

Word Count: 1,149

Zerealith takes Widget night fishing on Junai at the Rainbow Shores of Mosivy

"Now, I know you said you didn't want to do anything tonight," Zero shouted over the wind, "but I promise, you won't be disappointed!"

Widget squirmed inwardly and outwardly as the much more gregarious, even by her standards, Komi-Dracus led her out over the ocean, blind folded, holding what amounted to a leash in their claws. "You know I can smell the salt water, right?" Widget shouted, excited to see where this led, but not all that stoked about being blind folded for a considerable length of time.

"Yeah, yeah, spoil sport." Zero muttered under her breath playfully. "I know you can smell it, but you can't see it yet!" She cackled maniacally. "Trust me, you're gonna love this!" She reiterated for maybe the eleventy-billionth time since they started out.

This was getting ridiculous. "Well, I hope we arrive soon." Widget said back. "I'm getting awfully tired with all this flying." She shifted her shoulders uncomfortably. "Where did you say you were taking me again?" She asked.

Zero laughed. "You're not going to get me with that old trick!" She wagged her tail excitedly. "But I promise, you're..."

"Gonna love it!" Widget imitated the other Drakiri with near precision. "I know, I know." She laughed when Zero whacked her with her long tail. "Watch it there! You almost knocked the leash out of my claw!"

"It's a tether, ya great walnut." Zero grumbled. "Just hold on tight, we're almost there. And then you can take off your blind fold. I promise." Zero was really excited to show Widget where they were going, but the sun needed to go down first for them to really get the full effect of the place. She'd only just met the other Drakiri, but she'd felt very close to her very quickly. They both cast an eerie glow from their mutations, and Zero wasn't sure if the other Drak was teased as much as she was about her 'Cinder Bottom', but she still wanted to support the other as best as she knew how.

"Okay, this next part is gonna feel a little funny, but it's safe and then it'll only be a little farther to our destination." She assured Widget who she could tell was getting antsy.

"Okay Zero. I'm putting a lot of trust in you here, you know." Widget said over the wind.

"Yes, especially since we only just met a little while ago." Zero acknowledged. "Okay, here comes the weird bit." She said as she flew straight into the swirling blue vortex in front of them that was only visible at a certain time of day, just before sunset on Galabastarin.

The sensation of falling sideways overtook them both as they sailed through the portal in the sky. When they popped out the other side, the smells were different than Widget was used too, and so were the sounds.

Zero stopped for a moment to get her bearings and then flew off again away from the portal and into the orange sky of a different world. "We're almost there." She said quietly.

Strangely, Widget could hear her easily, despite the strange sounds around them. It was almost as if their passage through the sky no longer made wind. Like they were...swimming in the air. "Where are we?" Widget said in wonder.

"Just a little further." Zero encouraged her. "And then you can take off your blind fold." She chuckled. "I just don't want to spoil the surprise before we get to the best place." Zero explained. She angled them downward and Widget could feel her begin to slow.

Widget took her cue from Zero and also slowed her descent. "It smells amazing! Is that...fish!?" She demanded and barely resisted the urge to snatch the blind fold from her face.

"Yes, it is!" Zero said excitedly. "But not like any fish you've ever had before!" She said conspiratorially. "Okay, we're landing now, I'll land first and then coach you down." She said.

"Wouldn't it be easier for me to take my blind fold off first?" Widget asked testily.

"Well, yes, but it would also spoil the effect of the surprise, so put on your big girl panties and deal with it." Zero teased. "Now, extend your front legs and reach for the rock, it's only a little bit in front of you." Zero coached.

Widget sighed and did as she was told. She felt warm stone beneath her claws almost immediately. "Okay, now what?" She asked. She'd never done anything like this before and she was nervous.

"Just...let your back feet down slowly and grab the rocks beneath your front legs, there's plenty of space." Zero said calmly.

Widget let her back legs swing slowly toward the rocks in front of her until they made contact. She again noted that the rock was unusually warm. "Am I down?" She asked.

"Yup!" Zero proclaimed and whisked the blind fold off Widget's head. "Welcome to Junai." Zero said grandly as she swept her claws out in front of them.

Widget let her eyes adjust for a moment and gasped. Before her lay a most spectacular sight. They were crouched on a mountain ridge overlooking a black sand beach, the shore was a light with every color she could think of and some that were completely new to her. It made it look as if the water was on fire! "Oh wow!" Widget breathed. "This is beautiful."

Zero nudged her new friend in the shoulder. "Happy Pride, Widget." She said affectionately. "I knew you'd love it. The Rainbow Shores of Mosivy are a popular destination in the summer on Junai, I stumbled on them quite by accident." She yammered. "And that's not even the best part!" She cooed. "You said you like fish right?" She asked rhetorically. "Follow me!" She said and took off into the sky once more.

Widget followed her willingly at the mention of fish. As they got closer to the beach, she noticed many creatures of every type and description running about, some were gathered around fires while the suns (THREE SUNS?!) set around them. "Zero, what's going on?" She asked.

"It's a beach party!" Zero exclaimed proudly and spun in the air as she sped down the black mountain cliffs toward the beach. "Come one! Everyone is welcome!" Zero assured her. "Oh, and as soon as the suns set, the fishing will begin!" She said excitedly. "Cause that's when the fish start to glow in the deeper water! The rainbow algae is only close to the shore."

"Fishing? Glowing fish!" Widget whooped excitedly. "Lead the way! I'm right on your tail!" Widget laughed as they dove into the water to cheers and applause of the folks on the beach. *This is so much fun. I'm glad I trusted her.* Widget thought to herself as she chased a whole school of fish glowing a bright white against the dark waters.