

The waters of Meteor Lake lapped at the sandy shores of the beach surrounding the giant crater. Descending deep below the depths to pitch black no one but Nautipods dared to travel down. From this depth however, around this time of year, peculiar heart-shaped objects wash up on the embankments. Sand Hearts they were called and many colors they came in. Their exterior was like porcelain to the touch, lacking that slimy clamminess expected of things from the sea.

Walking along the beach was a CCCat, none other than Jared. Leaving paw prints in the sand and his royal fur drawing light lines in the sand where they draped from his arms and legs. He scoured the ground as he walked by, keeping his eye out for any sand hearts. Usually they glistened in the sun but some of them were pretty hidden with sand washed up on them.

He waited until the sun dipped a little past noon hours, closer to the evening when there would be less people out at the beach. Less people, less competition, less of a crowd the better.

Eventually, he caught sight of something in the sand and he stopped. Reaching and picking it up, it was a blue sand heart, sheening almost like a water's reflection in the sun. It was perfect. He stashed it in his travel satchel that he usually brought with him on supply runs. Continuing along the bank, he kept searching to see if he could find any more and hopefully other colors as well. Not only to give to loved ones but to collect as well.

He did end up finding a few more, even happening upon some as they just washed up from waves. Among them he'd found pink, yellow, green, purple, etc.

Satisfied with his haul, he left the beach and began the walk back to Luelor. He wasn't in any rush, taking a leisurely pace back to the town as he sometimes looked out over the lake. Looking out to the distant horizon and the flying creatures as they made their various calls, adding more ambiance to the sounds of the waves. Once reaching the fishing town, he found himself back at the portal he'd taken to get here. Activating it, he stepped through and came out the other side to a completely different location. He then began to make his way back to his home from here.

The scenery was now fields of green and trees. The sky was becoming painted in colors of purple, oranges and reds as the sun began to dip lower in the sky by the time Jared arrived home. Reaching the double floor, logged cabin home, he headed inside. Closing the door behind him, he walked into the living room, setting his travel satchel down on the table.

He heard his older brother, Drifter, greet him. Welcoming him back from within the kitchen. Then he mentioned that the food was almost ready, that he was just in time. Jared responded to him in thanks before taking out the blue sand heart from his satchel, proceeding to hide it from view. His brother happened to be visiting for a while so Jared wanted to take advantage of this timing.

After a few moments, Drifter called again that the food was ready and Jared went into the kitchen. After eating and cleaning up everything, Jared then told his brother that there was something he wanted to give to him.

Showing him the blue sand heart, Drifter carefully took it, smiling and thanking him, saying he loved it.

Funny enough, Drifter had gotten the same idea as well, showing a sand heart of his own and giving it to Jared. Its color is a beautiful opalescent white with a prismic sheen to it. The two brother's laughed and hugged afterwards.