

Ok so this dream started out with me at this really worn out town. I was following this giant set of train tracks but stopped here to get supplies and this older lady invited me to her farm and I was like ok and followed her. She had a bunch of cows and she said she'd give me whatever I needed (to an extent) if I helped her clean up the cows for the night. They behaved better when their sleeping area was really clean so we soaped them up and hosed them down and brushed them dry and they were soooooo soft. The cows loved being brushed too and they'd gently butt you like a cat when you brushed the front part of them. They were so cute dwe. So cute. I ended up staying the night in the barn with the cows and fell asleep with one curled up next to me and she hardly moved at all the whole night. I dunno if cows are actually like this haha I've only had experience with horses, goats, and other small stuff like chickens. Most of the cow farms are further west of where I live.

Anyway, in the morning I thanked the farm lady for letting me sleep in the barn and she had made some bread early in the morning and gave me a loaf as well as a bag of dried corn and some beef jerky. I told her thanks again and started off down the giant train tracks that went by the village. The tracks were like one HUGE set of tracks so big you could lay down on one of the rails and your arms would just barely reach the ground and next to these were two normal sized tracks. Every day at 7am and 7pm a rusty train with a sort of retro futuristic look would go west (the way I was going) on the tracks. A few times on clear days when I heard the train before I saw it I had been able to see into the front window and I discovered that no one was driving the train. Also, it was the same train every time. I just assumed that maybe it was computer controlled and the track looped around back east. This train went fast enough that it could probably do that and keep a schedule. I'd been walking along the tracks for no less than maybe a year.

A few weeks after the farm town, the wide plain the tracks cut through became a forest and a couple weeks after that it started snowing. Sometimes when the train came by a pack of wolves that had been following me would come out of the woods and howl and bark and run alongside the train then go back into the woods when the train got past them. The wolves didn't bother me but they followed me all the way through the forest.

After what felt like eons trudging through the cold, snowy, woods the snow melted and the trees thinned and the tracks brought me to an abandoned village in the woods. Or mostly abandoned. There were a couple kids running around and a few parents watching them. Most of them were playing in front of this vine covered mansion and I figured maybe living in one giant building was easier for a few families to take care of than living in a bunch of smaller separated buildings.

At last, I came to the end of the tracks. I had been expecting a train station or a vast train yard with a gargantuan train that would fit on the giant set of tracks but at the end was only a giant metal barricade for stopping runaway trains. My guess about the train looping around obviously fell apart here and I started wondering if maybe I'd been following the tracks so long that I was going insane. The villagers playing in front of the mansion had stopped and were watching me from a distance. It wasn't so warm here that I had taken off my dirty and beat up duster and also

I hadn't bathed in eons and was covered in mud from the puddles the melting snow left everywhere. I had a pistol too and I think it might've been the flintlock????? But maybe it was just a revolver...

After I finished being massively disappointed by what I found at the end of the tracks I faced the villagers and some of them pulled their kids close and took a step back and somewhere a woman started crying. I think maybe they thought I was going to kill them haha not one of them had weapons and they all looked half starved meanwhile I was in pretty dang good shape from spending more than a year walking in a straight line with pounds of gear on my back.

A young guy with weird finger twitches that walked slightly huddled over slithered out of the crowd and over to me and he said in a voice that was like watching slugs crawl over each other that I wasn't the first one to follow the tracks and he knew what I was looking for. I followed him behind the mansion and the villagers stepped further away when we walked past.

Behind the mansion about two miles was a set of Aron buildings covered in moss and vines and black mold. The trees here blocked out almost all of the sun. The stone buildings stretched out over a ravine and were supported by massive columns of stone and it all looked surprisingly sturdy. The twitchy man led me to the first building and explained that each one had a different puzzle and the last one had what I was looking for. He also said that about four dozen people have tried to get through and most of them can't get more than half way but he had a good feeling about me and was going to follow me through it. You couldn't leave when you entered so I figured maybe he was just as insane as I was.

The first couple puzzles were really, really, basic. One was a slide puzzle where you arranged the cards into a picture, one was the Sphinx's riddle (what has four legs in the morning, two at midday, three at night), and one was that puzzle with the sheep and the dogs and you had to get the sheep across but couldn't leave them with the dog. I'd done all of these before so they were super easy. The twitchy man was surprised how fast I did them and he just stood behind me and twitched his fingers the whole time. The fifth puzzle, the one halfway that everyone died at, was very tricky. You had to find the combination to unlock these rolling spike wheels using three buttons and a riddle went with them that explained the combination. I can't remember the riddle because it was something my subconscious made up but after studying it for so long the twitchy man started nervous sweating, I discovered that the riddle suggested that the three buttons placed on this stone counter were all the wrong one and instead you had to go back towards the entrance of the building and there under a window was a button that lowered a staircase that let you walk above and over the spinning death tubes. There were a lot of skeletons and bones in this room and I felt sorry for them for not at least being observant enough for looking back out the way they came in. It took awhile to find the button under all the moss but I eventually found it. The stairs only lowered a part of the way though and I had to jump up and pull it down the rest of the way. The twitchy man smiled.

On top of the fifth building you could easily walk over to the roof of the sixth one and from that

roof you could possibly jump into the window of the very last room if you suddenly had wings. Luckily, Imao

I reached into my pocket and pulled out this glowing white crystal and the twitchy man scooted closer to see it but before he got too close I broke it in my fist and it did a glowy particle effect like breaking a soul in Dark Souls. The twitchy man screamed and tried grabbing some of the dust but I absorbed all of it and turned into like a scary anthro dragonbird. Magic was practically dead in this world so I had been saving it for a long time just for something like this. It would wear off eventually but I just needed the wings so I could cheat these puzzles. After the fifth one, I was convinced that the rest of them would start being unfair and I don't have patience for unfair puzzles. The twitchy man looked like he was gonna cry. He was like "if you leave me, I'm going to die here!!" And he slunk down to his knees and held his face in his hands and I reached into my bag and dug out a smaller glowing stone. I had no idea what it did but I figured might as well. The twitchy man broke it and it turned him into something that was like a really ugly hyper realistic combusken. The magic in these didn't last long so I flew over to the tenth room's roof and waited for twitches. He took a running jump and clawed his way onto the roof but he made it. We waited for the magic to wear off and then swooped into the window hole in the side of the building.

At last. The end of my long journey.

Before us was a yellowed once white refrigerator. It wasn't plugged into anything but it was probably powered by whatever powered the driverless ghost train I saw twice every day for the last year. Twitches and I stood and admired the grimy fridge for a long while. Eventually, I reached out and pulled it open. Inside was better than gold. Absolutely priceless.

Before us sat an entire refrigerator crammed full of those frozen fruit juice tubes.

My long, sometimes life threatening, journey across the world had come to an end. A reward so good not even the kindest King deserved it. Twitches and I sat weeping in front of the fridge full of delicious frozen juices and after a while I pulled one off of the long connected strip they usually come in and passed one to Twitches. It tasted like how I always imagined the golden mead in Valhalla must taste like.

The end