## ROOM 1

As I stepped out into the blinding light of the arena. I heard a crowd cheer excitedly. I waved blindly at whatever surrounded me, still squinting my eyes at the blaring lights. I stepped onto a pedestal with an uncountable amount of others with people beside me. I looked down both ends and it turns out, I was somewhere in the middle. My eyes adjusted to the spotlight and I saw the announcer appear. The light went to him in an instant and he held a microphone. He wore a sparkling white tuxedo and a glittery gold tie. I straightened my posture and stared straight ahead. I can't afford to look bad in front of all these people. Contestants and audience alike.

"HELLOOOOO AUDIENCE!" He shouted into his microphone. His greeting spread like wildfire in a scattered response. A booming burst of applause roared over us.

"Now as you all know, this is the second ever LEVELS OF VORE!!" He cheered. The audience cheered as well. He then pointed to us.

"These are our new contestants! I know you all know the rules but our viewership has nearly *doubled* since last year! These people before us will be put in groups of five! There will be 10 groups total and know that the last ones standing will go against the world known *best vorers*!" He said loudly. There must be an easy crowd, it seems like everything he said strikes as a laughable or cheer-able moment.

"Now to my contestants, beware that there is gonna be one vorist in each group, a traitor among us, if you will!" He said. Several "oohs" filled the audience.

"Now go to the front desk to find your group of 5! They've been preselected of course!~" He cheered. The rest of the people booked it and ran past the announcer. I heard behind the curtain that if you actually win this, you get to replace him. I then realized that I was left on my pedestal still and everyone else had left. I looked around to see if there was someone else who stayed behind. I only saw a bright blue furred... something. The other one had a white fur collar around their neck and limbs. They seemed extremely cuddly to say the least. They then met eye contact with me and waved. I nervously looked away and joined the others at the front desk. How long was I staring at them? Oh well... As I looked on the wall, I saw my name on a group as their first person, or leader, my pride turned to curiosity as I looked at who else was in my group. The name beneath mine was ... "Zeel?" I muttered under my breath.

"Yep, that's me!" I heard a cheery voice say behind me. I quickly turned around only to see the creature from before! I jumped back from surprise. He waved once again, only this time, I waved back. He gently smiled at me as he stuck out his tongue. He seemed a little cute in a way. Still couldn't place what animal he is though. I wonder how someone as innocent as him got into a place like this. He then turned back to the list and chased his finger down the list.

"Who is... Kai?" He said. As I looked, the name beneath him was kai.

"So are you two Zeel and Mark?" If so, then I'm kai. I saw someone beside me as they walked up to Zeel and I. He was a tan wolf with fiery hair that was drawn over his eyebrows a little bit. Beside him was a timid girl, a gray rabbit with purple hair combed perfectly to go over her eye and draped down her cheek. She purposely avoided eye contact.

"I'm Hopp." She said shyly. I tried to laugh at the joke, being that she was a rabbit, though I only ended up being alone in our new group of four.

"Now we're just waiting on... Moon?" I said as I glanced back at the list. By now, teams started the rooms where the challenge begins. There were 7 rooms in total and you could go through them at any time. A few teams waited behind others so that they could get a claim to the next in line. We all started to look around as the crowd cleared. I only saw the last guy looking at another group down the row, completely oblivious to the only group of 4 that was 3 groups down from him. He was a blue lizard with dark blue spots and light blue fiery eyes that were glowing brightly. We looked at each other, unsure if we should tell him and if so, who?

"HELLO!" Zeel yelled loudly. I could tell it startled them. Then they looked again and stared at me. He stepped closer and stared me down. He was already taller than me and for him to intimidatingly stare at me unblinkingly.... I almost caved in before he said something.

"Who is captain of this group? He growled.

"I-I am...?" I asked him. I was very scared to admit it based on how he asked.

"Wait what?!" He asked as his stern look suddenly broke and he leaned back in disbelief. His entire expression changed from intimidation to childish denial.

"I was *promised* privileges! I can't believe a nobody like you would get to be the team leader! How come you got it but you don't even look like a captain!" He exclaimed, even calling attention from the last of the groups as they walked into the rooms. What did he mean by that? I was just a fox with glasses and a brown T-shirt with some jeans, what about looking like I made him think I was there just to follow some idiot with maturity?

"Can we just get on with it?" Kai says, trying to rush everyone. Moon pouts and moves onto one of the doors. We looked at each other to see who would go in first. I look at everyone else and only see Moon puff out his chest and overconfidently march in. He slowly opens the door and continues the proud walk into the room as the door slowly creaked open. He steps in, steps after a few steps in, and looks back at us in a confused way. There was nothing there. I heard a loud groan that startled everyone else as well and shook the ground as if it were a warning. Moon is suddenly swooped by a giant bat and brought to the roof of the room. Me and the rest of the gang sprint in there alarmingly. We look to the sky only to see a huge Noivern pokemon with a large, bulging, rumbling belly with Moon in one of his talons. The Noivern groans annoyingly and I hear Moon yell and complain but I didn't listen to him.

"Can I just digest other contestants before another bold idiot comes charging in here?" He scoffs. "Oh well...". He shrugs nonchalantly as he quickly tosses Moon into the air with a mighty throw and puts his head back against the wall and lets his tongue roll out and drool everywhere. Moon quickly slips into his mouth and the Noivern snaps his jaws shut. I can hear Moons muffled yelling inside of his mouth and I could see that the Noivern was happily swishing him around inside of his mouth and basically playing with him. After a few moments, he opened his mouth for us to see and we got a glimpse of what happened. Moon was being soaked and drowned in a thick and wet layer of saliva and he was slowly slipping into the back of the Noivern mouth which led to the elongated throat. Moon struggled to get a good grip on his surroundings and avoid being swallowed, but the tongue was too slippery already and all the Noivern had to do was slightly lift his tongue to send him gliding down his throat. And that, he did. I saw Moon quickly disappear and turn into a small bulge inside of the Noivern's throat, which soon disappeared into his torso and joined his gut, which rumbled and jiggled around. It was clear that many groups before us have been through this room and failed. The Noivern let out a satisfied exhale and he rested his paw onto his swollen belly. He rubbed it and patted it repeatedly until he realized the rest of us were still here. He slowly flew down to the ground and slammed down once he had landed. His stomach bobbed up and down as a response. He sat down and continued patting his gut as he stared at us.

"Why do you guys look at me like that? Do you not know how this is supposed to go?" He asks sarcastically. His stomach roared loudly and he smacked it in an attempt to keep it quiet. The belly ripples and quiets in response.

"Well isn't it supposed to go like, a teammate defeats a vorist and had to get past without getting vored, if they don't, they and their team move on...?" Hopp says shyly, half second guessing herself. The Noivern howled with laughter and his stomach responded to that as well. When he finished laughing, he then leaned his head in so that it was a few inches away from Hopp's face. He exhaled out of his nose and it almost knocked her off her feet. His nostrils were about the same length of 3/4, of Hopp's body. Luckily he only seemed to want one more meal, otherwise Hopp would be a lot less dry and a lot less comfortable.

"The way that this game works is that one person from every group steps into a room to be vored, inside of whatever they are being vored with, there is a key. The person must go in, get the key and get out. The vorers, however, cannot use limbs to keep them inside. They can only use what they have with them. If one of the contestants faint or digest, then the next one has to come on in too. So far, no one escaped yet between the teams I ate already. I already started digesting 'em, so your little friend here is in for a rough ride. I guess that could count as a disadvantage?" The Noivern explains. We all had different responses to it. I was personally a lot more scared than I was before, merely because I've never been vored before, now it's mandatory? I only joined this to defeat vorers and avoid being vored! I started to take deep breaths. The Noivern shook his fat gut some more.

"I think they finally stopped struggling! You guys wanna move on now? I wanna digest these guys and continue beating my meat without anymore interruptions!" He snapped. We all looked at each other and shrugged. If the Noivern said that he stopped feeling the struggle, then I guess we'd better believe him. And in all honesty, I don't think any of us actually care about Moon, ultimately. We all shook our heads for "yes" and the Noivern bowed his head for us to get on. We just go along with it and he takes off to get us to the next room. We all had to hold on tightly to make sure we didn't fly off of him. The rushing air that was pushing against us was almost painful and felt like a gazillion paper cuts. The Noivern soon landed however, and let us get off at the next room. We all got off and thanked him. He didn't say anything and started flying back to his area and be undisturbed as we moved on. As we walked forward, we started to talk about our *real* game plan.