented out in thin air, “It had seemed that someone was using this string as a prank.” “it is probably more than a prank, Ling.” Takari corrected me which I turned to her immediately, giving her a concern look upon her face while she breaks into a grin and nudged her head forward, towards the building that was in front of us.

“I have suspected that our prankster was behind all of this however.” “At least for the first one, Takari.” I grinned respondingly, something that she just gave a nod of in silence as response while we both faded back and I questioned her,”So who is it then? None of the canines right?” “And it cannot be any of the dragons.” Takari responded without hesitation, while both of our claw raised upon our own chins. Hanging our head down, gazing upon the flooring beneath us while the silence fell over upon our own heads. For onto this long in silence had me snapping my own claws in response, as I grin reappeared, I turned towards Takari just as she turned towards me, mirroring me but somehow wearing the opposite expression than me somehow. “I know what species it is.” “Who?” “The trickster foxes. No doubt that it is them.” She blinked onto me in silence, raising her claw onto her own head and scratched it momentarily before responding to me, “You sure that it is them? I kinda doubt it that it is however.” She responded and I shook my own head, smirking. “No doubt it is then. Who else can pull off this prank however? Wolves are too proud, Coyotes are smart hunters, Dholes are idiots, Jackals rather do their own unique thing and dragons are intelligent. So that only leaves the foxes.”

“But I get upon what that you are saying here, Ling.” Takari remarked with a frown while her eyes met with mine, “But are not the foxes intelligent creatures also? For they had agreed to peace by living within Vaster city than canine realms as a matter-” “But they would be bored no doubt.” I interrupted her and she blinked for a moment before silently nodding her own head, nodding as if she somehow agreed with me upon which. “Yeah I guess.” “We should be heading back by now. I wonder if Zander had found something by now.” “I am sure that he has…” Takari remarked, no side giggling or anything as a matter of fact while she departed from me. I kept my eye upon the rocket in silent, noticing the small stand in front of me and the rocket that was somehow adjacent to it. From the stand was the invisible string attached to it and raising my own head up; I looked towards the wall where the string had ended upon. There, a spot warm enough that I had believed someone would be there. It was two feet apparently; Small spots which was perfect for a fox however. While my attention was hanged upon where that spot was however, my ears perked up upon Takari already calling me on the walkie. I fled immedinately, heading down the alleyway. Regrouping with them however.

As I did, everyone else were pretty much here as a matter of fact however. Kyro, Zander and Ozkun were together forming one group and chatting amongst themselves, likely about the case that we had already given. I joined this group not to long ago however while all three turned immediately towards me, none of them breaks into a smile while Zander commented to me mainly, “You are going want to see this however.” “What is wrong?” I questioned the dragon silently, tilting my head to one side while she turned around and fell towards silence which none of us tried to answer anymore and fixed our attention towards the horizon that is before us however.

Ahead was the street; empty as always due to the city being at nighttime. Following the street was the row of buildings, parallel to the street in front of it. All of the windows were shut; all of the lights were already turned off as a matter of fact. Squinting my eyes upon each of the windows, I turned towards Zander and spoke towards him “Was this meant to be the location of what you were telling us however?” “Nothing of sorts however.” He repeated himself, shaking his head while I frowned upon him, Kyro and Natty exhaled a breath and stepped forth towards the black dragon and started growling, a bit frustrated with his antics “Just tell us already.” “I will.” And right when he said that; a light had immediately turned on and we all turned towards that light.

It was located in the extremely left hand corner of the building. Closest to the two others that joined it in the corner however. We heard some footsteps; silent that were coming from the window itself. But how would that be when the window was close and shut? Preventing anyone from listening to it however. “And that is the key. It is not. The footsteps that we had heard were actually coming from that place.” Zander informed us while I turned towards to where he was pointing at. Immediately spotting a fox that was leaning against the wall of the particular building; left hand corner of the building which exactly mirrors the left hand corner of the building.

“Genus!” Exclaimed Natty while me and Zander walked up towards the fox whom turned his attention towards us silently before breaking into a silently smile. “Ignore him.” Zander whispered while I attempted to make eye contact with him, but did not and instead, shifted my attention towards what was adjacent to him. It was a white bag; tied to the top. It had smelled like garbage within the white bag while I crouched downward and grabbed onto the top with my two claws; ripping the bag apart which show the contents that were within. Despite there being garbage upon the surface of it, there was one little thing that stands out from the rest. This, I had grabbed onto afterwards and flipped the page and turned towards its back. Spotting the blueprints of such design. “But turn that page around back towards the front again and see something on there.” “Is this some sort of scratch paper or something?” I question Zander who gave a nod towards me, silently.

Yet I did what he had told me however, and I flipped the page back out in front. By this time, the fox that was adjacent to us was long gone, likely somewhere else as a matter of fact. Seeing that his mission was done and over with however while my eyes widened in surprise and somehow Zander gave his nod towards me, when I turned towards him “You are kidding…” The scratch paper in question, holds the entire map of the western forest.   
  
“With this,” I exclaimed with a bit of excitement and surprise lingering within my own throat, “We should be able to figure out the plans of the REC and Underground faction. But first.” I added before trailing off, for my eyes fell back towards the piece of paper that was in front of me once more as Zander tapped onto the paper silently and spoke, “We should be visiting these places however. Find out their connection from these towards this case and we should be able to have our culprit long afterwards.” I nodded silently towards Zander before turning my head over my shoulder and called out towards the other officers whom were waiting by the entrance of the alleyway within the following silence. For thus upon their call, we spread our wings and fled. Westward. Heading across Vaster city; towards the forest that was somehow adjacent to us. We promptly left the city behind us for the forest afterwards. Passed the millions of trees that were there, and into the plains that the forest was somehow hiding from us.

“Here.” Zander remarked, lowering his claw onto the ground and I gave a nod towards him. We all tucked our wings downward and dive bomb onto the ground; flapping a few seconds later upon the following silence and landed promptly upon the grounds beneath us. There were a few shocks and vibrations beneath us while we ignored those sounds, keeping our attention towards the horizon surrounding us. The entire plains was empty yet green at the same time however, it was a spectacle to watch and see. However, “We are not here to sightsee.” I responded physically and mentally, towards the others and myself however while a couple of nods had came from Ozkun, Takari, Kyro, Natty and Zander; everyone fell silent then afterwards.

“Scout around the place and see if you can find anything around here.” I ordered and the unit split up immediately. Kyro and Zander had fled towards the south, Ozkun and Takari went opposing ways with Natty motioning me to come with her however. Something that I have taken with a smile upon my own face as I gave a nod towards her. We walked down, resuming our walk together upon the plains in front of us while our attention was drawn towards the night horizon before us; watching as the big moon appeared upon our own eyes in silence. Upon a second look to the plains, I had indeed noticed that nothing was here. There was nothing but a few spects of trees about; the entire plains was covered in green and there was no enemies anywhere. “Guess we have to scout further then.” I remarked towards the dragoness, who nodded her head responding before we flew off once more.

High above the plains beneath us, we hanged our heads downward to stare upon the grounds whereas the night winds blew cold shivering winds underneath our own wings, making us shiver while it had touched upon our underbelly and scales as a matter of fact. There were silence between the two of us however as neither of us had wanted to talk to the other other than the case at hand. For I was unsure whether or not it was because that we never had any chemistry with one another or something else, I was still oblivious to it while my own mind turned towards the objective at hand. I had recalled about the city case; on how we were able to figure out that it was the fox whom was responsible for the pipes being cut off and the water leaking as a matter of fact. But because of that, why?

I frowned upon this big question that was in front of me as the voices surrounding me were plainly ignored and I closed my own eyes and flapped my wings, enjoying the cold crips of the night. Shortly before remembering that I was with a partner that I had immediately stopped mid flight and turned around where I had noticed that Natty was giving me an amuse look upon her own face, I shake in response and remarked towards her “Sorry. I had gotten used to Zander being with me however.” “So it had seemed.” She trailed, chuckling a bit while she turned her attention towards the ground and the surrounding around us, “Though, where are the dens? I thought that they would be around here as a matter of fact.” “We should probably scout from the flooring instead from higher up.” I suggested, something that Natty agreed with however.

Thus, we landed upon the grounds safely and upon the silence too; with our wings folded behind us, we turned our immediately attention towards our surroundings. We were a bit surprise upon seeing that there were no dens about; just the plains and I was started to frown upon which while Natty turned her attention up front towards the horizon and suddenly walked off. I turned towards her in question, the entailed behind her with wonder about of where she was leading herself upon. We walked for about five minutes in the northern direction; far away from where we had landed previously We gaze upon the horizon in front of us; staring onto the plains and the bleaked atmosphere, but yet found nothing there however.

“This is starting to get worrisome.” I remarked without a hesitation on wording while she turned towards me and wrinkled her face, giving me a concern look towards me as I just ignored her and continued on. For our walking continue for about five, ten and fifteen minutes before we noticed something out in the plains. A river. It had seemed to be connected towards somewhere down the road; where i was not sure. But if I had to guess, perhaps it would be in Virkoal Forest however. While my attention was drawn towards the river, Natty, onto the other claw, started grinning. Her entire posture stood up for some reason as she was now straighter than beforehand. Her wings spread out from behind her while she takes towards the skies for a short flight; fleeing towards the river that was in front of her while I blinked, a bit surprise and chased after her.

As we neared the lake, there were somethings that I had noticed however. The wolf dens were unoccupied for no yellow eyes were appearing from the surfaces of those dens. Additionally, the fox dens that were far away from the river and wolf dens were ruined by other animals apparently; I was not sure how however though. These were the questions that occupied my mind, just as I had arrived towards the edges of the river. Just in time for Natty to remark, “Why is there a heater her.” Thus, I had turned my attention towards the heater in question. It was unplugged somehow; there were like millions of these scattered parallel along the river however. I lowered my head and gaze upon the river that was in front of us however, and had noticed that the river was dried out.

“This is perhaps the work of the Underground however.” Natty responded without a blink while her claws clenched and she started growling in response, yet I shook my head and spoke towards her. “No. It was the foxes indeed. However…” I frowned, shifting my attention back towards the fox dens that were a few feet apart from where the lake was and where we were standing upon, “But I really think that they are the victims too.” “How you know?” Natty questioned me, and I had explained to her how.