



The Croon Analysis

*"Favouring one thing above all else:
rhythm. Permanence."*

Rhythm: "a strong, regular, repeated pattern of movement or sound."

Permanence: "the state or quality of lasting or *remaining unchanged indefinitely.*"

"Entropy is not just destruction. It is the measurement of destruction; Often alluded to with fire."

-HarrowToby

@harrowtoby on TikTok & Twitter, please credit if you use my theories.

My theories are based entirely on deduction of words and potential symbolisms, bringing almost no secondary source of real life history, literature, or philosophy in my theories, as Yaelokre has confirmed the lack of any real life culture or era in it's work.

All of the theories are self-made, and **not canon**. I use any information around the Harkers, Cradles and the Croon to come up with the theories.

It's also incredibly important to note that Hayfields was simply a prelude, and there are still lots of stories left, and songs unreleased. These theories are based on the facts we already know, and can be subject to change at any time. This is especially true for their former tumblr account, as any information gathered from there could be easily changed.

And remember! All Harkers and Larks are to be referred to with gender-neutral pronouns (it/they), without any exception.

The Croon - Synopsis

If you have the time, I highly suggest you read through the rest of the document, as I go into depth on how I reached my conclusions.

The Croon was born from several carcasses (or atleast 2), all with strong enough emotions and unfulfilled desires. As a result, they were reborn as a Harker of Entropy. Entropy as a definition, does not mean literal destruction, but measurement thereof. With this in mind, the Croon was displayed as a chaotic evil, when looking closer, it was (possibly) purposely mischaracterized when its actions are much more semblance of a lawful evil.

The Croon — Introduction

In Wonderlark, the Larks represent the 4 Harkers and don their respective masks, associating to the Harker they represent. the Storyteller, the Bell-ringer, The Enkindled and the Croon. Similarly, Cole, Clémentine, Kingsley and Perrine represent the Harkers, calling themselves the Lark.

The Croon represents entropy, which many fans have speculated to simply be destruction, spreading disharmony throughout Meadowlark. However, in all evidence presented about the Croon so far, it's untruthful of the Harker's own beliefs, instead a created intensified stigma of them.

Whether it was Yaelokre's own intentions to create a public stigmatized belief of the Croon or not, the duality between the face and truth of the Croon only deepens the symbolism for which this story stands for.

Even at face value, there is a vast difference between what the folk of meadowlark call the Croon, and what other Harkers and themselves call it. Popularly referred from folk as names such as Tempest, which often refers to a violent commotion or terrible windstorm, but then personally referred to by other Harkers as the Croon, which is defined as “humming or singing in a soft, low voice, especially in a sentimental manner.”

These differences begin to weave the story of what or rather who the Croon was, and how it came to become a Harker.

The Croon — Background

“Not immortal, but the Harkers are not alive either! They do not bleed and when their “bodies” fail, they just get remade! They are old, though Story [teller] is the youngest.”

It's told that the Harkers cannot bleed, and if their bodies might fail, they're simply remade, like a cycle renewing itself.

A theory continuing this idea, is that the Harkers once came from objects, or were endowed with power to become the symbol of their respective domain. This theory comes from a major part of the Bell-ringer's lore, as Yaelokre states that, *“It's a goat puppet! That is why Clémentine's costume has a goat mask to replicate the Bell-ringer's!”* which supports the idea of power intertwining with an inanimate object to become what we now know as Harkers.

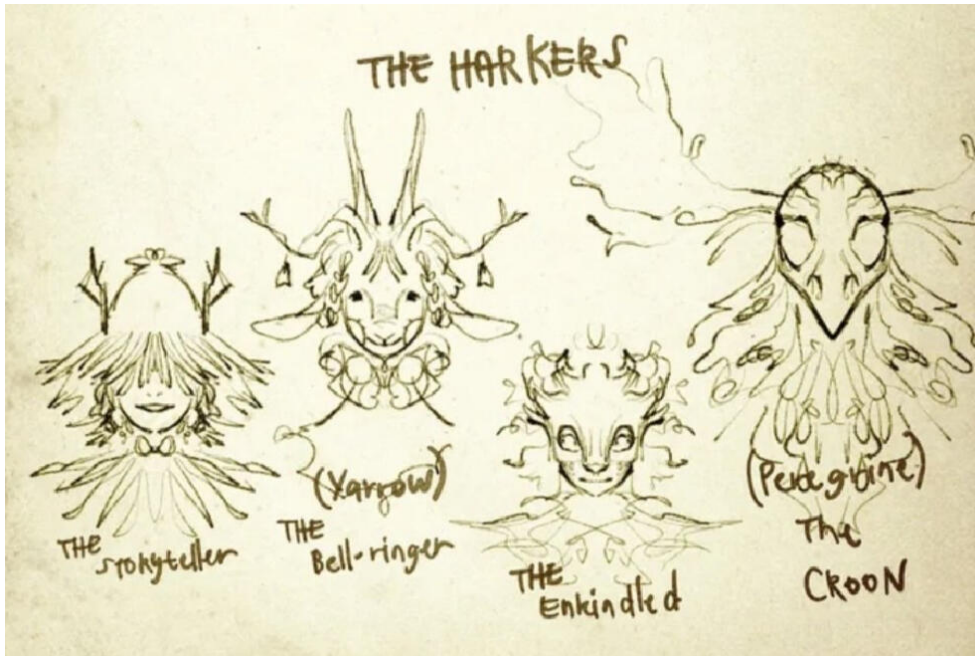
They are concepts brought to life, keeping the balance between the past and present, order and chaos.

“For any of the four fades, the chorus will break and wonder will be no more.”

The biggest mystery is how the Croon came to be. Unlike the more humanoid appearances of the other 3 Harkers, the Croon is readily speculated to be made of animal bones, theorized to even be as large as 2-3 meters tall, based on the scale image of it beside the chair in the Harpy Hare's Music illustration video. (See the image above for reference)

The Croon was further described as *“Bones lost to the Earth”*, cementing the idea of a deceased animal, however still leaving a mystery surrounding its rebirth. It would make sense if the Bell-ringer was once a doll, so that the Croon could be from a carcass, however if the Croon was a skeleton, what happened to catch the attention of the Cradles or Meadowlark to be reborn as a Harker? It wouldn't exactly make sense to give life back to only one animal, when naturally hundreds of thousands die every year. It leads to the belief that the Croon has more than one carcass. Of course, this is backed up by its moose skull, yet oddly avian body; with feathers

decorating its arms and claw-like hands. Along with its personal name, Peregrine. Similar to the known falcon.



The Harkers were claimed to be “*born from bodies bereft of dreams*”. Which simplified, means each Harker was reborn when their original bodies had unfulfilled dreams or aspirations they wished to achieve.

A good example I could think of was the Storyteller. If we assume it was once a scarecrow before becoming a Harker, how much would they have had to endure, watching their crops but also seeing over their village? We know that Cole and the Storyteller came from the same village, and Cole’s village was under attack from supposed warfare due to their song of origin. So, it begs the question if the Storyteller also had to endure countless fights or raids of their village, helplessly watching each and every time. Due to this, they could be reborn as a Harker, and the Storyteller recounts the events of the past, making sure it is not forgotten.

The vague idea of this is plausible, as both the Cradles and the Harkers hold the truth and origins very close, making sure it is not ‘forgotten’.

If applied this logic to the Croon, it could have seen several influential events in its many lives, thus wishing to justify or destroy the causes, before finally being reborn as a Harker of Entropy.

The Croon — Moral Alignment

The Croon is not morally evil.

One of the biggest questions I had when I first started listening to Yaelokre, is why Perrine would follow an entity who's supposedly all about chaos and bringing destruction. We see Perrine as more mature, being the oldest and is a role model to all the other larks, so it begs the question, why would they feel a connection to the Croon, and align themselves with it much like Cole and the others do to their respective counterparts?

On the surface, it seems almost like the two are complete opposites. However, it's because the Croon was never truly evil to begin with, but stigmatized to appear that way. By both the listeners, and the people within meadowlark.

Taking the idea that the Croon is reborn with the unfulfilled dreams or desires, we can pair that with a quote about the Croon, *"Tempest, daughtering disharmony, dishonouring stillness and those who are afeared to heark."* We get an idea of their own stance on their position. A strong and powerful force of misfortune, who refuses to stand idly, rather to move, or explore, and punish those who wouldn't listen. This is then also backed by the Tale of the Croon, when the Storyteller weaves,

"The Croon was worshiped as she pranced among trees, Towering castles kings claimed to be prevailing, wall tall and timber touched by no mortal hands, For she forbade for them to take, to taint, to trespass."

The Croon refuses to become only a symbol of chaos, but to still live in the wild, and act as an animal should. When it comes to those who place themselves above others with no respect for nature or natural law, the Croon steps in, likely for the very same reason they became a Harker, to forbid the mighty to continue their rein, restarting this cycle.

Most recently, there was new lore regarding the Croon in the "Songs of Origin" trailer and release, there were two more particular quotes that stood out. The first one, was a quote that said, *"Far fled the Croon to cry for its mother, the promise to reave life, to make way for another"*. This newly released quote connects almost perfectly with the theory, as the Croon could have easily been distressed if their environment, or their mother was in harm's way; specifically from the people and folk of wonderlark. Given this, it is possible the Croon grieved for their land– or the cradles– enough that upon its death or not, was given this role, and thus promised to reave, taking life from the greedy, and making a safe world for animals who were also endangered like the Croon was in the beginning.

Secondly, when the two newest songs came out, the description on the Youtube channel tells a story that seems to give life to an interesting relationship and similarity between the Harkers and Larks.

The Croon made a promise, unknown of what's within. "I will sing you my truth!" voiced the overwrought rabbit, "And so will I!" howled the hircine. The conifers twirled, yet the cervid stayed quiet. Music swung along with the crowd as they riot..."

If this were to be taken at face value, the promise in which the Croon made likely is heavily related to the promise they made with another in "The Tale of The Croon", where it states that, *"Along with a promise he kept, that they had forgotten..."*. In this quote, the usage of "they" is likely referring to the townspeople's promise to try to take care of nature. However, the original quote interestingly foretells a scenario where the Croon seemed to be hesitant to tell the truth and bring something to light, whereas the other Harkers seemed to want to spread the truth.

This scenario is incredibly similar to Perrine's own situation, where in the milestone video, Perrine outright states not wanting to talk about their past, whilst Kingsley argues against it.

The Croon – Objectives

In the Tale of the Croon, performed by Yaelokre in one of its gigs, we hear the Croon's purpose.

“For she forbade for them to take, to taint, to trespass.”

This information is given to us when we're told that when kings hold themselves too highly, the Croon forbids them to take too much and taints, likely bringing upon their demise. It's likely the object of the crown's affection is nature itself, stripping it's resources and land, whilst the Croon defends the line in which the kings cross. As an example, this can be proven when the other Harkers warn the Foolish King about the Croon, supposedly about his own actions. They warn him of the misdeeds he's done and the line of greed he's crossed.

Being the Harker of Entropy, many assume it's also chaos. But entropy is not just destruction. It's the measurement of destruction; often alluded to with fire. Something we see the Croon symbolizing often, as again in the tale of the Croon,

“Torn between the cervine folk of the mountains and the blood hungry pyrefiends,”

Although entirely different, the two groups showcase the very essence of nature. Both beautiful and fragile, but wild and severe. The Croon stands for this, becoming a personified entity of judgement, upholding the natural law.

Adding this evidence, the Croon was reincarnated as a Harker to be an incarnation of nature's entropy. This fits in with the cradles as well, as they themselves swore and embody the life force of the meadow and its stories. The Croon rules over destruction and decides what is too much chaos for punishment or natural progression. As it's an inevitable consequence, they put themselves in the shoes of judgement, standing by until someone has overdone themselves.

A Tale of The Croon

***My (lestloon) analysis on “A tale of the Croon”.
Cross referencing any mention and using definitions to define potential symbolism.***

"My words you will remember,
and yet my voice you shall forget.

Akin to the origins trailer and opening in songs of origin in Manila, the Storyteller states that “places forget, stories remember”. Alike to this, the first verse is only slightly changed, implying the listener would soon forget the Storyteller, as they're never going to live forever but their stories will continue to live on and spread.

This is a tale from the meadows of sorrel,

Torn between the cervine folk of the mountains and the blood hungry pyrefields,

As listeners we don't actually know where the tale originated, as in Youtube, the description of the short states, “Retelling a tale told by commonfolk regarding the Croon”, so it's likely the tale had been scattered throughout, as have the harkers by the cradles. However, it's likely the sorrel is referring to the wilderness, or even a place. Sorrel is often referred to as a weed, comparing the story's origin to a wildlife or wilderness which leads into the next verse. Both sides of the second verse are like the sides of a coin which represent nature. A calm mountain and pyrefields, although they may not live in peace, that is simply nature. It is calm and wild at the same time. It is unpredictable.

Here you'll find no compassion,

There is no hatred behind the croons actions, nor is there love. The Croon is the symbolism of entropy and it's an act of duty, and there is no pity for the lost. It was simply fated. Survival of the strongest.

In the northernmost east remained only the crossroads who have met souls,

Though there's key phrases like the word “crossroads”, which is heavily associated with peregrine, I think this verse can also relate geographically. For example, Sorrel also grows in a lot of northern east places, like North America or Eurasia. Meaning, that the geographical area is likely similar to those places (moose also are often found in both places). Not to say Meadowlark takes place on Earth (though Earth is canon, by neath the grove is a heart).

Burdened by sorrow they believed in but one god: the Croon.

Desperate attempts to believe in hope, the people now only believe in the nature that destruction will bring back balance. Note that the Croon is not a god or deity. Simply representing the Cradles.

However, because this tale was tossed between civilians, it's likely they view the Croon as a god, as this verse.

The Croon was worshiped as she pranced among trees,

This verse continuously displays the Croon's animalistic side, refusing to simply be defined only as a Harker, tying back to its former animalistic life of freedom and without duties. It was born to roam the woods, and being in a position of power shouldn't change that. Could be a possible symbolism to humanity as well.

Towering castles kings claimed to be prevailing,

wall tall and timber touched by no mortal hands,

Royals became greedy under the belief they were above the average people, using their wealth for destruction and their avarice. This can also be alluded to by the Foolish King, ignoring the other Harkers warnings about the Croon, which leads to the next verse.

For she forbade for them to take, to taint, to trespass

The Croon is a keeper of nature. Despite the chaos and extravagant disaster they display, they do it out of duty for meadowlark, to protect nature from the rotten and greedy. Even sacrificing the Croon's reputation as a result.

Except for one who held a heart golden,

Along with a promise he kept,

That they had forgotten,

Likely, this refers to how it seems to be a cycle of human greed. Hence, the forgotten part. People never seem to learn the lesson, the Croon stepping in every time. The golden heart is referring to the meadowlark/meadowfolk (as also mentioned in AURORA's opening concert). Which wouldn't be too far off to then assume the verse is actually addressing the wonderfolk, being the ones who forgot, and the croon who kept the promise.

It was I who made them forget."

This is the Storyteller speaking, and confirms that there is something making people forget, and the repetitive words and themes in songs like “Neath The Grove is a Heart” and “My Farewell to the Fields” are to be taken near face value.

The Croon – Restatement

In case the ramblings of a Loon come to make no sense + other theories that I had whilst making this but couldn't prove it with any evidence!

Theory 1 – the Croon's identity

- The Croon is reborn from several lost or deceased animals
 - *“bones lost to the earth”*
- Reborn because of unfulfilled aspirations or wishes
 - *“born from bodies bereft of dreams”*
- Purposely (?) mischaracterized to evil origin
 - Definition of Tempest vs. Croon
- Seen tragedy regarding nature, or some destructive forces that wonderfolk have brought upon the land, so its aspirations is to either take revenge or protect the forest?
 - balanced without judgement?

Theory 2 – the Croon's morality

- No beings are considered “evil” (?)
- Nature isn't evil as a whole, but it's neither good nor chaotic. Hence the need for a balance between the two
 - *“For she forbade for them to take, to taint, to trespass,”*
- Completely against destruction or tainting of nature, let it take its course.
 - *“Tempest, daughtering disharmony, dishonouring stillness and those who are afeared to heark.”*

Theory 3 – Perrine and the Croon

- The Croon could possibly be the oldest, reflecting how Perrine has an older sibling vibe?

- The innate urge to protect the natural course of things
- Both Perrine and the Croon Refusing to stand idly by while something is blatantly wrongdoing.
- Both Perrine and the Croon wish to bury something about their past or standing in which the other respective Harkers/Larks do not agree upon.

Theory 4 – The Croon Fragments

Theories that currently have no merit

- What if the croon was once an actual moose-bird hybrid, but has lived long enough the decomposition has taken place, roughly stage 4 to 5?
 - All other Harkers are either reborn of inanimate objects or can shapeshift. If they were born from an actual moose hybrid, they would rot over time.
 - If it was the oldest, would reflect Perrine's older sibling energy
- Views meadowlark or the cradles as the "mother", rather than an actual mother figure.
- Does the Storyteller control what is being said or told in stories? If they could make something forget, wouldn't that be going back on what the Harkers and Cradles believe in? Or could there be a reason for it?

Citations:

Yaelokre – Tiktok, Tumblr (former), Instagram, Discord server (former), Twitter
@Yaelokre on all platforms

Teecana – Explanation of Yaelokre and Meadowlark Lore
@teecana on Tiktok, u/Teecana on Reddit, @_Teecana on Twitter

Google Definitions