

“Another day, another disaster”

It was another normal and quiet day at the mail shop as always or so everyone thought, including Alucard. It has been a year since Alucard has been working together with Harley and Freddy in the mail shop, there have been no proper mail mayhem problems since then, everything has mostly been smooth and calm. Alucard was on his way to the shop like he used to do almost everyday, he had his hair in a braid and his tentacles were swaying along his walk. He enjoyed the sun that was shining on him and the cold breeze that was passing him at times. As he was walking he held onto his bag that had his two favourite books in it. He wanted to give them to his friend in the library once he would deliver today's mail there. Alucard was looking forward to his day being great as usual, he was always very positive about going into his day and even was very motivated to make it a great day for everyone else. He made it to the shop, opening the door and walking inside, greeting Harley and Freddy. “Hey you two, how are you guys doing today?” he asked the two Gravents, who were taking care of some mail at the moment. “Oh Heya Alucard ! We are doing fine, just finished some preparations before you arrived. We wanted to keep it easy today for all of us.” Freddy replied to Alucard back. Today they were all going out to have fun together and enjoy some time off work, they had planned this a few days ago as Alucard had suggested a fun gaming night. There would be board games, snacks, movies and even other friends joining the three of them, everything was planned out perfectly. It was going to be one of the funnest nights they all would have after a really long while. Alucard got to work and organised the mail, while Harley and Freddy were packing everything into their work bags, ready to deliver and hand out the mail to everyone. While everyone was getting done with their tasks, there was a strange noise emitting from the portal that Freddy had brought in long ago, always saying how he would fix it so that perhaps they could use it in the future to deliver mail more efficiently and easier. “Hey Freddy? Did you fix the portal?” Alucard asked him, curiously looking at the portal. “No, I have yet to fix it, why are you asking?” Freddy replied to Alucard, not looking at him as he was stuffing bags. “...Well, it is making weird noises...I do not think that is a good sign...” As soon as Alucard said those words, Freddy immediately turned his head to the portal in pure concern.

There, the portal was sparking a bit making these weird noises, sounding a bit like flowing water reminding someone of the ocean. Now the eyes of Harley, Freddy and Alucard were focused solely on the portal, having stopped everything they were doing. They observed what was going on with the portal, all of them curiously standing up and approaching it. They stood near the portal, watching as it was active, something about it was unsettling. All of them did not know what was happening or what they should be doing, they just watched it as if that was supposed to somehow change something or make it stop. “Uhhhh....guys? Should we be doing something?” Alucard asked after a few seconds of all of them just staring. “Well...I will check on it real quick and see what is wrong with it just in case..” Freddy said while looking at both Harley and Alucard. He approached the portal and started inspecting it, trying to figure out what was wrong with it. After a few minutes of Freddy just trying out anything to make it do something in order to understand what is going on, he must have done something because the portal all of a sudden went quiet. All of them were relieved that now everything seemed to be calm and peaceful again. “Hey ! It seems like I fixed it !” Freddy said enthusiastically, he was happy with

his work, but he still did not know what exactly it was that made the portal go quiet. Both Harley and Alucard were much calmer and felt safe again, now that everything was back to normal. Until....The portal had now fully opened, everyone stared in shock in front of them while everything unfolded. The portal was not able to suck in Alucard or the others, but it did have the strength to get the mail. All mail that was either laying on the ground or on the ground started getting picked from the ground, flying to the air and then towards the portal. Alucard, Harley and Freddy started panicking, they all tried their best to capture as much mail as they could before the portal could have taken it all. "FREDDY DO SOMETHING AND CLOSE IT!! ALL OUR MAIL IS BEING TAKEN AWAY!" Harley yelled at Freddy, trying to get him to do something. Nothing could be done at that moment, it was too late as the portal was powered up and no longer able to be shut down. Whatever mail was saved was put into bags immediately as they were too heavy for the portal to lift. But a big portion of the mail they had was now gone, taken by the portal to who knows where. All three of them were so devastated, their hard work was now gone, unable to know where it all went and how would they explain to their customers that a giant portal just took the mail and they did not know where.

After hours of the three of them freaking out over this incident they decided to call their friends and cancel the gaming night, as they would be busy trying to figure out what to do. That is when someone knocked on the shop's door, all of them found a customer of theirs waiting at the door of the shop, with a small bag in their hands. Alucard opened the door, asking the person in front of him why they were there. They handed him the bag, telling him that somehow a few mail letters ended up in the home that were not theirs. Alucard excused the disruption and took the bag whole apologising profusely about what happened, closing the door and heading back inside. "Guys, I think I know where our mail has landed....It is definitely not good." Alucard told Harley and Freddy with a very concerned look on his face. This was catastrophic, the mail has been sent all over the village. Possibly everyone could have a portion of it, meaning this would be a big mess that all three of them would have to fix and clean up after. "We all have to go around and gather everything, NOW!" Harley replied, already getting ready to storm out of the mail shop. As soon as Freddy and Alucard heard those words they immediately stormed out, leaving Harley behind before she could run out too and catch up to them, they were all discussing which places they would check before splitting up. As soon as they split up, everyone was quickly knocking on doors, checking who had and who had not received the portal's mail. They were spending hours just going around and collecting mail, bringing it back to the shop and then going to collect some more mail again until everyone had gathered all the missing mail. Everything was finally accounted for, their hard work had paid off as they had found and gathered all the missing mail due to the portal accident. Harley had decided to take a quick nap on the floor, while Alucard was organising all the mail and Freddy was working on stopping the portal from taking any more mail in it. The portal had seemed to have calmed down, its power not being too overwhelming anymore, making it easier to handle and for everyone in the shop to be able to take a massive break from today's troubles. The whole situation cost them their fun gaming night with their friends and their energy to do anything else anymore, they now just wanted to sit down and relax. "I feel like this shop and us are cursed maybe, just because stuff like this always happens to us. I have not seen anything happen to the bakers or the libraries, no, only us !" Alucard sighed in an annoyed way, seeming to be

bothered by the unfortunate events. He felt as if he could have done something differently to prevent all this chaos from happening, maybe if he already put all the leftover mail into bags it would have not occurred. He was blaming himself and no one else could see that, his insecurities were getting the best of him even though what happened with the portal was not his fault.

Freddy was not successful in repairing the portal, but everyone was too tired to continue so they went home for the day to try and catch up on some sleep. Alucard took some time to read at home to calm himself and his thoughts, after a few minutes he was fast asleep. Once morning came, Alucard was still asleep, being exhausted from yesterday he had forgotten to set up his alarm. This made Harley and Freddy come to his house to wake him up and help him tidy his house a bit, before they all left for the shop. Once upon arrival to the mail shop they all decided to check on the portal, just staring at it and discussing different methods on how to shut it down or make it work properly. "Sooooo, should we just hit it?" Harley said while looking at Freddy and Alucard. "What ?! No ! Do you know how expensive this was?!" Freddy answered her, now standing protectively in front of the mirror. "Well we have to do something with it ! You wanted to fix it so why can you not fix it?!" Harley argued with Freddy. "It is harder than I thought, okay." Freddy told Harley. "Guys, take it easy please. We will figure things out okay? How about we work together, all of us, to fix the portal and to be able to make our work a bit easier and more sufficient." Alucard told them with a determined look, he knew if they worked together they would have greater success in solving their current issue. They all started gathering some tools, trying to maybe see if anything could be used to fit onto any pieces of the portal. They spent hours and finally had achieved what they needed, a somewhat fixed portal. "That is it ! Now we are done, Harley calls up our friends, tonight it's gonna be gaming night." Freddy yelled out happily. Alucard was so happy to hear this, he could finally show off and maybe cheat a bit while gaming with his friends, nothing could ruin this day anymore. As the night came, everyone had gathered at Harley's place, some people were playing games including Alucard, Freddy was cooking some snacks for everyone in the kitchen and Harley was in charge of some good music. Alucard was on a winning streak, none of the other players knew he was cheating a bit while gaming. Everyone was having so much fun, it was a good gaming night for everyone to just relax. But while they were having fun, no one knew what was happening at the mail shop. The portal was active once again, a hand reaching out from it and leaving behind a gift before the portal had fully closed. Who was the one who left the gift? What is in this gift left behind? Something for Harley? Maybe Freddy? Or perhaps...Alucard? The three of them will not know until they have seen and opened it, until then they are still at home, having fun with their dear friends who have visited them.