<u>Fractured</u>] The Aftermath – Part 4

Min: 600 Words

Draw or write about an Official Skire Character (Yours, someone else's, or an NPC) being impacted by the fracturing.

Payout: 1000 Words + NPC/Gift Bonus -> 30 Crowns +Jelly Ward

Characters: Arah (By Benaberrry), Price (NPC, General Store Shopkeeper)

It has been weeks since Arah and Price reached their Destination. Their hometown. They couldn't believe what they saw. The city was destroyed and torn apart...it broke into different pieces, with big rifts between the floating islands on which the city stands. The people were trapped on the islands as they had no way of crossing the rifts without falling into the deep. The situation seemed endless, but the Skireans put themselves together...formed groups to manage to better their situation. Among them were our two protagonists. Who were, gone for weeks, due to their journey. They couldn't just stand there and watch...so they joined one of the groups to help rebuilding their destroyed city. A few weeks have passed since then. The situation changed a lot. A space-travelling service has opened a lot faster than they expected that offers their services to Skires who want to cross the rifts and visit other parts of the city. Which makes it one of the most valuable services in the city as of now. And due to being interested in space, especially after what happened Arah attended a job interview to become a part of the space-travelling service. She wanted to help other Skires see their loved ones across the rifts. She eventually managed to get the job and now she is training to learn how to fly a spacecraft. After she was accepted into the posting she herself took one of the space shuttles to fly into the outskirts of the city. The place where Price's Shop was located. Arah was excited to tell him the good news...as well as she wanted to check on him and his shop. Both of them were busy the last days and weeks, rebuilding their lives after everything that has happened...so they didn't really manage to meet each other, which saddened Arah...she really liked Price. They became good friends after the weeks they travelled together...and with...Dullahan. She...misses him...is he alright? What is he doing now? Arah asked herself these questions a lot. But she never got an answer. As the Shuttle reached the other space-station Arah left the shuttle and walked in the direction of Prices Shop. She examined the streets around her as she crossed them...only a little of the houses haven't been destroyed by the beasts...but the rest? They had no choice but to rebuild them...even now weeks later some houses were still under construction. But life goes on, doesn't it? After a While she reached the house Prices Shop is in. It is one of the few houses that miraculously got spared by the attacks...at least the damage it got wasn't too heavy. She walked up to the door...a sign hand outside, written on it was the word "Open". Open? Has he already opened? Arah took a deep breath and gently opened the door. "Price?" She investigated the shop and entered it. As she walked into the shop...it seemed empty.

"Price?" She asked again. "Hello? He gently rested her hand on the counter. "I'm coming!" She heard his familiar voice and Price showed up a few seconds later. It seemed like he searched something in the back of his shop since he came back with a box in his hands. "Arah!" His face brightened as he saw her standing by his counter. "What a lovely surprise! How are you doing?" He smiled, walked up to her and carefully placed the box on the counter. "G-Great! And you?" "Ok...I guess? Everything here is still kind of a mess, but it gets better with every passing day. May I ask you something?" "Huh sure?" Arah looked at him. "Could you help me...place the goods in his box here onto the shelves? Together we could finish this a lot faster..." "Of course!" Arah smiled and helped him with placing his goods onto the shelves. She tried to do that as carefully as she could, so they don't get destroyed in the process. After not even half an hour they were done and the selves looked as colorful and busy as ever with different wares placed onto them. They looked proudly at their work. "So...is there a specific reason you came here in the first place?" Price leaned against the counter. "Oh...no not really. I just wanted to check on how you're doing. I mean...we are still friends, aren't we?" "Of course we are!" Price smiled at her. Arah smiled back. "Oh! And a got a job at the space-travelling agency! I'm right now learning on how to fly the shuttles!" She exclaimed proudly. "Really? I'm delighted for you!" He smiled and patted her shoulder. "Thx...I tried my best zo get this job!" The two smiled at each other, which got interrupted by a knock on the door. "Hm?" Price looked at the door, opened it. Before it stands a Nautipod which was holding a letter. "For you. With best regards." The Nautipod gave the Letter to price and the left as quickly as he appeared. Price took the Letter and walked back to Arah. "Who was it?" she asked. "Not sure...a Nautipod I have never seen..." He opened the letter and carefully read it. After he finished, he looked confused at first...but his expressions brightened after a few minutes. "May I ask what you read in this letter?" Curious as she was Arah tried to get a look at the letter. "You wouldn't believe it..." Price gave Arah the Letter. "It is from Dullahan. I'm not sure how he got my address, but he did. He talked about what happened after our separation. He travelled a while until he found a smaller town where he started to live. I'm sure you heard about the guilds that formed in the past weeks...he runs one of his own. Called "Light in the Dark"." Price watched as Arah read the letter. "Light in the Dark? That fits a lot..." Arah smiled. "I'm glad he's alive and well. And managing a whole Guild? That's quite the feat." She smiled. "He will visit the city in a few days. Trying to get more guild members. We should visit him when he's here, maybe we could join his guild?" Price took the letter back from Arah. "Oh yes! I lobe that Idea! Let's do that and become members of his guild!" The green Cccat exclaimed excited. Price nodded. This sets their new plan. Join Dullahan's guild and reconnect with their old friend.

The End