

Chasing the Moon

By Kevin Y.

I was lying on the grass when I heard it. The noise sounded like a chorus of ghostly voices that were beckoning me to come to them. I tried my best to ignore it but it's been bothering me for the past month, getting louder each day. Most nights, I come out here onto the hills to look up at the stars. The stars have always calmed me down ever since Bryan went missing. Bryan was my best friend, we did everything together. On nights like these, when the sky is clear, we would come and sit on these hills to look up at stars. He's always dreamed of travelling to distant galaxies. He was the adventurous one. Me, not so much, I like my feet on the ground.

A rustling in the grass broke my train of thought and my attention immediately went to it. I looked over at where the rustling had come from. The noise stopped but I saw the grass move a few feet. Before I could get up, a shadowy figure pounced on top of me, pinning me to the ground. The first thing that came to my mind was mountain lion. We lived close to a mountain so they weren't particularly rare, but they can still be dangerous if you're attacked by one. In the dark, I managed to make out it's head. It moved closer to my face and licked me. For all I know, mountain lions don't like their prey, no, it was Cooper, my german shepherd. "Down boy," I said, laughing and trying to push him off at the same time. After a while, he got off, bouncing around me. Cooper was a big furry ball of excitement. I don't know how anyone could not be excited around him.

I stood looked around, there wasn't anyone around, Cooper had gotten out on his own. I bent down and rubbed his ears, "Come one boy, let's get back." As soon as I began walking down the hill, I heard the voice again. This voice was really starting to get on my nerves. I guess Cooper sensed something was and whimpered, butting his head against my leg, trying to get me to keep walking. "Alright boy calm down" I muttered and continued walking, though not in the direction of the house. Cooper cocked his head at me curiously, as if wondering where I was going. I ignored him and continued walking towards the woods. I don't know why but I had a feeling I was walking in the right decision. The sound was clearly leading me to something.

The farther I wandered, the louder the noise got. I didn't realize how far I had wandered until it began to rain. I stopped and looked around. Realizing I was completely

lost, I sat down for a bit, leaning against a tree. Tired and soaked, I rubbed my eyes, then realized that Cooper was gone. I immediately got up and ran back in the general direction I came from. The rain poured down harder, stinging my face. I could barely see in front of my face, but I kept running.

After running from what seemed like hours, I heard a barking in the distance. I ran in the direction. My legs were extremely sore now from running, and I was tired of being drenched by the rain. When I felt something butt me in the back of my legs, I immediately knew it was Cooper. I stopped and collapsed, letting my legs rest for a bit. Cooper however, started dragging me towards something. Even through the rain, I could see that it was glowing. I staggered to my feet and followed Cooper.

When we reached the mysterious object, Cooper began pulling at it with his teeth, trying to loosen it. I kneeled down and felt the glowing piece of stone. It was cold and dusty. I've never seen anything like it, it had a strange aura around it. I tugged at it, and the stone popped free. I moved it around in my hand, not sure what it was. When I flipped it over however, I saw a note attached to the back of it. I scan over it. When I reached the bottom of the page, my eyes widened. I stuffed the rock in my pocket and looked up at the moon and whispered, "I'm coming for you Bryan, I will find a way."