

A Wonderland Shopping Trip I

It was a pleasant day in the tower, the sun was nonexistent and the temperature was perfectly cool. It was just peaceful and quiet. The only issue is Shaula was bored, very bored. She paced the floor of her still mostly unfurnished room, thinking about what she could do.

She did not feel like getting more furniture, playing games or many other things she usually does. It was one of those days when nothing felt appealing. She sauntered over to her animal cages and picked up her chameleon. She placed the lizard on top of right arm. The chameleon, whose name is Jenna, was purple with light blue stripes today.

Shaula hoped seeing Jenna would spark some creativity or at least make things a little less boring. Jenna was very little help and just slowly crawled across her arm with an occasional head movement.

She sighed and asked the rhetorical question, "what should I do today, Jenna?" She watched the lizard slowly reach latch onto her fingers, treating them like her own personal tree branches.

After a few moments of watching Jenna crawl across her, Shaula decided to place the lizard back into her home. Doing so, she noticed how little was around the cages and just now realized she had nothing to feed her pets. This is surprisingly easy to forget when nothing in the realm needs to eat.

She decided to make a trip out of it. She hopped out of her pajamas and into a cute dress. I was black and had a floral pattern of deadly nightshade flowers. The dress went down to her knees and the short sleeves were let out a bit for a more flowing feel.

She lightly skipped over to Nightfall's part of her floor and knocked on the door. She heard a soft "one moment" followed by the sound of feet hitting the floor. The door opened to reveal her beloved standing there a little annoyed.

"Since when do you kno-" he froze mid sentence when he saw the dress she was wearing. He shied away from her gaze and knew he had to say something to correct himself. "Oh, did I forget that we were going on a date or something?"

She gave a small giggle and flattened her hand on her chest, "no, silly, I just wanted to surprise you with my cute dress." Her smile grew a bit wider. "Looks like it worked, hehe."

"Er, yeah." He responded, managing to look back at her. "Soooo, why are you all dressed up?" he shifted to look a little more confident but it didn't really work.

She grinned back at him with the same large smile. "I wanted to go on a small shopping trip. Care to join me?"

"Sure, I guess I'm not doing anything else." he shrugged.

"Great! Then let's get going." She snatched his hand and dragged him to the elevator so fast he could barely keep up. The door was already open, allowing them to rush in.

They reached the bottom and saw Linda who was definitely not hiding how bored she was. She laid with her head hanging off the seat of the couch and her feet in the air. Her hands drummed on the couch while she looked off into space while groaning with sheer boredom.

Her eyes lit up when the duo walked by. She flipped over and leaped off her spot and landed in front of them. "Wait wait wait!" She commanded them. "Can I come with? I'm soooooo bored! I can't think of anything to do today."

Shaula looked down at her short friend with happiness and a little bit of pity. "Of course, Linda." She told her. "That's why I'm going out too."

"Heck yeah!" Linda jumped for joy. "Come on then, let's go go go!" She ran out the tower doors while the other two continued at their normal, but slower pace.

Linda rushed back and asked, "wait, what are we even getting? Pleeeeeease tell me it's not a boring "shopping for the week" trip." With her hands behind her head, she walked backwards in front of her friends.

"Well, it's going to sound a little weird." She paused for a moment. "I want to get some bugs to feed my pets. Maybe a few other things too, hehe." They turned the corner with Linda following right beside them but walked in a normal fashion.

"Meh, makes sense." She shrugged. "Can we go other places too? Like a games store or a restaurant. Oo, definitely a restaurant, I'm really craving a burger or two, maybe three." She had a huge smile on her face.

Nightfall chimed in with, "I'd like to go somewhere else too." He hesitated a second. "But I don't really know where though."

Shaula clapped her hands together and announced, "alrighty, pet store for me, restaurant for Linda, and TBD for Nightfall. But first the pet store because we are already here."

(Writer/editor note: we probably won't keep the building architecture the same in the future.)

The store was like most structures within the tower walls. It was about the size of the average convenience store but a few square feet larger. It had cobblestone walls and a flattened gable roof that was made of hay. It had glass windows and a glass automatic sliding door.

The interior was a stark contrast to the medieval aesthetic. It looked like the average pet store with counters, shelves, and a plethora of pets. This one had the standard animals like: turtles, hamsters, birds but it also had a place for larger animals like iguanas, dogs, and cats.

Linda ran to the dogs while Nightfall and Shaula looked at the nearby reptiles. Nightfall and Linda matched the energies of the animals they chose to look at while Shaula gushed over how cute each animal and every animal is.

Nightfall was content after a few moments and decided to shop for the things on Shaula's list: Crickets, a terrarium decoration, and a costume for Jenna. The last two were added in-between the elevator ride and reaching the reptile section.

After a few minutes, he returned with a bag of crickets, a fake bonsai tree, and a witch costume for Jenna. "I got 'em." he told Shaula. "You ready to go?"

"Mmhm." She responded with an exaggerated nod. She turned to ask Linda, who was a few aisles away. "Linda! Are you ready to go?"

She was covered in a cuddle puddle of all sorts of dogs. "No but yes." She replied. "TBT, I don't really want to ever leave." She sighed with contentment. Nightfall sauntered to the cashier while they gave Linda a few more moments to cuddle and for Shaula to join in.

The cashier was a lot like most of the employees in the tower. She was a mushroom woman with a large white mushroom cap with 5 evenly placed blue spots atop her head. Her cap was shaped like a slightly deflated beach ball. She had blue eyes and short blue hair. The only thing she wore different from a standard uniform was a translucent light blue veil that covered her mouth.

They managed to Linda pull away from the puppy puddle and made their way to the next store. It was a restaurant called "Dragon's Dinner". Its exterior was no different from the previous store apart from the fact that it was decently larger and the door was a glass double pull door. The restaurant was Linda's favorite because the portions were often dragon sized.

The restaurant had a cave-like appearance and had torches on the wall. A familiar mushroom hostess greeted them. She was a little different because her eyes were sharper and her cap was more like a disk. She asked their server to show them to their booth.

The waitress was yet another mushroom woman but her cap was more like the pet store cashier's. Her build was also a bit bulkier than the others. She took their orders and went to get their drinks. Both girls ordered a cheese burger but Linda wanted her burger to be spicy. Shaula

ordered a lemonade and Linda wanted a soda. Nightfall only ordered a soda because he didn't care to eat in wonderland.

Nothing of note happened until food was brought, only idle conversation. The mushroom waitress, named Mia, brought the food and drinks very quickly. So fast that Linda had not finished coloring a children's place mat. Linda snatched the burger off the tray and immediately began eating while the others waited patiently for Mia to place everything.

Linda devoured the burger like she had not eaten for years while Shaula ate quickly, which was her normal speed. Linda mildly regretted her choice when her body processed how spicy it was, making her drink most of her soda in one sitting. Everyone had a laugh at how comical and animated the whole thing was, even Linda chuckled after the spice died down.

(Writer/editor note: yes, they pay in rubies like the Legend of Zelda.)

Mia came back around to refill Linda's drink and collect the payment. Shaula paid in rubies and told the waitress thank you and to tell the chef thank you as well. Afterwards they discussed where to go next because Nightfall had not decided yet.

"I don't really care." He began. "I just want to go somewhere else." He took a sip of his drink and placed it on the table.

Shaula responded with, "well is anywhere coming to mind?"

- "Not really, I guess the game store but I don't really want to go there just to browse."

"Hmmm, what about a clothing store?"

"If you really want to. Like I said, I just want to stay out a little longer."

"Ok great!" Shaula floated out of her seat and landed near the table. "Then is everyone ready to go?"

The other two agreed and followed her to the last destination: Dress-up Studios. It was much like the other buildings, it was much like the restaurant but had a sliding glass door.

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Inside was filled with outfits, accessories, and costumes of all kinds. The walls were pastel pink and had little sewing and filming related designs and decorations strewn about the store. The mushroom woman at the counter greeted them with a friendly smile. Her differences were that her cap was shaped like a dome and she was almost Shaula's height, taller if her cap was included. She also didn't wear a uniform but a stylish purple cocktail dress.

The fun part about this store was that trying on the clothes was encouraged. In fact, there was a small runway towards the back of the store just for showing off the clothing. The girls ran

through the store to find all sorts of things to try on and managed to convince Nightfall to try on a few.

Shaula was drawn to the Gothic section while Linda ran all over the store, mixing and matching everything. Nightfall grabbed two outfits but Shaula demanded he pick at least one more, reminding him to try to have some fun.

Soon after everyone gathered by the runway and organized who would do what. It was apparent that the girls had much more to try on than Nightfall, so he should show off his clothes in the middle of their impromptu fashion show. After a small debate that mostly consisted of "I really want to go first" and "But then I'll be bored or tired", they decided each girl would wear half of their outfits before Nightfall's turn.

I shall spare you the 10 pages of explaining every outfit and give you the basics. Linda started off with her collection of costumes: a pirate, ninja, idol, space woman, knight, and a shark onesie that looked like Stephen. They all had a laugh about the last one when she pretended to be Stephen.

Shaula followed with several Gothic outfits. Some featured corsets, some intricate lace designs, one even had bat wing sleeves. Linda convinced her to levitate and flap her arms like a bat for the last one. Shaula even made squeaking noises to imitate echolocation. That unfortunately did not help her avoid floating into a pole. Even Shaula laughed at herself a little bit because of that.

Nightfall's turn was short but enjoyable. He first wore two outfits quite befitting of him: a ninja costume and stylish jacket with black pants. Then the last one was the outfit Shaula convinced him to get, a light blue dragon onesie. He walked out onto the runway a little embarrassed, especially after the two women responded with "awwww"s.

After a moment or two, Shaula decided she couldn't wait any longer and hug-tackled him to the ground, calling him cute throughout the hug. Linda soon joined in and decided to call him cute a few times as well. Nightfall resisted at first but began to enjoy it once he realized he was not going anywhere.

Once the cuddles were over, it was time for Shaula to dress up again. She was extra excited because her and Linda coaxed Nightfall to stay in the dragon onesie until the fashion show was over.

Shaula wore several stylish outfits, one with a jacket and crop top, another with shorts and an oversized shirt. Her favorite from that section was a large black nightgown with lace sleeves and had "Sleepy Ghostie" on the front with a sleeping cartoon ghost under covers in a pink bed.

Linda was the last one to go and she picked mostly pajamas of all sorts. She wore: a nightgown, shorts and short sleeve shirt, pants and a fluffy shirt, fluffy pants and a crop top, and a gecko onesie. Her favorite was a more extravagant nightgown that came with a queen's cape and a

tiara. It was the most royal Linda had ever looked in her life. She reminded them that she was their “magma dragon gremlin queen”. Of course she wasn't being serious about that but that didn't stop her from acting like royalty.

Shaula and Linda purchased a few outfits and bought Nightfall the dragon onesie for their next sleepover. He shook his head in disbelief when he saw his gift but had a happy smirk on his face. “I'm going to have to wear that all the time, aren't I?” He asked. To which Shaula vigorously nodded in agreement with a “mhm mhm mhmm!”

They had a long but fun day, so they decided to go back to the tower. The girls were practically glowing with excitement and joy while Nightfall was just calmly happy. The short trip back was filled with excited conversation about the whole day and making plans to do it again sometime.

Once they reached Linda's floor they said their goodbyes and Linda zipped off to put her new clothes away.

The elevator reached Shaula and Nightfall's floor and the two stepped off, holding hands. Shaula slowly dragged Nightfall to her side of the floor, this time making sure he kept up. The two of them put the new clothes away and placed the bonsai tree in the frog cage.

Now was the fun part, feeding Jenna and the frogs. They dumped the crickets into the cages and each animal gobbled them up in their own way. Jenna had slow and careful precision while the frogs chased after their prey.

With the adventure ended, the duo decided to rest on Shaula's bed. Shaula was already thinking of where they would go next. Perhaps next time they will go to Jezebel's library, a trip to Gothic Delights, or maybe explore the surrounding forest. All will be answered another day.