

TRIAL OF TERRITORY

while no one can truly own or tame the wild lands of Empyrean, there are those individuals who will claim dominion over stretches of land, happily claiming it as their own and defending it from those who would try to take it or pass through unwanted.

Depict your character defending their territory. They may be defending the territory from another of their species, or a creature that is unwelcome.

Trial for: [SB-1880: MORADER](#), [SB-1856: BLOOP](#), [SB-1879: PAPRIKA](#), [AV-0096: VARGRIN](#)
Word Count: 1022

Bloop couldn't believe his ears. For someone to have taken over Paprika's territory- it was something that was truly mind boggling. Not for the fact that someone was able to steal it away from the warden, for as large and terrifying as the fiery dragon was- he was shockingly weak and hopeless. Bloop has stolen more things from him than he could count, and while Paprika would always have fought back it was never with ill intentions or even because Bloop stole something to begin with- he fought back simply because he was a fool who knew nothing better.

The shocking part of this situation, was that someone wanted Paprika's territory to begin with. Bloop had been there once before, and there was nothing there. It was ash and dust, stones and bones, lava and an endless blistering heat. Outside of Paprika himself, there was no other life to exist so why would anyone possibly want it? "Some big giant... Fish. Rose out of the lava and attacked you?" Bloop asked slowly, confirming the wild tale he had been told as he rested on Paprika's back.

The fiery warden was stepping through the empty wasteland, his claws swiping at a random set of bones. "Yes!! Yes!! A big and scary fish rose out of the lava. It lunged at me and told me to get out- and when I tried to bite into it, it just... It just slapped me!"

"It slapped you.."

"Yes! With it's tail!! It turned around, in the lava, and it hit me with it's tail. Then it laughed at me and said that a whelping like myself should go play somewhere else! So I went to you- and now we're going to show that fish just who's boss. Right?? Yeah!! Right!! We got this!"

Bloop really didn't believe it. He couldn't imagine a fish being able to live in the scorching molten rock, no matter what Paprika might say but before he could reply he heard the loud thud of something striking stone. The ground shook beneath them and a small flurry of ash could be seen rising into the air a ways away. A clear sign of a battle going on.

"Over there! That's where the fish was!" Paprika called out, picking up the pace and running full force.

"Well don't get too close- just, close enough for me to see! If it's just a Fish then I'm sure we can handle it, but that was a really big cloud.."

The closer the pair got, the louder that snarling got. It was a low rumbling growl, and it shook the earth. It was filled with anger, a living beacon of Hellfire and Bloop could feel a chill running down his spine at the sound. Large dragons were in the middle of combat, but no matter how much Bloop and Paprika listened there was only one dragon they could hear.

Peering over the top of a series of rocks a brutal scene was splayed out in front of them. Just as Paprika had promised, a large fish-like dragon was submerged in the lava.

Their eyes were peering over the molten rock as their lips curled up angrily. They were so focused on another dragon that they didn't even notice the return of Paprika.

"You just don't know when to quit, do ya? Mmmm? What happened, did ya Dam scramble yer head when ya were still an egg? Hmm? Does that stupid cat of yours have your tongue?"

The Rayfin was hurling out insults left and right, but the one they were aiming them at didn't seem to mind nor did they seem to care. For a Wyvern they were big, their size put Bloop to shame and thick ragged scars were running down their side. Fur was running down across their spine and their wing, running up their neck onto their face as if it was a pelt being worn. It wasn't worn though, it was a part of them, and everywhere that it touched the dragon's body looked as if it was screaming. Their wings were split to have a full double set of claws, and as they opened their mouth to lick at the blood that was falling down their snout both Bloop and Paprika could see the extra set of teeth within their jaws.

They didn't make a sound though, and instead they picked themselves back up and shook off their pelt. A small celestial feline was crouched on the ground where they seemed to have landed, their pelt fluffed up angrily as they hissed and the wolf-like dragon ignored their anger. Instead of reacting to either the cat or the Rayfin, they just placed themselves in the middle again to stare down the Rayfin.

"Leave."

While the silver and black Rayfin's voice had been full of aggression and anger, the wyvern's was much calmer. It was quiet, nothing more than a whisper yet it sent chills down the spine of everyone who heard it. Even the Rayfin seemed to pause at the single word before they snarled again.

Bloop lowered his body in closer against Paprika, staring at the sight and quietly he crawled up to be near the Warden's ear. "...Paprika?" He said quietly. "Paprika I don't think we can win against the fish nor the wyvern--"

The Warden merely agreed, nodding his head as he slowly pulled back. This was his territory- he was born and raised here in this wasteland, but even he knew better than to try and battle either of those dragons for it. As he pulled away he could hear angry insults filling the air again as the rayfin snapped and snarled, throwing a wave of lava at the Wyvern who swiftly dodged it.

"Morader, Leave."

The quiet words of the wyvern were repeated for a second time, and it was only after a few more seconds of protest from the Rayfin he called Morader that he lunged forward and their battle resumed. Dust and ash once more raising up to fill the air, and be the only sign that anything was here within this barren territory.

Celestial EXP:

Celestial Feline + 10
Added Dragon + 2
Added Dragon #2 + 2
Background + 4
Personal bonus + 1
Trials + 2
1022 words + 10
Total = 31

Ethereal EXP:

Entry rolls gain points. + 0
Trials + 10
Extra Dragon (1) + 2
Extra Dragon (2) + 2
Extra Dragon (3) + 2
Complex Background + 5
Total = 21