

Roughly fifty (canine) paw strides later, the Sky-Meadow rose ever higher into view.

"Despite a slightly uncanny wariness due to such imperative, Coyote chose to follow the direction Opossum had gestured towards. The screaming stone continued to roar endlessly, and Coyote remained completely unaware that the marsupial was tracking him so closely from behind. Opossum simply wished to ensure the safe passage of her new ally.

Opossum once more looked directly into Coyote's eyes, "I say this with complete confidence of what the two-leggeds have finally built - I have seen the Sky-Meadow with my own two Sky-Mirrors! It is for us, not them!

As Coyote stood stiff in mid-flashback, remembering those of his family previously lost to the bone-eating "gray waste" that lie before him. He could surely smell more of his fellow kind faintly from a distance, yet an overwhelming scent of pungent rubber and burning oil continued to pervade his nostrils.

Wildlife crossings, overpasses and underpasses reduce vehicle-animal collisions by up to 90%! However, why does this matter?

These structures save human lives, prevents millions in property damage, and - most importantly - allow fragmented wildlife populations to diversify their gene pool and rebound. Furthermore, as rising global temperatures shift ecosystems, they provide vital escape routes for species as a result of climate migration; this acts as a vital lifeline that cultivates ecological resistance.

WildAnimalSuffering.org
ARC-Solutions.org
CrossingsForWildlife.org

PATREON.com/draconicdreams

"Behind the Zine" Patreon Blog Available!



Learn about the National Wildlife Crossings Pilot Program (WCPP) via the QR code above!



A fellow casualty whom also struggled to survive within these beloved woods, Opossum, happened to view the Song-Dog hesitate from a distance. Yet, despite clearly being a natural born enemy of her kind, the signs of fear the poor creature emitted compelled Opossum to call out a grave warning.

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As Coyote took in deep breaths of fresh air, he was overwhelmed by both a comforting touch of damp earth and nostalgic scent of a living forest. These completely overpower any possible lingeringence of gasoline stink or ghost meat, and it is here that Coyote comes to realize that Opossum was right - he was finally being afforded complete protection from the stink-beasts roaring below.



Coyote crossed the path with the silent acknowledgment that every species here - eater of flesh or not - shares status as a vulnerable victim to humanity's cruel dominion. Ancient unspoken laws have dissolved, if only for the time being.

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As he pondered Coyote could only shake his head, "those two-legs could learn a lot if they took a moment to actually understand - and not what they THINK they understand - about us animals."



"From the former side of the bridge, a smile began to creep across Opossum's face. She watched Coyote grow smaller, yet continue to rise ever higher from view. Finally, with one last observed, final glance and nod, Coyote was gone; Opossum swore she could hear the faint calls of the Song-Dogs beckoning him from beyond.

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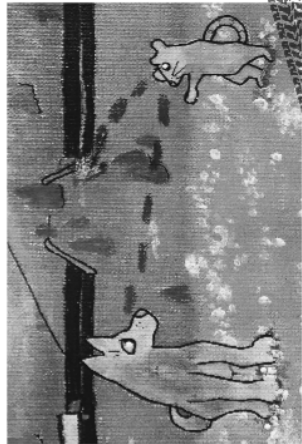


Project: "The Sky-Meadow"
Title: "Follow the Sky Trail"
Materials: Acrylic Gouache, soft pastel, waterproof ink pen, colored pencil, canvas paper, and varnished with fixative.
Dimensions: 9x12"
This mixed media illustration captures an intimate moment and core scene between the characters Coyote and Opossum.



Cover artwork by draconicdreams on Artconomy; scan the QR code below to access the full portfolio gallery!

"The Sky Meadow" (Or Decolonizing Asphalt)



Created by Eclipse Moonflower