The Zoo:

“In a world of nothing, of barren hills and cracked Earth and once proud oceans drained to sand, there will still be a monument to our existence: Bleached by the sun perhaps, and blunted by time–but everlasting.”

At last the hot sun has gone away and left a chilling breeze in its place. My legs are tired and my mind is full of all the creatures that I have seen today. Stripes and furs and wings fill my imagination. It’s so hard for me to imagine the life of any of these animals, that they truly exist and breathe and eat like me. And I’m thinking of this as I make my way to the last exhibit.

Nobody else is here, so there must be nothing good. It’s just that my way home is this direction anyways, and I’ve come all this way…

It’s a cave structure that’s dark gray. When I enter the air feels thick and hot. I don’t think I’ve ever visited this part before.

There are no lights, just black. I keep walking and see a light appear for the first attraction. I peer behind the glass and find that it’s quite an odd little thing. There’s a small brown body with legs and eyes on either side. It curiously floats then sinks back to the ground before running back to the dark. How odd.

Strange sounds come to me from the next sections, however, and I make my way over. I’m brought back into the dark as a chill sets in. I shiver and spin around but still only see dark. The silence is too complete. At last a small light appears before me.

It's a large enclosure, plenty of room for the creatures inside to run around. A few of them stare at me through the glass as if they’re aware of who I am. Some are standing and others crawl. They’re reminiscent of the great apes, but thinner and paler. Wide harrowing eyes stare at me, challenging or longing I can’t tell.

The sign beside them reads “*Homo Sapien*”. I remember stories of these creatures, but I can’t tell you much. They are long forgotten dwellers of another world, their existence reduced to a small dark exhibition in the back of this curious night zoo.