

RWBY: FAUNUS FRENZY

CH5: HORSING AROUND

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Nora Valkyrie couldn't have been anymore removed from what was going on with Team RWBY.

In fact? A full day had already passed, and there were growing concerns about the team's sudden disappearance. Apparently, it was so bad that Penny had been sent out on a specific patrol just to search for them, and Jaune, Lie Ren, and herself had all been stationed in the dorms for the time being. **“So, the four of them all disappear and suddenly there's four Faunus chicks claiming to *be* them? That's kind of suspicious. Also, kind of *impossible*, right?”**

That was the other part of the story. Four women had all turned up without documentation, all of them Faunus with *drastically* different appearances and personalities than the missing RWBY members. But they all claimed *to* be those members! If it had just been their appearances, then *maybe* someone would have believed them if they were acting normally or vice versa. But they didn't even *try* to act normally!

...Well, that was what the reports Ironwood had given them had said. **“It could be part of Salem's trap, true. But maybe we shouldn't write the possibility off entirely. I think Ironwood took them in for more questioning.”** Lie Ren was a little more understanding towards the situation. It *sounded* impossible, but with things like Semblances out there, it didn't really *need* to be that way.



“Mm... I dunno. Whatever! Let me use the bathroom and we’ll figure out lunch, okay? We can’t leave the campus, but that cafeteria is *all ours!*” Much like Team RWBY’s room, there was a single bathroom that was shared between the three residents. Two boys sharing a room with one girl wasn’t really an issue. They’d spent so much time together over the years, and Jaune and Ren were more or less used to Nora.

It didn’t take her very long to do what she needed to do, and before long she had pulled off her gloves to wash her hands.

“*Hm?*” But that was when she ended up hearing *it*. A rattling in the vent above? **“Is there some kind of animal in the vents? Did a mouse or something get in?”** It was almost funny just how similar the conclusion that Nora drew was to the one Ruby had at the time. Incidentally, she was about to suffer a similar fate.

...Though it would make it clear to everyone else that what had happened to Team RWBY was legitimate.

“...Huh? Am I seeing things?” Since *whatever* was in the vent was seemingly gone, Nora had turned her attention back to her bathroom mirror to make sure she looked *just* as cute as ever! But something was *off*. A strand of *brown* was seen amidst the orange of her hair? Well... No. She had *thought* it was only a singular strand, but the teen quickly noticed another, and another, and... There hadn’t been one *there* before, but now there was? **“...It’s spreading!?”**

More and more of her hair was painted in a more mundane brown before her very eyes, and once it had gotten its proverbial footing? It took off like a wildfire, painting not only all of the hair that was growing from her scalp, but also the hair of her eyebrows and any miscellaneous body hair in a matter of moments. Well, it wasn’t *all* brown. There was a speck of white just above her forehead, and it remained unmoved even as the rest of her hair... *did* move.

“*HUH!?*” Nora cried out at such a volume that Jaune and Lie Ren would have heard, and if any other person had been screaming? They might have come running to see what was wrong. But Nora was Nora. She screamed in the bathroom if she so much as found a *zit*. Which might have still been *more* alarming to her than the sight of her now brown hair growing longer and longer, cascading down to the base of

her back while lengthened bangs parted in her forehead's center. **"No way... Why is this happening? Why... is this happening? ...Don't I sound a little too calm?"**

It was the pitch of her voice that had initially prompted Nora to repeat herself. Why did her voice sound so *soft*? But all of her usual energy had just dried up as it had softened. She probably wouldn't scream again, and a part of her now believed it would have been much too impolite to do so in the first place. **"Oh... My eyes now?"** She blinked several times. Not because the *colors* of her eyes were changing, but because their shapes pinched in at the corners so that they looked like they belonged to a *Japanese* girl rather than a Caucasian one.

Not that Remnant *had* a 'Japan', but the world her new form hailed from did.

Mind you, this was just a small part of what was happening to her face at that time. Her features became thinner and fairer, though the face of her shape technically lengthened. Her lips weren't as dense before long, and while the bridge of her nose extended? Her nostrils narrowed. When all was said and done? She didn't *look* much like 'Nora Valkyrie' at all, at least not from the neck up. She looked a little *younger* too. Like she was maybe around *fifteen years old* again.

"Oh?" The girl finally turned her attention away from the mirror to look down at her body... or at least the outfit she was wearing. It was the outfit she'd been wearing *every* day lately, and as far as she was aware it *should* have fit her perfectly. But it was beginning to feel *looser* as the seconds ticked by. The initial sensation actually came courtesy of something that she hadn't even realized. That her height had lessened a single inch, dropping her down from 5'1" to 5'0". That was a little *too* subtle of a drop to take notice of.

It wasn't *just* the slight height drop that loosened her clothing, though. Nora *immediately* zeroed in on her chest, which wasn't particularly big to begin with. She could barely see her cleavage through the top of her outfit in the first place, but soon the cloth flattened against her chest entirely. Her bra's cups were *emptier*. She wasn't *flat*, but they couldn't have been any larger than *A-cups*. A similar phenomenon drained her butt and thighs of any unnecessary weight too, even if she retained a girlish shapeliness.

But her losses weren't without gains. **"Am I... stronger?"** She'd already fancied herself to be *plenty* strong physically, at least in her arms. But now? Her *lower* body felt much stronger even though her legs were so thin? Her abs had *tightened* dramatically, so tight that you

could likely *grate cheese* on them if you *really* wanted to. But who in their right mind would do that!?

Nora continued to take every realization with a nearly unnerving calm. **“Wait. If this is happening to me, then is it possible that...?”** Her mind wandered to Team RWBY’s disappearance and the four Faunus women that were claiming to *be* them. She’d written it off as an impossibility, but looking at herself now...? That sentiment was furthered by a flicking pressure just above her butt.

A brown tail pushed out from underneath her tunic, lifting it up as it swished back and forth behind her. The furs that grew from it were coarse, and its resemblance to the tail of a *horse* was uncanny. Of course, upon turning her attention back to the mirror? She didn’t seem to be all that surprised to see that her ears had slowly been moving up her head’s sides and *lengthening*, becoming small, thin triangles covered by brown fur that matched her hair. A few inches tall each, they turned in response to any surrounding noises. **“Those are definitely a horse’s ears...”**

So then... it wasn’t a lie after all?

“Oh... Hm. I guess what the others were saying really *was* true.” Considering her own *horse ears* kept twitching and there was a *horse tail* flicking back and forth behind her, *Grass Wonder* couldn’t deny the claims made by Team RWBY any longer. Not only had she become a horse Faunus, but her personality and identity were all messed up. She *was* Nora – or *had* been – but this identity as a horse girl was so all-encompassing that it felt more like a long-lost memory than anything, even though those memories were still so vivid.



For example, she still knew all about Ren and Jaune who were in the room next door and likely were none the wiser to the fact that something had happened to her. **“I suppose I just need to face them... and find something else to wear.”** At least *this* way, they might be able to clear Team RWBY’s names and get closer to solving things.

“...Could it have been whatever I heard in the vents?”

Now *that* was a lead.