

To understand what my day to day was like when I had my normal life, I guess I should explain where my world was at for that particular time. It is the second of five planets within our system, and the only inhabited planet that we properly knew of. I say “properly” only because we didn’t know about our sister planet that orbited on the opposite side of our star. Technologically speaking, we did not have fossil fuels as you had; we relied on more steam technologies which eventually became hydrogen power. We had computers, cars, airplanes, and so on; just powered through different means.

Our governments were still monarchies, kingdoms, and republics with only the slightest bits of democracy sprinkled in. At the same time there were mostly free markets so the goods sold within these nations were hardly controlled. The same could be said about other natural rights, such as the freedom of speech, even when those words could be filled with hate.

Our people were a mix of humans (humes) and demi-humans designated by the animals that they would most relate to, such as lizard-like individuals being Lizans but do not call Daragoons Lizans or they will pound you within an inch of your life. Trust me.

There was so much of our history missing that archaeology was a pretty big thing. One of the most amazing finds within my lifetime was the accidental discovery of the lost city of Caste. I live in Castelle which has been identified as the final destination for those migrating from Caste, but for the longest time the original city could not be found. Poor guy almost fell to his death finding it too. The city had been buried under half a mile of sand, within a hollow dome of hardened sandstone which had weakened over time.

Speaking of Castelle, this city was one of the largest and oldest cities at the time. Founded nearly three thousand years ago it was discovered by trade caravans looking for a safer path between Tryse and the coastal city of Vulcalville. It sits three hundred miles between each location and had a dock that would lead to the Cradel Sea in the north. It was at this place that the Citadel was discovered. A huge structure with a simple blocky design, capable of housing thousands, nds it probably did at a time. It was never properly established why it was abandoned or properly telling how old it actually is. What science knew then was that it was assembled long before The Shattering and was intentionally built so that hardly any force could not damage it. From there farms were established around it, then communities, and eventually a city. It had gone from a stopover, to outpost, to trade community, to a titan within the southern half of the continent in the span of a few hundred years.

The city is broken into different regions like any other; the northwest had old town and was home to a redevelopment boom at the time. The northeast was the docks and trade districts where most of anything comes and leaves town if going by water. The southeast had the middle, which were a region of mixed income full of suburbia and mini-malls. The south west was the upper-crust of the social realms as well as being the main concentration of the technology companies. The last regions were the center, a political focal point for the city and region as it was a capitol city, and the outskirts which were the newest suburban sprawls at the time.

I lived in the west, close to the upper region, but far enough to the north to be able to actually afford to live and eat. Even then, I lived with two roommates so that we could even make rent. The apartment

community was nice as were the people. I loved my room because of how quiet the world could be in the morning. It had three redwood trees that provided so much shade; just stepping out under in the summer heat was like walking into an air conditioned room. The wind would pick up and I could hear the ocean so clearly, even though I was nearly 15 miles from the closest beach. There would be days, when I was not in a rush to get to work where I would wake up, and just listen to the silence.

My roommates were a fun couple to be with though I knew her boyfriend was uncomfortable to go in with a single guy; I won over his trust eventually. Even then, there were times when he would go flying off the rails if she and I seemed too close for his comfort. I will always regret making him feel so insecure as I could have held further away from her, or go hang out with somebody else, maybe I was just being lazy at the time. Not to say she wasn't pretty, we just didn't have that kind of attraction to one another. It could also been that they were both humes and I wasn't.

Right, you don't know what I look like. I am a foxen, a humanoid with fur, tail, muzzle, fox ears, and pseudo paws (they look like, but are not reverse-jointed). I have blue fur with white "gloves and socks" as well as white patches on my chest, tail tip and one in the shape of a mushroom on my forehead. Don't ask, I never figured that one out myself. I stand just shy of six feet and well... I am a bit heavy set. It's not like I am not active, it's just that I like food too much. When not at work, you'll find me in cargos and a t-shirt of some sort most of the time, while at work it was khakis and a polo shirt.

I worked at an electronic warehouse that paid well enough, but by the gods did it make me work for it. I would work an average of forty four to fifty hours a week. I was designated to the software section but would find myself helping out in computer accessories, and house wares as they were right next to the department. This store was huge though, covering nearly a square mile and had two stories filled with product. It was my job, but I never wanted to make a career out of it.