Sky City Battlement

Adventure Prompt

You arrive on this bustling sky port, where ships are docking and unloading wares while others are being loaded with goods before sailing off beyond the horizon. It is hot, the sunlight radiating from stone walkways and the bright clouds below. Sweat gleams on the tanned skin of workers, their shirts off in an attempt to cool down.

Overhead birds cry loudly, circling this city in the sky. The air smells like leather and tar from the nearby vessels, and you can hear the workers grunt as they lift heavy crates in and out of the surrounding ships. The workers seem to drift through the thick crowd of people, somehow graceful despite the thronging masses.

Suddenly there is a scream, and you hear ropes snapping like whips. People are thrown back as a beast breaks free of its bonds and leaps onto a civilian, mauling into their skin. Other animals nearby—being dragged by groups of workers, with multiple ropes tied around them—break free of their bonds, too, and are let violently loose on the crowd.

The wave of people surges towards the gates of the city, screaming as those in the crowd are leapt upon by the beasts and attacked. Then, suddenly, the crowd stops. The screams and wails begin to get louder, mixing in with pleas to let them through. The guards have closed the gates, and are yelling apologies at the crowd—claiming that they can't risk letting the beasts into the city.

Meanwhile, as the armed guards watch and hold the gates shut—going so far to cut and stab at those who try to force the gates open—the people of the docks are getting massacred.

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WHAT'S HAPPENING? The guards were paid to close the gates, before the monsters even got free. The dangerous, exotic beasts were brought here on purpose, and their bindings sabotaged—all at the behest of a politician who is sewing chaos.

The politian is cold and ruthless, and has caused this havoc so their opponent will look bad in the hopes that they'll win the upcoming election instead.