

LORE CARD 013 “MADESSA AND HER MAPS”



“You’re the what now?” He leaned into the table to see the faded map she’d been so excited about discovering on the high shelf.

“Surveyor and cartographer for the Reignition Society. This is a really fantastic document here - your oriel branches into two more subspaces. Did you know that?” She didn’t look up, because of course he didn’t know that.

“A society for what exactly? They collect imaginary maps?”

Seriously, it’s the same in all these little artificial pockets of space; so many have forgotten their world is manufactured, “The Reignition Society...sisters and brothers for the free and open mapping of the oriel webway. I’m gonna take this, by the way. Look here - that’s how I know. Should be a coastline there, but there’s farmland. Or there was. Crazy, right?”

“What are they reigniting?”

“Hmm?” Madessa only traced her finger, barely hearing the little bald fellow.

He pointed at her, “This society of yours - what are they looking to reignite, as they go about collecting imaginary maps?”

She noticed his urgency, his fearful curiosity just then, and honestly not certain whether he’d be okay with reality or not, simply said with a grin, “We were all one giant messed up family once. They’re thinking maybe one day we might get back to acting like it.”

“And these maps?”

“That’s the spark, bud. That’s the spark.” She smiled – couldn’t help it, just because it so thrilled her to run her fingers over crinkled ancient maps and smell the old leather from their cases, swat away the spider webs from dusty rooms where forgotten secrets lay abandoned.

“Been in my family for years; not sure I can part with these old maps. Smell like my dad a bit.” The little guy was posturing awkwardly to try and up the price.

“Well he smelled amazing, then.” She rested her hand on a canister attached to her belt, “I have scans. I can reproduce them now in exact detail with the amorphium in here, even the feel of the paper...probably will over dinner tonight. Know any good seafood places?”