

Chapter 1: The Forest (*How can I return now?*)

Emily's Micro Journey by CarlosCreations

"A nice fresh clean air of the forest mixed with the sweet aromas of the flowers and trees is coming to me. I like it a lot."

Those was my first words after I step on inside the "Dawn Forest", a deep and huge forest with a kind of mysterious atmosphere in the air what makes the people takes a little walk around the tall pine trees before return to the foggy air of the city. Now, I don't want to say I hate the city, but they need more green spaces to take a breath after a long routine. The people of Brightbury are very lucky to have this forest nearby. I would like live in this town someday. Speaking of the town, the people are very nice and seems happy to have this relaxing environment every day, even some of them goes to the inside of the forest to take a walk too.

This could have been a good start for my first day in Brightbury. Until...

"Okay... this map of the forest says this path goes to back to the town and the other goes more deeper in the forest. Let's see..."

After a long walk appreciating every flower, insect, tree and everything around to me, I ended in the middle of an intersection of paths with just a forest map, my uncharged phone and two or three pieces of candies. There's not any signal or something to point me to where is the exit. I only can see just pine trees and rocks everywhere. This could have been a good moment to use my phone, but the battery is almost dead after taking so many photos in my travel to this point of the forest. I could climb any of the trees around to me, but one of the things I have fear are high places, so better scratch the idea for now.

"*sigh* I guess the only way to return to Brightbury is choosing randomly one of those paths. I'll leave a mark in the tree to keep in my mind this was the path I chose before. Hmmm... This is the first time I mark a tree with my claws. Let's see what I draw."

Soon, I start scratching the tree bark with my vulpine claws to draw something similar to a star. I'm not a good artist in wood, but I can do some little drawings with pencil and paper just for hobby. Most part of it are landscapes what I see in just photos, I never traveled out of my home until today.

"Yeah... It's not my first try in drawing in trees, but is better something than nothing. Alright, time to move on."

One or maybe two or maybe ten minutes... or maybe half hour has passed after I left the intersection and things aren't going well. This is not good at all... nothing good. I have to admit it... I'm lost. I... I can't find the way out and everything seems repeating every time I walk more deeper in the path. I'm nervous.

"Okay... Okay... I need to calm down a little. Breath deep... one more... alright. Okay Emily, it's everything okay. Now try to walk back to the paths you seen before, pick the other path and you'll be out soon. Easy peasy."

Just before to return back for the path, I saw a little group of mints growing in the side of the dirt path. It's the first time I see in front of me this herb, so it's a good time to see it more closely. The size of this mint seems a little small compared with any flower and the leaves seems have a little white border. The smell is very sweet compared with the mints in the sweets and makes me sneeze. I take one of the leaves of the plant to save it in my pockets to prepare a special tea. Maybe could heal any disease or maybe can relax the mind with the sweet flavor. I want see it soon.

"Okay, seems is going alright for now. I'll try to don't see anything at the sides, I need to find the way out of the forest. Huh? Suddenly the weather is changing now, I feel how the air is getting warm slowly."

After a time walking back to the tree where I left the star, I start noticing how the heat is not coming actually from the air. In fact, the little waves of heat what I'm feeling now coming from my own body, making my paw pads sweat in tiny drops and my head gets a little dizzy. The forest I seen before as a friendly environment now it's again me and the dirt path where I walked moments ago is now a maze of dead ends. I tried to walk a little for the other path, trying to don't fall down to the ground.

"*panting* I... I need continue... walking. I... I can... do this. W-why... why everything is looking now so... different? Maybe... I could walk fast in four paws."

I crouch slowly and I leave my hands over the dirt of the path, without noticing how the bracelets goes out of my hands completely because the diameter of the accessory has expanded to the diameter of my hand. Ignoring it, I tried to keep my way, before I fall unconscious over the soft and cold dirt after a shocking heat wave impacted my body.

After that, more heat waves invaded my body for a long while and my mind was completely disconnected with the world outside of my body. I start questioning if this is any kind of fever made by a sickness or maybe my own body is having a strong modification coming from my mind. But how this happened? What could be the responsible? It was something I touched? Or maybe it was something I smelled? How long I'll be unconscious? Could I be fine after it? Someone will see me laid out in the ground? Can I finally find the exit? There're so many questions I want to find answers. I want to wake up soon. I hope...

DDLabs Data (Dusk & Dawn Laboratories Data Storage Service)	X
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Dawn Forest</i></p> <p>A dense and mystical forest composed most part of the tree population by eucalyptus and different types of pines and a flora composed of berry bushes, flowers and herbs. Most part of this forest is unknown for the most part of the population of the near town of Brightbury due the lack of light in most part of the place or the dense vegetation blocking the paths to the deepest part of the forest. This place is commonly visited by the people of the town, tourist from other cities and students in forestall engineering. At the other side of the forest, there's a tall hill known as the "Dusk Hill", the best place for the ones who loves the astrology to admire the clean sky. The origin of the name is unknown, but people think the forest was the place where the town has born, named before as "Bright Town". In one of the small plains of this forest, a small investigation center named as "Dawn Science" (now known as "Dusk & Dawn Laboratories") has grown with the help of a little group of scientists leaded by a red squirrel known by his alias "CarlosCreations".</p>	