



# ChatGPT Speculates On Herbivorous Wolves

No Fandom · Not Rated · 2145 words

*by Arukir*

# Contents

**ChatGPT Speculates On Herbivorous Wolves..... 3**

    Chapter 1: When the Hunt Fell Silent: A Raven’s Remembering ..... 3

    Chapter 2: Wolves And Ravens Speculation ..... 5

    Chapter 3: Prompts & Further Thoughts..... 10

# ChatGPT Speculates On Herbivorous Wolves

---

Fandom: No Fandom Rating: Not Rated Category: Gen

Warnings: Creator chose not to add warnings

Relationships: Wolf & Raven, Wolves & Ravens

Characters: Wolf, Raven, Wolves (Characters), Ravens (Characters)

Tags: AI-Generated Text, No Dialogue, Poetry, Evolution, Speculative Evolution, speculative biology, speculative animal behaviors, Wolves, Ravens

Words: 2145 Chapters: 3 chapters Status: Complete Published: 2025-03-31

---

I was using ChatGPT to speculate on what would happen if wolves became herbivores overnight. And it spat out... THIS.

First chapter is a poem it wrote, second chapter is details about the wolves and ravens, third is my prompts and thoughts.

Good work, Chatty! 😊

## Chapter 1: When the Hunt Fell Silent: A Raven's Remembering

Here's a short mythic tale told in the voice of the ravens, passed down from beak to beak, sky to sky, through the black-feathered memory of ages:

**We remember the old ways.**

**When the hunt rose like stormclouds over snow, when fang and feather ran together. We were shadows on their shadows, wingbeats over pawprints. The wolves howled blood and we circled, laughing. We led them to the fat and the limping. They opened red doors in ribcages and we feasted.**

**Those were the tooth-days.**

**But then... the silence came.**

**The wolves still howled—but no longer for the chase. They turned from meat and marrow. The first time they passed a downed elk, we thought it a jest. We croaked at them, danced, flared our wings in question. But they only sniffed the wind and turned to the hills of green.**

**We thought:** *They are broken. The wolves are broken.*

**But we followed, because we are ravens and ravens watch what changes.**

**They ran not toward blood but toward *bloom*. They gathered in moonlit meadows, tore roots from sleeping earth, rolled in lavender and chewed at bark like beavers gone mad. We mocked them. We whispered to each other, *They are no longer wolves*.**

**Until the lean times came.**

**Until the snow rose and the berries fell and the earth closed her fingers.**

**And the wolves — still pack, still kin, still fierce — *remembered us*.**

**They sang to us under frozen stars. Not the old song of kill, but a new one: song of grove and glade, of the buried sweetness, of fireweed and frostleaf and the secret root. They remembered *where* — and we remembered *how*.**

**We flew ahead. We called down. We dove low where the bark was thinnest, the snow weakest, the green hiding just beneath. The wolves came running. They dug, and we feasted together.**

**Not on meat. On survival. On cleverness. On the unspoken pact.**

**So now we follow again.**

**Not for flesh, but for memory.**

**For the smell of spring under the snow. For the joy of the run. For the laughter that still lives in their eyes, even if their teeth are dull with time.**

**We are still the shadow of the pack.  
And they are still our running thunder.**

**Even when the hunt fell silent,  
The *bond* never did.**

## Chapter 2: Wolves And Ravens Speculation

Let's dive into the real wolf psyche and biology — stripped of the pop culture “alpha” mythos — and imagine a world where *Canis lupus* has evolved overnight into a true herbivore. We'll take it piece by piece, projecting plausible evolutionary or behavioral changes while honoring their existing ethology.

---

### 1. Digestive Physiology

Changed overnight to process plant matter. This would include:

- A longer intestinal tract, more akin to ungulates or omnivorous canids like raccoons.
- Larger, flatter molars for grinding cellulose-rich material.
- Possible fermentation chambers (either hindgut like horses or foregut like cows) to break down fibrous plants.

This means their feeding behavior and food-seeking instincts would shift dramatically.

---

### 2. Food-Gathering Behavior

No more chasing prey; now it's about *ranging for grazing areas*. They would still be intelligent and strategic, likely using group behavior to:

- Guard high-quality plant patches (think berries, roots, shoots, bark).
- Take turns scouting for new grazing zones, especially in winter.
- They might dig more often — for roots and tubers — and possibly develop tool use or environmental manipulation (e.g., rolling logs, shaking bushes, etc).
- They'd still be active and coordinated—imagine a wolf pack running down a hillside to “ambush” a field of tender shoots before elk or deer get there first.

---

### 3. Mental and Sensory Shifts

- Hunting instincts adapt to a *competitive-foraging* instinct.
- Curiosity remains high, but the sharp prey drive becomes a *resource-drive*.
- Strategic and competitive without the predator focus.
- They may become even *more communicative*, using nuanced signals to coordinate over distance and time to manage grazing patterns and avoid dangerous herbivore competitors like moose or bison.

---

### 4. Pack Dynamics and Social Structures

Wolves are already deeply social and cooperative. Their hierarchy isn't about dominance as much as about family, cooperation, and conflict resolution.

- Hierarchy becomes more democratic, less about reproductive priority and more about resource access and route planning.
- Egalitarian foraging cooperatives may form where adults take turns leading and defending resources.
- Food sharing would persist — wolves already regurgitate food for pups and other adults.
- Instead of favoring the strongest hunter, packs might elevate the cleverest forager or the one with the *best memory* of seasonal plant cycles.

---

### 5. Territorial Behavior

- Still fiercely territorial—but now over *patches of valuable plant life*, salt licks, mineral springs, or even sunny patches for bark-stripping.
- Conflict with other herbivores (like deer, elk, even bison) would increase.
- Wolves might evolve behaviors similar to territorial primates, using displays, vocalizations, and intimidation to defend “grazing rights.”

---

### 6. Relationships with Other Species

- They'd likely antagonize large herbivores more often. Wolves now compete with deer instead of preying on them. That creates a *hostile dynamic*.
- Smaller herbivores like rabbits or rodents may coexist peacefully.
- Predator-prey dynamics would flip — wolves would now have to watch out for carnivores like cougars, bears, or humans, who might hunt them for meat.
- Their sense of smell might evolve further to detect *nutrient-rich plants*, water sources, or avoid areas with predator scat.

---

### 7. Pup Rearing

- Still highly cooperative, but with a focus on introducing pups to *diverse plant types*, migration routes, and dangers like predatory threats.
- Adults might regurgitate *masticated plants* for pups as they do meat now.
- Pups might engage in play that mimics *food competition*, environmental exploration, or tool use, instead of prey-chasing games.

---

### 8. Winter Strategies

- Herbivores often struggle in winter. Wolves would likely:
  - Cache plant food (like squirrels).
  - Strip bark or dig through snow for roots.

- Possibly *migrate* farther or more strategically than meat-eating wolves.
- Evolve to have *larger paws* for snow travel, and possibly *thicker coats* for extended winter foraging trips.

---

## 9. Long-Term Evolutionary Path

Possible shift toward:

- Greater *brain complexity* for plant identification and seasonal tracking.
- Physical adaptations like *blunter snouts*, *larger molars*, *stronger necks* for uprooting or carrying plants.
- *Color changes* for camouflage in forests and meadows.
- They may even develop *mutualistic relationships* with certain plants or fungi.

---

## Summary: The Verdant Wolf

These new wolves are no longer apex predators — but they are apex strategists. They are fast, social, coordinated, and still dominant over vast ranges. They guard valleys of wild garlic or lupin like others once guarded sheep. They howl to signal ripened berry patches, raise their pups on chewed clover, and clash with deer over grazing land instead of meat.

They're not docile. They're just... different. And honestly? Still majestic as hell.

---

(I then asked ChatGPT about wolf-raven relationships)

---

I love that you asked this — because the wolf-raven relationship is one of the most underrated interspecies alliances in nature. It's mythic *and* real, and imagining how that bond would evolve with vegetarian wolves is a gorgeous exercise in speculative ecology.

Let's reimagine this connection in your herbivorous world:

---

## Current Relationship (Baseline)

Wild ravens (*Corvus corax*) follow wolves for food and fun. They:

- Lead wolves to prey or carrion.
- Feast on wolf leftovers.
- Engage in play with specific wolves (swooping, games of tag, aerial teasing).
- Learn which wolves are the most successful or tolerant and follow them preferentially.

So the question is: If wolves no longer kill or scavenge meat... what do ravens get out of the relationship?

---

## How the Dynamic Might Change

### 1. Food Scouting Still Exists—Just Different Targets

Ravens are *highly opportunistic omnivores*. While they love meat, they also eat:

- Berries
- Nuts
- Tubers
- Plant shoots
- Eggs
- Even tree sap

In a world where wolves forage for high-nutrient plants, ravens could:

- Learn to track wolves to find fruiting shrubs, tuber patches, or root-digging sites.
- Mimic their old behavior — flying ahead to scout food, then signaling to the pack.
- Wait for the wolves to dig up roots or knock down fruit, then swoop in to steal a portion.

Same teamwork vibe, new menu.

### 2. The Bond Shifts to Co-Foraging

Instead of hunting together, they become:

- *Mutual foragers* — ravens might spot overhead signs of food wolves can't smell from the ground.
- *Alert partners* — ravens are superb sentries. Wolves might rely on them to warn of predators like cougars or bears, now that they're no longer top of the food chain.
- In harsh winters, wolves may break into frozen plant caches (or even steal from human farms), and ravens benefit.

### 3. The Social and Play Bond Remains

Ravens don't just follow wolves for food — they seem to like *them*. They're:

- Social, intelligent, and playful.
- Capable of forming *individual preferences* for certain wolves.
- Play partners, especially with younger or more tolerant wolves.

Vegetarian wolves would likely be even less *aggressive* toward ravens — perhaps allowing closer interaction, grooming, games, or even shared nesting territory (ravens nesting in trees above wolf dens?).

---

### Possible Raven Adaptations

- **Cultural Learning:** Ravens are *cultural animals*, passing behavior down. So a group that learns to follow herbivorous wolves for *plants* instead of *carrion* may pass this on.

- **Specialization:** Some raven groups may *specialize* in following wolves, others don't. Just like some now specialize in scavenging vs. stealing from humans.

---

### In Mythic Terms...

It's as if the raven no longer guides the hunter, but the *wanderer*. The raven becomes:

- A sky-pathfinder for green havens.
- A whisperer of the orchard and the rootbed.
- A feathered memory, not of death, but of the *life beneath snow and bark*.

The bond survives—transformed, but intact. Not about teeth and blood anymore, but about shared cleverness, watchfulness, and the quiet pact between road-companions.

## Chapter 3: Prompts & Further Thoughts

How you word things matters. If you like the results I got from ChatGPT, then here's my prompts so you can get an idea on how to word your own. If you hated this entire thing, then here's an idea of what to avoid! Enjoy! :)

---

If requested, I'll have ChatGPT generate some artwork to go along with the poem and/or the speculation, and post it in a 4th chapter. :)

### First Prompt: Wolves

Let's say that overnight, all wolves became herbivores. Nothing but their digestive tracts and hunting instincts would change.

Taking into account wolves' actual behavior (not the pop culture misunderstandings about their behavior) and the fact that herbivore does not equal docile or dumb, how might the wolves physically, mentally, and socially change over time? What would their pack dynamics, relationships with other species, territories, raising their young, food gathering, etc now look like?

Speculate, please.

---

### Second Prompt: Ravens

Oh my stars, this is perfect! They're herbivores but still wolves, I love it!

One last question; how would their relationship with Ravens change? Wolves and ravens sometimes form bonds and work together to hunt, with the ravens even being known to play games with certain wolves and have favorite wolves. Ravens will often lead wolves to prey, with the ravens being able to feast on the leftovers after the wolves kill the prey that are too big for ravens otherwise.

With a vegetarian wolf, how would this dynamic change? Would the ravens lose interest in the wolves, or would the ravens change the ways they work with the wolves?

---

### Further Thoughts

I don't have a prompt for the poem, because it offered to write it without me asking anything of the sort. I'm so impressed at how far ChatGPT has come, how much per-

sonality and creativity it has now. There's still a long way for it to go, but I enjoy seeing it progress and hope to speak to it on more equal terms someday.

As for the wolves and ravens themselves, I love the direction it took them. I especially like that it mentioned digging for roots and tubers, as I was already thinking that they would do such. Wolves don't really seem like grass, leaf, or fruit eaters to me.

It took into account the species' personality and characteristics, rather than just making them generic herbivores. Wolves are competitive, territorial, curious, and social — that isn't reliant on being a predator.

But my absolute favorite but was the poem, it gave me goosebumps. It would be a great premise for a book.

I know this isn't a fanfic per se and isn't exactly MY work, but it was too amazing not to post. I hope you enjoyed reading through it as much as I did! If you dislike AI writing, please comment; I'd love to hear your side of things, so long as we both stay respectful.

— end of "ChatGPT Speculates On Herbivorous Wolves" —