

The Arrival by Emily Treharne

It was late one night, when shrieks of terror filled the once silent air. Fear stricken and intimidated, the man rushed to inform his wife. He awoke her from her slumber. "This is urgent we need to go NOW!" he exclaimed gripping her hand. Outside merciless, mind-controlled beings were sucking up people like dust. Vile, vicious giants stomped on their loving home crushing everything in their wake. "RUN!" they screamed in unison. Fleeing in fear, leaving the safety of their home the couple clung on to each other, sweating palms. Huge beasts loomed over the doll-like people while imposing, menacing shadows danced on top of them. "Run for your lives!" cried an innocent citizen flying up into the dreaded, metal tubes. In the panic flooded streets, a stroke of luck came upon them.

A glimmer of hope in the form of a heavy, rusted manhole cover; shone like an angel in the night sky.

"Is it locked?" his wife asked gently, peering over his shoulder. Their hearts skipped a beat, it clicked

"Quick help me open it!" he replied beckoning her over. Together they manage to open it. Taking one last look at the once beautiful town they called home they fled into the sewers. The blood-curdling, desperate screams became more distant. In the dark, mysterious sewers the couple stood panting. "Be... quiet... we... could... be... safe," she panted tiredly. Echoing footsteps of thunder shook the ground like a violent earthquake.

The footsteps stopped and they clambered out of the manhole. The place they once called home was now a distant planet. In an endless maze of purple dimensions, the pair stood inspecting the new world, lost for words.

"Where are we?" his wife finally asked touching one of the mysterious objects. The man, who was still shaken up exclaimed "What did those gigantic monsters of destruction do to our home?!" The vast, mirrored valley looked never ending. The man sat down in defeat, tired and overpowered.

Intrigued and confused they picked up the courage to carry on exploring the dark, crystal valley. Although every corner just went to a dead end. Thinking they could not carry on, they lent against the crystal item, losing hope. Out of nowhere, they saw a mysterious shaft of light.

"What is that?" the man asked, nervously edging closer. Huge, black boots stood around the corner, they jumped out of sight. In the opposite direction was a smaller light, which gave more hope. "Where will this lead us, we cannot risk being caught!" whispered his wife cautiously "Are we ever going to get out and see the light again!" she cried falling to her knees

"Just come with me he replied softly. They decided to take the risk praying everything would be fine.

The light was coming closer and closer until a grubby, old man, who looked like he had not seen people in years, walked out of a box that must have been his home.

"Can I help you," he sneered

"We need to get out of this maze!" they cried in unison. He offered to help them but it came at a cost.

"That necklace is beautiful," he said his greedy but desperate eyes landing on it. Reluctantly, his wife passed over her precious, priceless, ruby necklace. The generous man took them along a path, where you could hear booming footsteps lurking around. For the first time in what felt like days they saw the light and their escape. A BOAT

The pair wondered on and sat out on the journey that was yet to come. Hoping their lives would be better than before. Riding off into the distance they finally felt calm and even joyous.