

INT. HYDAL ORDER BASE - COMMON AREA - DAY

R is sitting in the common area, polishing his weapon.

EQUINOX

"Hey R! We have a question!"

R turns to look. DIRK and EQUINOX walk into the room, EQUINOX is holding a small, fluffy looking, rodent-adjacent creature in her arms.

R

"What is that thing?"

DIRK

"Bro it's a dog of course, what else would it be?"

R squints at the creature.

R

"No it's not. When have you ever seen a dog that looks like this?
I thought you were an animal expert."

DIRK

"Yeah, and as the number one expert I can proudly say that this
is a dog."

Small creature

"Mip mip!"

EQUINOX

"Awww who's a good boy! You are! "

R sighs.

R

"More importantly, why did you two want to show me this...creature?
Did you find the Electro Prism I requested?"

EQUINOX

"Ohhhh That! Yeah no we didn't yet."

R feels a migraine forming. He places his head in his hands for a few seconds before looking up.

R

"Well what are you idling about then? Go find the goddamn prism."

EQUINOX and DIRK exchange a look.

DIRK

"R, uh, I dunno how to break this to you man but. We kind of can't."

R

"What do you mean, you can't?"

DIRK

"Ah yeah...traceable signal on the item? It's gone..."

R

"The fuck?! How is that even possible."

EQUINOX

"Ahaha the tracker...it's um..."

DIRK takes the creature from Equinox's arms and holds up the creature.

DIRK

"Little Dirk ate it!"

R left eye twitches.

EQUINOX

"Which brings us to our question! Can we keep him!"

R

"Absolutely not. *Absolutely not-*"

R begins pacing the room, gesturing wildly.

DIRK

"Aw man we knew you'd say that but look at him--"

R

"-have you guys lost your goddamn minds? This is a fucking criminal organization. Not Kindergarten! We don't need a class pet!"

EQUINOX

"But R look at him! He's so cute!"

R

"I don't care about how cute you think this oversized vermin is. We are not keeping it! "

DIRK

"Bro... that's so not cool. Come on, we could use a guard dog for our base. "

EQUINOX

"Yeah! If intruders show up he can fight them off!"

R

"That THING will probably die if someone were to accidentally step on it. How is it supposed to guard anything!"

R stops pacing the room and stands in front of DIRK and EQUINOX with his arms crossed.

R

"We are not keeping the 'dog'. And that is final."

EQUINOX and DIRK look sad. The creature whimpers.

A moment of silence passes.

EQUINOX and DIRK exchange a look.

DIRK

(Shouting)

"Come on R! Let us keep it! "

EQUINOX

"Yeah! Let us keep it!"

R almost jumps in surprise at the sudden volume. He covers his ears with his hands.

R

"Ow! My fucking ears! Lower your voices! This is completely ridiculous! What are the rest of the people here going to think if we have this...*thing* running around?"

EQUINOX

"If you don't let us keep it, I'm going on strike!"

R

"Strike? What do you think this is? You can't go on strike, you're not even getting paid!"

DIRK

"Yeah, forget about that prism thingy-ma-bob, I'm not gonna look for it if you don't let us keep him.

R stares at the two in disbelief.

R

(Incredulous)

"You can't be serious."

Both EQUINOX and DIRK ignore R's statement, turning their attention towards the creature.

EQUINOX

"As much as I like the name Little Dirk, I feel like that could get confusing."

DIRK

"We could name this guy Blaze! Or death machine 3000!"

R lets out a deep, exasperated, sigh.

R

"Fine! Keep the damn creature. Just find me the prism by tomorrow or else I'm gonna kill this little shit."

DIRK lets out an offended gasp.

EQUINOX covers the creature's ears.

EQUINOX

(Towards creature)

"Shhh, don't listen to him, he didn't mean that."

Creature

"Mip mip!"

Suddenly, the creature jumps out of EQUINOX's arms towards R. R catches the creature out of reflex. The creature snuggles itself into R's arms.

DIRK and EQUINOX both make a poor attempt at stifling their laughter. They turn and leave.

As soon as they exit the room, loud laughter is heard in the hall.

R holding the fluffy creature at arms length, staring into its eyes. R looks defeated.

R

"My reputation is going to be destroyed."