

# Trizoroark TF

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Content warning: Transformation, Pokémon, Curves

No AI was involved in writing this story

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Valeria leaned closer to her Nintendo Switch, making Link rocket into the sky.

The Flame Gleek stood on the bridge, firing orange-and-white beams at where Link once stood. As soon as the rocket attached to Link's shield disappeared, Valeria made him deploy his glider to get closer to the hydra-like dragon. Even from some distance, the Gleek's three burning heads made it hot enough for Link to lose health. It did not help that Valeria preferred to have Link without armor, leaving him with only shorts. Despite that, Valeria pushed Link onward to the boss-like enemy of the gray Bridge of Hylia.

A slowdown effect happened as soon as Valeria controlled Link to pull out his Savage Lynel Bow. She attached Keese Wings to the arrow before firing, with the

bow splitting into three thanks to the bow's effects. Each arrow hit the Flame Gleeok's black eyes, with her firing a second volley to knock the entire boss down.

With a press of a button, she deployed Link's glider to halt the slowdown effect. The same button press made him let go, landing on the ground, though close enough to not lose any more health. She controlled Link to pull out a Royal Claymore with a White-Maned Lynel Saver Horn attached to it. As soon as Link's stamina recovered enough, she spun him around so his blade slammed against the Flame Gleeok's heads. Within seconds, the boss ran out of health. It flung itself back, wiggling in the air while blackening, before it poofed out of existence. Items fell, landing before Link.

"Yes!" Valeria cheered while she had Link collect the items. "Another victory for me!"

She leaned back before teleporting Link to a safe location and saving the game. She exited out of it, turning off the game and putting the Nintendo Switch to sleep mode. Once done, she sighed and looked around her living room.

Or what was her living room, at least.

It still held plenty of the stuff she purchased, like her couch, coffee table, and even a TV. The issue was that she could no longer afford the rent for this house. She did three months ago, having worked at a clothing store for a year prior. She was a part-timer at first, which was just enough for rent payment. She loved it there, chatting with customers and figuring out what they wanted without them outright saying it. The leadership recognized her skills, which led to her being given more hours and even promotions, culminating in her becoming a manager. Some even guessed that she would become a store manager before long.

That died when the store closed. From what she knew at the time, the owners and leaders were involved in an embezzling scheme. When one employee reported it, the police came down hard on the store, questioning everyone who worked there. Valeria was among those whom the police grilled the hardest, which made sense in hindsight. She did prove herself innocent in the end, but it still left her out of the job since the owners and leaders were arrested, and no one wanted to deal with the store's aftermath.

It was hard to believe that so much damage was done by so few people.

Since then, Valeria went job searching, hoping to land another job at another clothing store. She expected it would not take that long, given that she had reached management level. Instead, she was passed over for others, growing increasingly frustrated with each failure. Perhaps it was because of her association with that job, despite having nothing to do with the embezzlement.

Whatever the reason, her funds dried up until she could no longer afford rent.

At least the landlord was cool enough to grant Valeria a week until she found a new place to live. The issue, as always, was where to live next. She contacted her former coworkers for help, but either they were not interested or could not afford another person. She was going down the list of college friends, which proved to be just as tricky. It did not help that they had not spoken to each other for years, and thus did not know her as well as they used to.

She would ask her parents, but that was only if she had no other choice. The last time they chatted, they yelled and cursed at her. They never agreed with Valeria's life choices and opinions, often acting passive-aggressively. Worse, they blamed her for the estrangement despite kicking her out.

They would only accept her back if she renounced her beliefs and apologized to them.

She made plenty of mistakes, but going no-contact with them was not one of them.

Valeria turned to her Nintendo Switch and suppressed a sigh. Part of the reason she played a lot of Tears of the Kingdom in recent weeks was to boost her morale. However, this distraction would not make her issues go away; if anything, it would give her less time to resolve them. The problem was how to fix a thorny issue like this.

She shook her head, with her long, dark-brown hair swaying with the motions.

"I need a walk," Valeria said to herself.

She slipped on her flip-flops before standing up, stretching upward. She grabbed her smartphone, with its black reflection holding some scratches and bluing at the center when the screen came to life. With a few button presses, the Pokémon Go game loaded up.

She stopped playing the game regularly after some updates made it too difficult to play solo. The thing that irked her the most was how they buffed the three-star gyms so they no longer could be beaten solo. Even so, she still played it on occasion.

Besides, she enjoyed looking at her partner Pokémon.

"Howdy, Jack," Valeria said to her Zoroark. Her friends always found her eccentric for treating pixels on the screen as a living being. She knew deep down that was what they were, but she did not care. They were kinder than most people, anyway. "Ready to go on a walk?"

A few berries later, Jack the Zoroark grew in happiness and appeared on the overview. The Illusion Fox Pokémon walked around her avatar a few times, with the crimson-with-black-tips hair-like mane wiggling with every step. He made a few roaring animations, which made her giggle. He followed it up with a few stomping steps, wiggling his black ears and nose.

"Jack, you're so adorable." Valeria picked up her Poké Ball Plus and connected it to her smartphone. Once done, she turned the screen off and pocketed the phone in her rear shorts pocket. The Poké Ball Plus's lanyard wrapped around her left wrist, putting it on snugly. Her green eyes shone in the electrical lights above. She knew deep down that she should prepare for the move and make more calls. Even so, she felt clouded in her head and thought a walk might clear it up. "Let's take a walk through the neighborhood."

She took a step toward the brown front door before pausing, turning to her Nintendo Switch. She enjoyed playing Tears of the Kingdom, but there was one flaw in comparison to Breath of the Wild. Instead of having a Wolf Link companion, meat fell from the sky when she used the Wolf Link amiibo.

Strange that they gave away the use of the best boy. She worked hard to make him the best she could.

Valeria shrugged and exited the house.

# # #

She walked down the sidewalk, passing by several people along the way. There was just enough room to avoid stepping onto the bright green grass beside the sidewalk. Some guys turned their heads to her whenever she walked past, but she did not give them a second look. Part of that was because she saw them with other ladies, who she suspected were their dates. Another reason was that she felt hesitant about going out with someone.

Already, Valeria heard her old boss telling her, "Get a guy. You need someone to help you relax."

Given that the same boss was in jail, she was unsure whether not taking that advice was a good thing or if the advice itself was bad, given the boss's character.

Her Poké Ball Plus vibrated in her hand, signaling a Pokémon nearby. She pressed the top button. It vibrated once, twice, three times, only to give out three short, weak vibrations. Another missed Pokémon.

Valeria shifted her eyes around. Deep down, she did feel alone without a guy. The issue was that she looked plain compared to all the hotter-looking ladies, even if some dudes gave her a look. That and she knew how ladies these days seemed to make it a game to break men's hearts, whether out of greed or boredom. Worse, because of the thumb on the scales of justice, guys had too much to lose if they got divorced. This resulted in fewer dudes playing the dating game. As that one movie said, 'The only winning move is to not play.'

To think that a 'few' women could ruin things for so many.

And how even fewer even admitted that it was a problem.

Valeria blinked and shook her head. She was on a depressive streak if she thought about not having a guy.

Instead, she turned to the rows of stores to distract her, with many of them having off-white stucco walls. Most of the stores there have been closed for the past few years due to recent events. It was meant to be temporary, but a lack of funding for those store owners led to it being made permanent. The one store that remained open was the one that was kept open throughout the chaos.

In a way, that one store became the biggest winner on the block.

Valeria rubbed her forehead between her nose. She went out for a walk to clear her head, not to get filled with more depressing thoughts. This walk proved to be unsuccessful, she admitted to herself. The grinding nose that sounded like breathing distracted her more than this walk did. She should be cheering people up, not being gloomy and sad. Perhaps she should spin around and head back to the house. At the very least, she could continue packing and make more calls.

Even so, the list of college friends grew shorter, with her parents growing closer. If she must get their help, she would. Perhaps she could endure their talks about—

Her Poké Ball Plus gave out a long vibration, one she had never felt before. Valeria blinked and lifted it to her face. The ring around the joystick glowed tan, which was

another thing it did not do. Red, green, lime, and a rainbow, but never a tan glow. She reached into her back pocket and pulled out her smartphone. She turned the screen on and unlocked it, with the Pokémon Go game popping up.

Jack hovered around a strange PokéStop, roaring at it. Unlike the usual PokéStop, this one was tan instead of blue. There was also no floating cube on it, with an A above it instead. That should not be possible, yet she saw it with her own eyes. Perhaps someone managed to hack the game?

Valeria twisted to where the PokéStop should be in real life and flinched out of shock. A store opened where it was empty just a minute ago. A sign hung above it, with the words '**Gaming Goods**' in washed-out dark blue. There were also some products on the window display, which was another odd thing. She could have sworn that the store had no windows until this moment.

She observed this shop, from its off-white stucco walls to the glowing sign over it. Part of her wanted to hurry away and pretend that this store never existed. In fact, it might just be a mirage or her mind playing tricks on her. She had thought of dark thoughts before this moment, which might have led to this.

If it were real, then that would have been a better reason to go the opposite direction.

Instead, she turned the smartphone's screen off and walked toward this mysterious store. The barren parking lot, from its gray asphalt to the washed-out white parking paint, made it simple to approach. The hair on her arms stuck upward for some reason. While she did not believe in anything like 'aura,' she did feel something powerful emitting from the store.

Valeria observed the store's windows, which held several products as displays. A Game Boy Advance SP in a Groudon design lay open, with a Pokémon Ruby sitting next to it. Before it stood a PlayStation 5, with its white sides like a coat opening, and a Beast of Reincarnation game next to it. Before that stood an Xbox 360 with Madagascar Kartz beside it.

A strange assortment of games, especially Beast of Reincarnation. She had never heard of a game like it, as she kept an ear out for new game releases. Perhaps it was a stealth announcement and release, one that the internet missed. Given how many games were released in a month alone, it should not be a surprise.

What was more bothersome was how difficult it was to observe deeper through the windows.

She shook her head and turned to the neon sign that said 'OPEN' in red. Despite her better judgment, she opened the door and stepped in. Perhaps a glance around this small store was all she needed.

Once inside, within the cool environment, she flinched in bafflement. The store stretched on forever, to the point she could not spot the other end. Even the side walls seemed to cover more than the store complex itself could contain. Aisle of gaming products, plushies, toys, posters, and more dominated the shop with a theme for each.

Valeria strolled around the store, brushing back her long hair to see better. Near the entrance stood glass displays of consoles like the HyperScan, the NES, and the PlayStation 2. An assortment of plushies stood on the Pokémon aisles, blushing at the sight of a Midnight Lycanroc. Next to those aisles lay Digimon Virtual Pet devices, with the frontmost ones being Veemon-themed. There was even a couple of Yu-Gi-Oh aisles full of such card packs from the decades.

She wondered how all of this was possible. Perhaps there was some kind of trick, like mirrors or clever architectural work, that made it look bigger than it was. Or maybe the new owner tore down the walls, making it

secretly bigger than the main store on this block. Even so, it did not explain why the shop owner did so.

Or why it triggered her Pokémon Go game.

"Hello there," a voice said to her right.

Valeria turned and blinked. A man stood there, leaning against a glass case containing a Wii U. He also wore a strange full-body costume of a jackal with golden-brown fur. His long tail, at least doubled his height, swayed behind him. It must have some electronics inside the suit, because that tail would be lying on the floor otherwise. Not to mention how his green eyes blinked, his tan ears wiggled, and his lips moved.

"Ah, howdy," Valeria said.

The man chuckled and walked forward. His digitigrade feet-paws clicked when his claws tapped on the white stone floor. The cyan shirt and navy-blue jeans lay snug against his suit. He extended his hand-paw, which Valeria took and shook. It felt so warm, not of a blanket or a suit, but of flesh and blood.

Perhaps she had gone insane.

"The name is Luke," the man dressed as the jackal said. He chuckled against, with his tail wagging behind

him. It looked so alive, unlike ordinary machinery. "How are you doing on this fine afternoon?"

"Ah, could be better," Valeria admitted. She rubbed her hand against the back of her head, feeling every hair strand. "I've been out of a job for a while and am about to get kicked out of my rental house."

"Now that's a shame." Luke planted his hand-paws behind his back. "I know someone who underwent such a struggle a week ago. I hope he's alright, though."

"Yeah. It's been a struggle." Valeria forced a grin. "One week, I made it as manager; next week, the entire store closed."

"That's just horrible bad luck." Luke shook his head. "Such as life, I suppose. I would offer a job here, but I don't get much business in general. Besides, the only time I'm allowed to take someone under my wing is—" He stopped and rubbed his chin. "Don't worry. I'm not bored working here yet."

"OK?" Valeria blinked twice out of confusion. Such a strange guy, she thought. "So, you own this shop?"

"Yup! I've owned it for quite a few years now!" Luke flashed a wide grin. It was beyond any machinery she knew of, but what else could explain how he did it? "I've

seen some colorful people and pretty results during that time. Best decision I've ever made."

Valeria nodded, thinking she should walk out as soon as possible. This was becoming crazier than she expected. She took a couple of steps back—

Her Poké Ball Plus vibrated, with these two long buzzes and two short buzzes. She blinked and lifted it to eye level. This time, the ring around the joystick glowed dark gray, almost blackish. That should not be possible, she knew. It was not a color nor a type of vibration programmed into it.

Luke looked at the Poké Ball Plus and tilted his head, somehow folding only one ear to the side. "Anything wrong?"

"Sorry. It's been glitching out for a minute, and I don't know why." Valeria pulled out her smartphone, unlocked it, and turned off the game. The Poké Ball Plus gave a red blinking glow on its ring while it vibrated for a few short bursts, signaling a disconnection. She turned her smartphone off and pocketed it. "It's been this way since I found this store."

Luke's eyes lit up. "I see! I bet it's reacting to my little shop—"

"'Little' is an understatement."

“—And the emulator that powers it!” He rubbed his hand-paws together. “Oh, man. That’s useful information to know. Thank you very much for telling me.”

“Ah, you’re welcome?” Valeria blinked twice.

“As such, I’m willing to let you buy one of my lovely selections at a good discount.” Luke winked at Valeria. “I was thinking of doing so since you’re losing a place to stay at, but that solidified my decision.”

Valeria stared at him, wondering if she should take this as a cue to escape as fast as possible. While some people considered her to be too cheerful or forward, this was too much even for her. She could still come back to the house, continue packing, and find a new place to sleep.

Then again, perhaps she could use it as an advantage.

“Do you have any Legend of Zelda-themed stock?” Valeria asked. “Specifically, necklaces and such?”

Luke nodded while tapping on his chin. “Yes, yes, I do. An old reminder of what this shop was like before I owned it. Follow me, please. And, as an aside, don’t touch any products until you find the right one.”

“Ah, OK?” Valeria hummed for a few seconds. It was a strange rule, especially since most of these products were not stored in containers and so on. If he did not want

anyone to grab them, why leave them open? Still, she committed herself to this, so she might as well go with it. "Lead the way."

Luke grinned and spun around, almost smacking his tail against Valeria's face. Each step he made clicked against the ground, while her flip-flops made smacking sounds in contrast. The two walked past rows of shirts, some from Dark Souls and others from Looney Tunes. Dozens of plushies from the Spyro the Dragon series lay in wire bins, ready to be flopped on. As each product they passed by, Luke made a comment on it.

"Godzilla is such a nice series. Admittedly, I got into it thanks to that Emmerich film, which was stupid but in a fun sort of way." Luke shook his head. "Even so, I can't look back at that movie in good faith again. They changed so much from the original series."

Valeria added no comment to it, not being interested in Godzilla in general.

After a few minutes of walking, they came across the jewelry section. She gasped at the designs, like a silver kitsune necklace with nine tails wrapped behind it. Small golden earrings in the shape of cat heads lay in a jewelry box. An Umbreon ring lay across from an Espeon ring, with gems for eyes.

"And here is my Zelda jewelry," Luke declared. He took a step to the side, showing off the glamorous merchandise. "Anything that catches your eye?"

Valeria skimmed through the necklaces, along with the earrings and rings. A great deal of them were in the shape of a Triforce, sometimes a specific one like a Triforce of Wisdom ring. Others were in the shape of a Spiritual Stone, a Secret Stone, or even an ocarina. Each one looked adorable in their own way, though she felt there was one thing missing.

She turned to Luke and asked, "Do you have anything that's Wolf Link-themed here?"

"Huh. Never got that question before." Luke pulled out his tablet from his pocket, which should be impossible since it was larger than the pocket itself. He turned it on, looked through it a few times, and typed on it. After a bit, he shook his head. "Sorry. The only Wolf Link-themed products I have here are plushies and posters. I can show them to you if you like."

"Oh, no. It's no worries." Valeria turned to one of the necklaces, a golden Triforce attached to a black collar necklace, and picked it up. "This one is good enough."

"If you say so." Luke shrugged. He seemed eager to show off those plushies and posters. Valeria felt bad about it, but wanted something compact and small for the move. Luke gestured for her to go to the front of the store. "Let's check you out."

Valeria nodded while fingering the golden Triforce between her fingers. It felt cool and yet warm at the same time. The electrical lights above gave it an extra shine, as though it were made of gold. She suspected that it was a gold covering, but she would not call Luke out on it. Besides, it looked beautiful.

The two walked over to the golden, old-fashioned cash register at the store's front, with Luke stepping behind it. He scanned the Triforce collar, with the prices coming up in pop-up numbers on the register. With a few button presses, the price decreased.

"That'll be \$30.28," Luke declared.

Valeria winced at the price, but still reached into her other pocket to pull out her wallet. Once out, she grabbed her card and looked for a reader for it. Her brain caught up with her, wondering how an old-fashioned register did card payments. That lasted until she spotted a card reader just before the register, somehow wired into it.

"You should upgrade that register," Valeria suggested. She inserted her card into the card reader. It flashed some text before until it said, '**VERIFIED**,' and the price on the register went down. "It'll likely be less work than this setup."

"I like old style myself," Luke remarked. He nodded with a grin. "Alright, thank you for coming here."

Valeria nodded, looking at her brand-new Triforce collar. Part of her wanted to put it on when she came home, where she could look at herself. That way, she could tell if it looked good on her. Then again, she did not want to wait to put on something this pretty.

She undid the latch on the back and put it around her neck.

"How does it look?" Valeria asked while flashing a grin.

"You look more lovely than before," Luke answered. "In fact—"

The golden Triforce emitted a yellow glow, shocking Valeria. Luke leaned in closer, more intrigued than shocked. The glow split into three colors: red on top, blue on the bottom left, and green on the bottom right. She reached up and touched it, with it still cool to the touch. At

that point, the glow stabilized into a green and golden shine.

At the same time, her smartphone and Poké Ball Plus went crazy, with the ring glowing grayish-black. She then heard a Zoroark's cry emitting from it. She pressed the top button a few times, but the crying became frantic instead. To her surprise, the grayish-black glow spread all over the Poké Ball Plus.

A few seconds later, the necklace and Poké Ball Plus stopped glowing.

"Ah, what just happened?" Valeria checked both items out of confusion.

"Huh." Luke rubbed his chin a few times. "That's another first."

Valeria turned to Luke. "What are you talking about?"

As though in response, dark forest green fur sprouted on her fingers. She widened her eyes in surprise, with them spreading down her hands. Her palms and fingertips thickened into leathery skin, darkening into black along the way. Her long nails grew longer, turning black as they sharpened. She dropped her wallet and Poké Ball Plus, though at least the lanyard kept the ball from landing on the ground.

“W-what?!” Valeria flinched in shock.

Beneath her, her toes fused together so they became three instead of five, with the middle one biggest. Black claws grew out just as long and sharp as her fingers. Instead of dark forest green fur, pale tan fur grew on her feet, with thick black padding beneath them. The strap connecting her flip-flops to her feet snapped, unable to contain her toes.

At the same time, her feet stretched out longer and larger until she could no longer stand with them flat. She adjusted her stance to stand upright, like cats on their hind legs. The pale tan fur spread up her ankles, becoming forest green halfway up her forelegs. A pale tan hook-like pattern with a dot at the center formed on the front of her legs.

A thick silver cuff formed around her right ankle, with silver chains trailing behind it.

“Huh. It looks like you’re becoming a Wolf Link after all.” Luke leaned in closer. He looked more amused than worried by this strange transformation. “I guess you’re getting your wish after all.”

“What are you talking about?” Valeria tugged on her long hair a few times. “This isn’t supposed to happen at all!”

As she said this, the fur spread up her elbows and knees. The dark forest green fur on her arms changed into a lighter forest green shade as it went under her sleeves. Meanwhile, on the side of her thighs, pale tan fur formed in a wing-like pattern, with brown fur lining it. It felt ticklish underneath her clothes, making her blush out of shock.

Her shorts felt tight all of a sudden. At her rear, bones, blood, muscles, and nerves grew and stretched out from her spine, fighting for space. It pressed against her shorts until they exploded out. Thick fur grew over them, forest green on top, pale tan on the bottom, and brown separating the two. It stretched out longer and thicker until she swore it was just as large as her entire body, if not larger.

Her brain felt a new sensation from this new tail, with it wagging in response.

“Did I mention it?” Luke rubbed his chin a few times. “I don’t think I did, did I? You see, the makers of this shop, the Athrú, love transformation. They love it so much that even their relics could transform unsuspecting people. They infused them with their specially crafted magic and technology.”

“WHAT?!” Valeria blushed even harder. “So, you’re saying that I—”

Her shirt lifted from underneath her shorts, exposing her stomach. She hoped it was all fluff from the fur making it happen, but she doubted it. It did not help that the sides of her shorts ripped from her hips and thighs running out of room there. Pale tan fur grew on her torso, with forest green on her back.

The spreading fur went up her neck, with the collar stretching to accommodate it. At the same time, her mouth and nose stretched out into an acute muzzle. The nose became mere dots against the forest green fur on top and pale tan fur on the bottom. Her teeth grew out, but not as much as she expected, only somewhat tougher and sharper than before.

“Now that’s strange.” Luke blinked a few times. “This is really another first, especially since wolves’ snouts are boxier. Yours are more like—”

Valeria’s hair stretched out further before he continued speaking, taking on a dark forest green shade. It went down as far as her feet-paws, with a pale-tan-with-brown-lining forming near the bottom. A round, blue gem formed at the center of the pale tan, making it more like a ponytail. At that point, the tip of her hair-mane went upward,

thickening and ending with a tan tip in the shape of a wing.

“Huh?!” Valeria grabbed onto her thick hair-mane out of shock, with thick tips growing at the sides. “T-that’s from a Zoroark, not from Wolf Link!”

Even as she pointed that out, her ears stretched out while moving upward. Forest green fur formed on the outside while pink fur grew on the inside. They grew massive, with blue earrings forming near the tips of each. On her forehead, a pale tan pattern formed, with it a hollow four-point diamond trailing at the bottom like a thunderbolt. A perfect pale tan circle grew at the center of the diamond. Her eyes shifted in color, from green to blue.

She stood there as a flabbergasted Wolf Link/Zoroark hybrid.

“W-what!?” Valeria held onto her shirt so they would not slide off. Once confident that they would stay on, she spun around, smacking her tail against Luke’s face. Behind her lay her smartphone and wallet. She picked them up and looked at the black reflection on the phone’s screen. Her eyes widened at it. “I—I—”

“Uh.” Luke blushed before shaking his head. “This shop continues to surprise me even years later.”

Valeria stared at the black screen for a bit before turning it on. After unlocking her phone, it somehow opened to Pokémon Go. There, Jack the Zoroark waved at her avatar, which also somehow changed into her current form. He approached her avatar before giving out a cute roar.

She turned off the game before shaking her head. "I-I-HOW!?"

"Hmm. I wonder if your desires have anything to do with it." Luke shook his head. "Still, if you don't like it, I can give you something that can help." He reached underneath the register counter and pulled out a necklace with a blue gem. "As long as you wear this, you'll return to your human form."

"Ah. You-you sure?" Valeria asked.

Luke grinned. "Yup! I even put it on myself when I want to go around incognito. After all, that happened to me, too."

"Wait. You're ACTUALLY an anthro jackal?!" Valeria widened her eyes.

Luke rolled his eyes. "Very few people seem to think this is all fake. I mean, how can I fake this tail here!" He

pointed at it. "It would have to be made out of air for any machinery to move without discomfort or too much weight!"

"Ah." Valeria felt tempted to accept that necklace. After all, there was no way she could return like this. Being an extra fluffy—she refused to acknowledge her extra curves—creature on two legs would attract anyone's attention. Her hand-paw inched closer, thinking about returning as a human. A human whose clothes looked like they were run over by a lawnmower. She jolted and pulled away. "No. I-I can't. I'll still be half naked!"

"Ah. That's a good point." Luke rubbed his chin, deep in thought for a few seconds. "I would take you to your home, but you said that you were getting kicked out of there."

"I still have a week to move out." Valeria's ears drooped forward. "Though I still need a new place to live in. Honestly, what few people I can ask for help would likely kick me out once they saw my freaky look."

Luke's green eyes lightened up, and a grin formed on his muzzle. "You know? I think I can solve two problems with one act."

He pulled out his tablet while rushing away from the register. Valeria huffed before following him. It was his fault

for not warning her that this would happen; telling her not to carelessly touch any products did not count as a full warning in her books. Luke had better find a way to fix it soon. Before her, he made a few typing motions on his tablet before putting it away.

At once, the metal grinding noise, like something was breathing, came from all over. The shop shook a bit, making Valeria stumble a step before catching herself. Luke, meanwhile, ran with no problem, as though this was all normal. Once he approached a plain door, the shaking stopped along with the noise.

Luke knocked on the door as soon as Valeria caught up. For the first few seconds, nothing happened. He frowned and knocked again. This time, a jolt sound came from the other side.

"Hmm? Who's there?" A tired man's voice came from the other side. "Wait, why is SOMEONE knocking from inside my closet!?"

The door swung open, with Valeria flinching in astonishment. Rather than a human, there stood an anthro Dusk Lycanroc dressed in only shorts. His orange-gold fur bristled as he stifled a yawn, with his white stomach and chest flat of any muscles or fat. Four brown stones stuck out from his neck's fluffy white mane, two pointing downward

on the front and two pointing upward on the back. His green eyes were half-closed, with him looking at Luke in confusion. The spike that protruded from his mane, which grew over his head like hair-fur, bobbed up and down.

“Luke?” The anthro Dusk Lycanroc said. “What are you doing here? I know I paid you for the Lycanium Z—”

He turned to Valeria and widened his eyes.

At once, his entire body changed. The spikes around his neck disappeared. The orange-gold fur turned red. His eyes glowed pinkish-red. Two spikes formed under his arm, with the mane adding an appearance of claws. His ears curled forward. His tail shrank into a stub. All that change from Dusk to Midnight Lycanroc happened in a second.

He looked at his body, gasped, retreated, and shut the door.

“Ah?” Valeria blinked twice.

“I think he likes you.” Luke chuckled a bit.

Valeria lowered her eyelids. “Is he another victim of yours?”

“At least I tried to warn him about what would happen if he held onto one of this shop’s products.” Luke rolled his eyes. “A better warning than what I had. Then again, that

happened when the previous owner was away.” He shook his head. “But yeah, he’s another victim of this shop’s jokes. As you can see, he’s a Lycanroc who can change forms depending on his moods. A quirk that happened when he took that Lycanium Z at dawn’s first light.”

The door opened before Valeria could ask further questions. The anthro Lycanroc guy now wore a bathrobe over his body, which had taken on a light brown color instead of red. The mane curling over his head disappeared along with the brown spike on it, with the four spikes returning around his neck. His eyes no longer glowed, but were light blue instead of green. His ears returned to pointing upward instead of curled forward, with his long tail whishing underneath his robes.

The now anthro Midday Lycanroc took a bow before Valeria. “I apologize for my mostly undressed state. You caught me while I was sleeping. Now, who might I be addressing here?”

“Ah, Valeria, er—”

“I’m Conall.” Conall nodded while giving her a polite smile.

Luke rolled his eyes. “Yeah, we both know why you really shut the door on us.”

"Oh, be quiet," Conall said in a low voice. In his normal voice, he added, "So, what's your reason for you and Luke coming here? I'm sure that my associate here would have taken you to your place instead of my own."

"That's the thing." Luke leaned against the door's side. "Valeria here is getting kicked out of her rental home, so she needs a new place. I'm sure that the money you got from your night job, along with your streaming sessions, would allow a gentleman like you to take her in until she's back on her feet. Or, in this case, feet-paws."

Conall blinked. "You watch my gaming streams?"

"Of course!" Luke smirked. "It's easy to tell it's you from your obvious username. Besides, I have known your voice since I met you before."

"Ah. Right. Sure." Conall turned to Valeria. "So, you wish to stay at my place until you can afford your own again?"

Valeria thought about it for a few seconds. It would be risky to live with a complete stranger; at least she knew the ones from college and work on a personal level. Not to mention how it would be with a guy, which comes with its own risks. Even returning to her parents would have fewer risks than an unknown person.

Then again, he was polite to her. Not to mention how Luke seemed to trust him. Sure, she knew Luke only a bit more than Conall, but he behaved more straightforwardly. Besides, he might be able to help her adjust to her life changes in this form.

Not to mention how cute he was as a Midnight Lycanroc.

"Sure," Valera answered.

# # #

Valera the Trizoroark lay back on a couch, playing Tears of the Kingdom on the TV.

She stuck her tongue out, controlling Link to fight against a mob of enemies. From his unarmored state, it should leave him cut into ribbons. Instead, she controlled Link to dodge those attacks and strike with a Royal Claymore with a White-Maned Lynel Saber Horn attached to it. The weapon broke, but not before wiping out the entire encampment without getting damaged once.

"Yes!" Valeria swung her arm upward in joy.

At that point, her smartphone buzzed next to her. Valeria paused the game before picking up the phone. The

display showed that an email came in. She unlocked it and opened the message.

Her eyes widened.

It was an offer for a second job interview.

Valera gave out a broad grin, happy that her luck was turning around. Since moving to Conall's place, her stuff moved in within a day thanks to Luke's shop, she had sent out job applications. Only a few accepted her for an interview, though she suspected that was because she had come into this place a couple of weeks ago.

The fact that Conall's place was two states away from her rental house did not help.

Still, if this clothing store wanted her, that was a good first step.

"Did anything happen?"

Valeria turned toward the stairs, where Conall stood. He was dressed in his casual clothes: a white shirt with an N64 logo, black jeans, and a Lycanium Z necklace. As usual, he was in his Midday Lycanroc form, which he always seemed to be in whenever they were together (which was mornings and evenings). Only a few times did she spot his Dusk Lycanroc form, and even fewer in his Midnight Lycanroc form. This initially confused her when

Luke teased that the Dusk form was when he was most relaxed or tired, which was how a home should be.

It did not take long for her to realize he was forcing himself to stay in Midday form.

“Well, outside of getting a second job interview offer and winning at Tears of the Kingdom, nothing much.” Valeria patted her massive tail, gesturing for Conall to sit there. It took her a day to relearn how to move without knocking everything around her. It did not help that she forgot to ask Luke for that necklace. “It’s for a place called HareWear. I’ll be interviewed by their manager, Coella, tomorrow at 10AM.”

“HareWear.” Conall hesitated before sitting next to Valeria. “I’ve been there a few times. I got these custom clothes from that place, even.”

Valeria nodded, looking at Conall’s back. She never noticed that Midday Lycanroc had a brown spike pointing downward on their backs until she met Conall. It was not sharp enough to pierce through anything, but it would still be awkward to sit down with it. Maybe she could find clothes that would allow her to slip her massive tail through, rather than cutting a hole and holding it up with a belt.

Conall bent down and put on maroon sneakers that exposed his cute toes. "It helped that my friends at work assisted with the designs. Along with some neat features." He pulled down the front of his sneakers, covering his toes. "Cost me a pretty penny, but it was worth it."

Valeria grinned and set her arm over Conall's shoulders. She pulled him close until his face rubbed against her hair-mane. He blushed at that, with his eyes glowing pinkish-red for a moment. They returned to their regular blues, and he adjusted his stance. She giggled. "We've known each other for a couple of weeks now, and you're still shy."

"I don't like to rush things," Conall admitted. "Even if it would make my parents proud. Of course, my dad would tease that I finally scored a Zoroark."

"A Trizoroark, even." Valeria saved the game and then exited it. "So, do you wish to play Mario Kart 8 Deluxe?"

Conall smiled. "You're on."

Valeria giggled and handed Conall an extra controller. As he held it, his fur shifted from light brown to red. The spikes around his neck and on his back shrank in size. His ears folded forward into button ears, with his

white mane spreading upward between them. It stretched over his head, ending with a brown spike. His long tail shank in size until it became a fluffy stub. Two spikes formed underneath his arms in the shape of claws, with thick white fur covering them and the upper half of his back. His eyes glowed pinkish-red, with no other color appearing there.

Conall the Midnight Lycanroc grinned. "Lalahaha! Let's begin!"

Valeria grinned wide. At least he would allow himself to let go when playing games. That way, she could enjoy his cuter form. Still, she should not share why she wanted to play multiplayer games with him; she sucked at such games, after all.

Valeria opened up Mario Kart 8 Deluxe and began playing.

## The End

Thank you so much for taking the time to read my story! I really appreciate it. If you enjoyed it, then you'll definitely want to check out my gallery accounts at:

<https://www.furaffinity.net/user/foxgamer01/>

<https://www.deviantart.com/foxgamer01>

<https://www.weasyl.com/~foxgamer01>

I have a lot of great content there that I think you'll love.

Also, if you're interested in supporting me and my writing, please consider visiting my Ko-Fi and Patreon accounts at:

<https://ko-fi.com/foxgamer01>

<https://www.patreon.com/foxgamer01>

Every little bit helps me to keep creating and sharing my stories with the world.

Lastly, if you have any questions or comments, please don't hesitate to contact me at:

[foxgamer01@hotmail.com](mailto:foxgamer01@hotmail.com)

I'd love to hear from you and answer any questions you may have.

Thanks again for your support, and I can't wait to share more of my work with you soon!

# About Author

Standing over six feet tall, Foxgamer01 is a writer born in Arizona and currently living in Arkansas. Though he initially wanted to be in the gaming industry, he did not realize until later, after years of playing with random toys and imagining adventures with them, of his gift of being a writer. Even then, it took some computer classes with a dry professor in college that solidified his change in becoming a writer.

Foxgamer01 has been writing, at first through notebooks and later through laptops, since 2009. There was a dry spot between 2013 and 2018, thanks to distractions and work, but he has been writing consistently since. He had written over a hundred short stories and six 'books,' including one collab story.

Foxgamer01 would like to thank fellow friends and writers Greyhound1211, SnekKnack AKA Nick, Tails230, and Kinshou-fox AKA The-Writing-Dragon AKA Huggles. They have been the biggest inspiration for getting him to write. Though Foxgamer01 carried a lot of regret over the years, he would never regret the days he founded their writings, which triggered his desire to write his stories.