

A fateful exploration...

A few days later...

Jaryl looks out into the ocean, deep in thought. The wind blows through his blond hair, his red-eyed gaze not focusing on anything in particular.

„I wonder what happened to the people that lived on this island before...“, he muses to himself, „they couldn't have just... gone away... or did they?“

After a few minutes, he decides to go back to their shack. Jin is already waiting for him outside.

„Oh, hey Jin! What's up?“

„Hey! What do you say, shall we explore the ruined city again today? I'm curious as to what else we will find there“, Jin proposes, his empty backpack already on his back.

„Sounds good to me. Let me get my sword and backpack real quick...“

While exploring the ruined city...

„This building here looks interesting. I don't think we have ever been inside it, right?“, Jaryl notes as he points to a very big structure. It only has once entrance, and the sign above it has almost completely faded away.

„Hm, no, not to my knowledge. Let's check it out, then“, Jin reckons, therefor they head inside.

„Darker than I had expected“, Jaryl notes, and right as he intends to light up a fireball in his hand to increase their visibility, the door behind them automatically closes, leaving them in complete and utter darkness.

„Fuck“, both utter alarmed, lighting up fire and electricity in their hands for a little bit of light almost simultaneously.

They press their backs into the wall behind them as they go completely silent, trying to listen for any kind of noise.

„I don't hear anything...“

„Good... oh, wait, there's a switch. I'll press it“, Jin whispers, as he does so. The switch causes the lights to turn on, but instead of being relieved, they let out a surprised gasp, as the whole floor is littered with corpses.

„Oh my god, what happened here?!“, Jin blurts out exasperated.

„Monsters, what else? Come on, Jin... let's get moving. I don't want to stay in here any longer“, Jaryl decides, clearly unsettled by the situation they've found themselves into.

„Y-yeah...“

They tiptoe through the narrow hallways, as suddenly a faint growl and crunching sounds ring into their ears. It seems to originate from around a corner...

They immediately stop, Jaryl slowly unsheathes his sword. Jin takes a cautious glance around the corner, he spots a dog-like monster nibbling on what seems to be the remains of another corpse. Jaryl lets a small flame appear in his hand and looks at Jin with a smirk, who returns it knowingly. Both jump out from behind the corner at the same time, shooting their lightning- and fire-magic at the unaware monster. Their attacks hit and it was flung several meters away against a wall. Right as it tries to stand up again, Jaryl has already pierced its skull with his sword.

„And that's that“, he quips as he pulls out his weapon from the carcass of their enemy.

„Always the nonchalant type. But that's one of the things I love about you“, Jin flirts as he ruffles through Jaryl's beard, his wolf-partner gives off a cheerful smile as an answer.

They resume with their search for an exit, trying to keep their spirits up. They reach a staircase leading down into the basement, but once they have reached the end...

A loud rumble, followed by an ungodly scream, occurs on the floor above them. As they turn around to see what it was, the ceiling starts to crumble and fall. They could avoid getting crushed

by the debris, but now now that said debris is clogging up the way to the first floor, they are trapped.

„Fucking hell...“, Jaryl mutters under his shaky breath.

„Wh-what was that scream...?“, Jin questions nervously, said scream rings up again, but lower in volume this time.

„Whatever its origin is, it sounds like it is moving away from our position... fuck, I hope we find a way out of here fast...“