





■ MIDNIGHT MARAUDERS

Approaching midnight. Like lonesome vagabonds roaming about, we ventured into the black ocean of the night. The cover of darkness has always been a preferred ally on nocturnal stints like this. Our goal? A derelict underground abyss, dormant underneath the city it once served.

While closing in on our entry point, I noticed the sparkling glow of a cigarette coming through the eerie gloom that surrounded us. We were not alone down there. But all we could see was the dim orange light of a cigarette, not the person inhaling the nicotine blow. We paused for a minute and let our eyes adjust to the darkness. The vague contours of a makeshift camp of a homeless person suddenly became distinct.

'Tis unwritten, but midnight marauders respect one another. Off we were, into the depths of the underground maze, leaving behind reason, doubt, and the real world. All we could hear was the faint echo of the vibrant city above us.

Midnight in a perfect world.





■ NARA DREAMLAND

A moonlit sky blankets this giant wooden roller coaster in Nara Dreamland, an abandoned theme park in Japan. Inspired by Disneyland California, Nara Dreamland was built in 1961 and had an almost identical design of attractions and rides to its American idol.

With the start-up of Disneyland Tokyo and Universal Studios Japan, Nara Dreamland lost its grandeur and clientele, and finally closed its doors in 2006.







