

Hanami finished packing up all his boxed offerings ready to set out. It was still quite early in time to arrive at the banquet so he was in no rush.
All the things he has prepared are still fresh.

Thinking quickly if he still needed to add anything, he discarded the thought and went out.

The meeting place wasn't specified in great detail, just a "you will know once you are there" type of message. Just vague directions, and that someone will see him later on to the entrance, that's it. Hanami didn't mind it, he had plenty of time ahead of him to enjoy the walk.

As he walked towards the specified location, he saw that the foliage and scenery had started changing into red, orange and golden colours all around him. The scenery became beautiful, so much that he wished to stay there and look for rare herbs and flowers. The closer Hanami was walking, the more the scenery changed. Vines suddenly sprouted dancing in the air, Hanami thought "ah, this must be what they meant by "you will know..."
The long vines wrapped around and forward until he reached a large door painted in vivid red, adorned with gold metalwork. It was just the place that seemed like a royalty would once that door had been opened!

Hanami saw a curious creature in front of the door, standing guard.

"Please present your invitation to the banquet here." - The creature said.

The flowery leloko quickly handed the envelope he had ready in his bag.
The curious creature glanced at it, confirming the details.

"You may now pass through the door." - it smiled. - "Enjoy the festivities and good luck with your offering to our Great King."

Leaving the little creature and the wonderful vined door behind, he was welcomed by even more amazing sights Hanami had never seen before.

He felt like he was among the most beautiful gardens right now. The hall stretched out far and wide, with corridors and doors hiding in the shadows. Seated around the hall were many citizens who must have also been invited today. There was noise and a merry feeling all around.

In the center of the hall, laid a large throne, high up and looking down. On the throne seat sat a majestic mantibab of beautiful autumn colours, relaxed and waiting for the start of the event.

Hanami had been feeling quite well about his work as he was on his way, but just now he finally felt a bit nervous in the presence of the mighty Autumn King.

Thinking he can't go on being dazed like this all day, he quickly found a space in the sitting area. The cushions provided were very comfortable.

The tables around them were adorned with autumn themed decorations, dried and fresh, fabrics and crafts of all shapes, fitting with the theme. Various foods and snacks sitting around the table and its decorations. Not only did it look pleasing, but the smell filling the air was also very pleasing. Hanami could see there were many offering snacks for the tables as an extra too.

Everyone thought it through, he thought. It was a serious event for many crederians.

Keeping his packed offerings for the King and the table aside, he quickly put the snacks he made for the feast on the table for everyone to try. He also took this as a chance to nibble on others' treats.

The cookies that he made with the teas for the Autumn King were all separately made, more exquisite and with fine flavours, more than the ordinary ones for the table.

After some time, silence finally fell upon the hall. The Autumn King rose from his throne, looking at the citizens with a sly smile.

"It is time!" - he exclaimed. "It's time for all of you, my wonderful guests, to present the offerings you have prepared for me today!

I hope all of you thought of them thoroughly, so that I may enjoy them!" - He said with a smile again.

"Now come, one by one as you are brought to me with your offerings. I'm quite eager to see your creations." - He said for the last time

After the Autumn King's words, the guests have been brought under the throne one by one. Each one presents a unique gift of their own. Alcohol, crafts, music, dances, foods and even watches.

After a time that seemed like it was passing slowly, Hanami had been called upon too.

He rose from his cushion, excited and slightly nervous.

Hanami had prepared the right tools for his tea already when he walked around the tables.

The leloko offered the boxes with tea and cookies to the King, the magnificent mantibab watching his moves curiously.

He opened the boxes, only to be greeted by small glass teapots adorned with intricate details. Inside them a curious mix of dried flowers and fruit, sending strong fruity and herbal scent.

"Oh, herbal brews, is it little leloko?" He King asked. - "They have quite a wonderful fragrance, reminiscent of this season that I love."

Seeing that it was a tea offering, The Autumn King quickly asked one of his attendants to prepare the tea in front of him. A little taste would not be bad.

The attendant poured hot water into the little teapot, and with a surprise, autumn flowers and leaves bloomed right in front of his eyes inside the small glass. Colours of red and gold swirling like mist on a chilly day. From a dried herb to a bouquet, the tea transformed.

The Autumn King was pleasantly surprised. He sipped the brew and enjoyed its rich fruity and herbal flavours.

Upon seeing this reaction, Hanami was happy and proud of himself. He did well, he thought.

Of course that was not the end. There was still another box in the mantibabs curious paws. Opening it up, there were golden cookies sitting on a soft cloth. Intricate and in Autumn shapes, adorned with red berry jams, various roasted nuts and dusted with a sweet golden dust. Little cookies that looked more like pieces of jewellery.

Once again, the Autumn King was pleased by this addition.

“Hm, they will go well with the tea you have prepared. Thank you for your gift, little leloko. You may now go back to your seat and enjoy this day.”

Hanami was very happy, it was an outcome that was more than he expected. Leaving and thanking The King, he returned to the tables, to enjoy the rest of this good day.