

Homesick for Deltora

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Content Warnings:

- Species dysphoria discussion.
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I'm a fictive of Dain from Deltora Quest. I'm a species of shapeshifting entity called an OI, from a continent that just.. Doesn't exist here.

I miss home. I miss Deltora and I miss the Shadowlands, where I came from. What do you MEAN the entire CONTINENT I remember living on just... Doesn't exist here? That there's nothing like it here in the modern day even in the slightest?

This place just doesn't feel right. There's no other species on a humanlike societal level here (physically, on a consensus-reality basis). Why are there no Ralads? Where are the Kin? Dread Gnomes? The other OIs like me? There's none of those people or tribes here. There's humans, and there's other animals who don't really construct large-scale society in the same way. Why is there nothing else? I didn't need to be particularly social with anyone before, but these entire groups of people just not existing at all feels so wrong.

And why are the houses built so differently? The walls feel too thin and they're so.... Clean. Artificially. You can't see logs or stones making up the foundations, they cover it all up here in most places. There's all sorts of weird electrical appliances too--like, what is a microwave even? Why do things rarely use fire to fuel them? How does electricity even work? And GOD the cities are far too big, beyond even what we would have considered a magnificent feat of engineering. And they all have that weird, techy feeling to them that makes me uncomfortable.

Why is 'blacksmith' hardly an occupation anymore? Why does no one have a sword or a dagger on hand? Why is it *strange* to carry around a bow or a knife? I mean, what the fuck is a *gun* even? Not that we really have those readily available in the country I live in either, nor would I want them, but... Why are these weapons all suddenly so outdated and seen as "weird" to own or want to have? "Acceptable" clothing is so different here too. Cloaks are only seen very rarely here, which is upsetting because they're *very* useful.

And honestly most of the foods are entirely different too. We had a few similar fruits and vegetables, but the dishes that were prepared were entirely different. Usually from fresh ingredients, too--as opposed to supermarket things you'd buy here. Not that my species needed to eat food at all, but I was around species that did eat enough to know what they were consuming and what was normal for them. Which also... brings me to the point that now, I *do* have to eat, I'm not just a shapeshifting form of energy that doesn't need material things to live. I *do* need to put things in my mouth, chew them, and digest them as any other human-bodied person would. But I'm an *OI*, it's so unnatural for me. I usually get someone else in my system to take front to eat or drink for me because that whole biological process grosses me out.

I can't shapeshift like I used to, either. Some others of my species were weaker and needed to shift back to formless energy on occasion--a phenomenon called the tremor--they couldn't hold chosen forms for long. I could hold a form for as long as I liked though, I didn't experience the tremor--so in some ways I'm grateful I don't feel like I need to constantly shift forms. I'm *used* to looking one way for a long time. But the problem is, I just *can't* change what I look like even when I want to or when it'd be convenient for me to have a set of wings, claws, a tail or longer limbs.

I miss my lifestyle from before, sure. I was created to live under the rule of an "evil" godlike entity--I mean, he *created* my entire species. I was created by him, for him, it's my *purpose*. It's not the main point of dysphoria for me, though. It's so incredibly uncanny to suddenly find myself in a world where my entire species and entire continent just simply doesn't exist. Worse yet, Deltora Quest is so obscure we've hardly ever met anyone else who even *knows* of it, let alone has an alterhuman connection with it. It's isolating out here. But maybe writing this will drag someone out of the woodwork. Or let someone else later on know I was here at some point.

Tag-talk:

#maybe i should write an Anatomy Of post about OIs at some point
#kinda tempted to go into how we function anatomically actually. i might
#leave my mark and all that