

Having so much passion shouldn't be a bad thing. But my classmates seem to disagree with that way of thinking. Which may explain why I nearly never had any friends. One day, I'm sure I won't be alone, I just wish that the Fates would come and change my destiny.

Yaoan wakes up with this thought swirling through her head. She gets up from bed and peers out her window which overlooks the other homes in the area. A bright rainbow reflects into her room colouring her floor in a vast array of colours. Yaoan gets up and shakes the thoughts plaguing her, and looks for her uniform. Right before leaving she makes sure she has all of her essential belongings since not too long ago she was forced into an adventure, and was ill prepared for such an outing. Never again is her mantra.

Yaoan starts her journey in Marian North, a country in the far northern regions of Earth, West of Vlagora and North of Marian South. She begins the school day same as usual, walking from her home to the school hall. Yaoan as well as other Ren Shaole orphaned children lives at the Capital District Children's Facility close to the school. Children typically who live here are made fun of because their parents died before the era of immortality. This has major repercussions and causes an excessive amounts of fights in this square kilometer of housing. The city doesn't try to resolve these bullying issues because it occurs only within the Ren Shaole population, and it is assumed that that is how Ren Shaole resolve their issues. These may be compounded with that fact that after the start of the age of immortality, even the most deadly of fights would result in no casualties, just a lot of pain.

On Yaoan's way to school she saw a tiny trinket on the floor that reminded her of the trinkets that her mom wore so long ago. Yaoan picked it up and gave it a light dusting.

"I love this." Yaoan thought to herself as she placed it in her hair. She looked up at it, smiled and continued her way to school.

"Hey Yaoan you're looking exceptionally cute today!" A girl from the group of girls said to Yaoan as she was walking to school. There were a total of 4 Ren Shaole girls, around Yaoan's age, if not just a year older. They were dressed in the same uniform as Yaoan indicating that they were headed to the same classes.

"Oh really... thanks... I actually-" Yaoan was interrupted by the same girl.

"Haha, I'm kidding, I can't believe you actually believed me." The girl said as the rest of her friends began to laugh. The other added insults to the first girls joke all in an effort to make Yaoan feel worse.

They all began to walk away as Yaoan took the trinket out of her hair. She paused a bit, her smiled disappeared and she loosened the grip on the object. She looked at it a little longer with the trinket now in her open palm, she smiled and returned back into her hair.

"I don't really care, I like it." Yaoan thought to herself as she continued to walk to school.

Yaoan got to the class hall but the gate teacher stopped her from continuing into class.

"Student 1076 what do you think you are doing." the Gate Teacher asked.

"What do you mean sir" Yaoan said eagerly trying to get to class.

The gate teacher then tore off the head decoration that Yaoan tried to wear and crumpled it to pieces. And kept the pieces balled up in his fist.

"There, now hurry up and get to class, and stop trying to bring crap into this school." The gate teacher said.

"Ah sorry, I thought it was permissible." Yaoan replied.

"Well you were wrong, now get" he yelled at Yaoan as she continued towards class.

Along her walk she saw groups of students talking to each other before the first period began, but Yaoan had the face of being alone. But she still smiled hoping that someone would include her in their groups. But by the time she reached the door, no one offered and she did what she did everyday and just entered the school... alone.

Yaoan sat in class half listening to the teacher as she yearned for adventure.

"Student 1076" the home room teacher called out to Yaoan who was zoning out.

Yaoan startled, standing up and replied. "Yes Teare Ro!?"

"If you long to be outside so much pick up your items and stand outside of class until the end of the period." The home room teacher said as she pointed at the classroom door.

Yaoan picked up her things and walked out of class and sat outside the classroom.

"Dang, not again. Now I have nothing to look at but the wall..." Yaoan thought as she stared at the wall moving her fingers along the cracks.

"Pssh" Yaoan heard a voice down the hall say.

She looked around for the sound.

"Pssh, over here, to your left." The voice continued.

Yaoan looked over and saw a boy who seemed to also have been kicked out of class. As he waved his hands at her.

“Don't you know you can get in more trouble if you talk while kicked out of class.” Yaoan told the guy.

“Oh really... then I guess I should be quiet then.” The boy said before closing his mouth.

Yaoan smiled. “ Hey, why'd you get kicked out of class. Seems like your first time yea?” Yaoan addressed the kid.

“Yes, it is my first time out here. Koloco Ro caught me playing Rutanu in class and he took my device and kicked me out of class.” He replied to Yaoan.

“What's Rutanu?” Yaoan asked as she took a more comfortable position.

“Oh it's this awesome game just released. Where you play in this virtual world and collect small items each round then you battle against other players. I've been super addicted to it since it came out like 10 days ago.” He replied.

“A virtual world?” Yaoan said to herself as she looked up at the ceiling. “Sounds a whole lot better than the real one.” She said quietly.

“It sure is, you should play it later. You can add me, my name is Waymen Knight Rider and” the boy was interrupted by the walking patrol.

“What do you think you are doing talking while outside of class. Get your stuff and come with me.” The Patrol said.

“I'm Student 1145, find me after school okay!” He yelled out as he was escorted out.

“Rutanu he said, a virtual world... hmmm.” Yaoan thought to herself as she continued to look up at the ceiling.

The day classes went on as usual, with Royal Etiquette First Period, Anthropology Second Period, Natural Mathematics Third Period, Historical Recreation Fourth Period. Now she has a small break period before Night Classes with Mythology and Legends Fifth Period, Home Economics Sixth Period, Physical and Health Seventh Period ending with Social Conditioning Eighth Period.

Immediately after Historical Recreation ended Yaoan eagerly exited the class building and into the Student's hall to try out the game Student 1145 told her about earlier that morning. Yaoan logs into it via her communication device.

“Allow access to Cerebral Process?” Her device asked her as she was downloading the game.

“Oh, I guess it is Virtual Reality... so sure why not.” Yaoan accepted.

The opening of the game begins to play.

“Yea, I’m going to skip that.” Yaoan skipped through.

“Make sure the area around you is clear, and safe.” The game showed with an unskippable scene.

Yaoan looked around and felt that standing in the middle of the court yard before night classes was probably not the best place to start playing a virtual game.

“Okay I’m going head into the cafeteria then.” Yaoan thought and picked up her stuff and headed inside while configuring her information.

“What was the boy’s name again... waymen something...” a Yaoan said knocking on her head.
“Ah Knight Rider. Waymen Knight Rider.”

Yaoan added his name and he immediately sent a message. “Where are you?” He messaged Yaoan.

“I’m in the cafeteria.” Yaoan wrote back.

“Come to The Music Rooms in area 12, there’s a group of us all playing.” He replied back.

“Cool, I’ll be there.” Yaoan replied then got up from her seat and began heading to the Music Rooms.

“Hey take that out of your head while walking, I’m tired of you kids walking into walls with those devices connected to your head.” The patrol said to Yaoan as she was making her way to the room.

“Oh I’m sorry, I’ll do that right away.” Yaoan said as she pulled it from her head.

“Freaking kids, they got it way too easy nowadays.” The patrol said as he continued to walk.

Yaoan looked back at him annoyed by the generational divide that has invested his thoughts into.

Yaoan got to the room and saw a bunch of students playing.

“Hey Vina!” The boy said as Yaoan approached.

“Wow already calling me by my game name.” Yaoan said as she was being guided to a seat.

“Yea, I don’t know your real name, so that’s the next best thing.” He sat Yaoan down. “Come on quick, Yuski is about to compete in a 3 v 1.”

Yaoan sat down and pulled her device out of her bag and attached it back onto her head. As she was setting it up to play Rutanu.

“A 3 v 1, how is this game played...” Yaoan asked.

“Come on, just watch.” Knight Rider said as he put on his plugs. Yaoan followed and the 3 v 1 was beginning.

The competitors were lined up on different corners of the arena. And the party rushed towards Yuski.

Player 1 launched a Fire Blast at Yuski who then twisted around and sent it at Player 2. Player 3 rushes from behind and tries to attack Yuski with a sword as Yuski easily dodges. Player 1 continues to launch fire shots at Yuski. The double attack is easily handled as Player 2 comes in with a spear and attacks Yuski.

“Ha easy” Yuski typed into the commentator log.

“So what’s happening here?” Yaoan asked.

“That guy right there is Yuski is an extremely good player. Ever since the game came out he has been dominating.” Knight Rider said as he brought up the information on Yuski. “He has a 140.2.2 record, he allows us to challenge him immediately after school for like an hour then he continues to grind up tactics. So we all come here each day just to fight him. But we never win.”

Yuski then grabs the spear of player 2, spits a liquid on the spear, catches a flame from the attacks of player 1. Lights Player 3 on fire, knocking his sword out of his hand, smacking it at Player 1 defeating him, then used the fire spear to stab through Player 2 and 3 and light them on ending the match.

“Damn, he is good.” Yaoan was impressed with the performance.

Chapter 2

“So first you’ll have to go to the hub center and there should be an NPC that’ll tell you how to gain access into your weapon hut and training room.” Knight Rider said to Yaoan as he pointed towards a tower surrounded by what looked like 2 dozen people.

“What are you going to be doing while I’m interacting with this NPC?” Yaoan asked Rider.

“It’s going to take you a bit of time, so I am going to grind up some extra material so I don’t embarrass myself in front of you when we go exploring.” Rider said as he summoned a vehicle and drove away.

“Well that’s cool.” Yaoan looked as Rider slowly went out of sight.

She made her way through the group of people who were all talking to one another. Yaoan seeing these lowered her head and continued to walk towards the hub center NPC. She then felt a hand touch her shoulder.

“Hey!” A voice of the person whom the hand belonged to called to Yaoan.

Yaoan turned around to look at this person. “Did you mean to try and get my attention?”

“Obviously, that’s why I tapped on your shoulder. Why are you looking so down huh? Not doing so well today?” The short avatar girl said.

“No it’s not that... it’s just that’s how I get when I see a bunch of people.” Yaoan responded.

“Oh so you are shy?!” The short girl said looking up at Yaoan’s avatar.

“No I wouldn’t say Shy, it’s just...” Yaoan thought for a little and realized that she didn’t need to tell this person that she was from the Capital District Children’s Facility. She didn’t have to say anything that was real. This was her chance to reinvent herself. So Yaoan dropped her hands, relaxed her shoulders and responded with confidence.

“Yea, I wouldn’t say Shy at all.” Yaoan waved her hands. “Hi my name is Vina!” Yaoan said to the girl.

“Wow, a complete rotation of Pi haha.” The girl gestured in a Bowing manner. “And I’m Radiantsi.”

“Okay, Radiantsi are you also new to this world.” Yaoan asked her.

“Well everyone is basically new, this world has only existed for like a week, so it’s prime time to start forming groups and setting claims to territory!” Radiantsi responded.

“So were you trying to recruit me into your group?” Yaoan questioned.

“Yea, I’ve been going around but most people seem to join with a group of friends already, so I saw you alone and figured. ‘Hey she’s alone, why not try to recruit her’.” Radiantsi said telling the story with wide gestures.

Yaoan figured that no one would actually reach out to talk to a lonely person in a crowd of people. Radiantsi must be of a different breed of person.

“So what do you say Vani??” Radiantsi eagerly looked at Yaoan.

“Oh yea, sure I’ll join your party, group thing.” Yaoan nodded her head.

“Awesome, well then I’ll help you speed through this tutorial stage and we can get some real work done.” Radiantsi grabbed Vani and they both pushed through to the NPC.

“Hey big guy! She is in my party now so allow me to share my equipment with her.” Radiantsi commanded the NPC.

“You got it Warrior!” The NPC said as Vani and Radiantsi now had an annotation next to their name, as well as a party inventory and many more gadgets.

“Wow! This is pretty cool!” Yaoan said looking at all the stuff.

“Yea it is! Now I’m going to sign you up for the Tutorial stages. Don’t worry it just involves a bunch of fetch quest and monster killings” Radiantsi said to Yaoan before Yaoan received a quest note.

“Now we can leave this area as the rest of these peeps stumble there way into the first mission.” Radiantsi said before her and Yaoan ran into the Hordes Field.

Yaoan looked at the quest. “I need some MEAT from a Sereph found in Hordes Field, a JULO HERB found in Hectors Forest, and a MORTER AND PESTO. Please, my child is sick and on his last leg. Sender”

“Well looks like three ingredients needs to be found before this quest is complete.” Yaoan said as she was still being guided by Radiantsi.

“Yea, well actually it’s more like five items, since we have to create our mortar and pesto from stones also found in the Hordes Field and use a Stone cutter to form it into its shape.” Radiantsi said as they both arrived in the field.

The field was circular surrounded by a dense forest on three side. It was filled with flying creatures that were like flat disk in shape with a spherical center of bright blue. There were others also running around chasing these creatures.

“Go on and destroy one of those creatures, they drop the meat that you need.” Randiantsi said to Yaoan pointing at the creature.

“And how do you do that?” Yaoan said looking around for her weapon.

“Wait!?! You’re telling me you don’t have a weapon?” Randiantsi said surprised at this revelation. “Wow even I came with a Shield and these needles.” Randiantsi said showing Yaoan. “Lost like we are a pretty pathetic party already...” Randiantsi said looking onward at the creatures.

Yaoan sat down next to Randiantsi. “Maybe it’s some sort of glitch. I can restart and we can form a party again.” Yaoan said to Randiantsi.

“Nah, it’s all good. Guess you can punch them, and I can like attach these needles into my shield like this haha.” Randiantsi showed Yaoan the creation.

“Hmm, well this does suck, everyone else seems to be running around with weapons.” Yaoan said still looking through her inventory.

“Well, Rutanu is connected to your Cerebral Cortex so is there some sort of weapon you’d imagine you be good at or something.” Randiantsi said standing back up.

“I always imagined that I would be like those gods who I met when I was younger and be able to manipulate the Earth with like these cool hand gestures.” Yaoan then demonstrated and a huge blast shot out from her hand, obliterating the ground about 40 meters away.

Randiantsi and Yaoan looked out at the damage stunned.

Randiantsi turned back towards Yaoan. “You actually seen people do that in reality!! That is beyond awesome!” Randiantsi said as she looked at Yaoan’s hands.

Yaoan who character stats dropped sharply responded. “I have no clue how I did that but it took a crap ton of energy from me.”

“Yea, guess you’re not used to it yet, well, run around with me and we will get this quest done. Then we can go out and learn to use both of our skills... though I’m super jealous of yours already.” Randiantsi said to Yaoan as she then went out and tried to hit the Serephs with her shield.

Yaoan ran out with Randiantsi and tried to hold down the Sereph while Randiantsi hit it with her Shield repeatedly.

“This bad boy is tough.” Randiantsi said trying to break through it’s shell.

“Hey let me take a look at your needles again, do you have anything else in your bag?” Yaoan said as the creature was breaking slowly out of Yaoan’s hold.

“I have some items from like the next 3 quests, and a string that I came with. Other than that I don’t have anything, my previous...” Randiantsi said before stopping.

Yaoan thought for a little bit. “You have string? I think that’s supposed to go with your needles.” Yaoan said finally losing grip as the two were thrown off of the creature, it then ran off.

“Oh, well that makes sense, I am actually pretty good at puppeteering.” Randiantsi said as she combined her needle and the string to create her new weapon THREADED THREADS and Then proceeded to combine it with her Shield to create PROTECTED PUPPET MASTER.

Randiantsi then got out of her crafting menu and looked at her new set up. She then located a Sereph and threw three needles at it which penetrated its skin, then clothes lined by pulling her threads apart ripping the Sereph apart.

“Well, talk about Over Powered haha.” Yaoan said congratulating Randiantsi.

“Yea, it seems that way. I feel like a whole new warrior, and to imagine that I was running around before just smacking things with my shield. “ Randiantsi then brought back her needles and her and Yaoan ran to the body to put its scraps into their inventory.

“Let’s hurry and get to the Forest. Your blast from earlier threw a bunch of stones into the air earlier so we can quickly grab those too.” Randiantsi said as she ran to the stones.

Yaoan received a message from Rider. “Hey, where are you Vani, did you already get your quest from the NPC?”

“Yea! I’m almost done with it, where are you?” Yaoan responded.

“I’m not too far, I’m going to meet up with you soon. I found a bunch of guys who are willing to train with us later. What’s your weapon like?” Rider responded.

“Cool, I’m also with a person. And I didn’t get a weapon, so I’m not sure what my weapon is, I think it might be magic.” Yaoan responded picking up the stones with Randiantsi.

“Magic? Then you would have gotten a staff haha. Well I’ll be there soon. Later!” Rider replied before closing the chat.

Randiantsi questioned Yaoan. “Oh did you already have a party?” She said saddened a bit.

“No, I don’t have a party, he is a person from my school who introduced me to the game.” Yaoan replied.

“Oh you’re school aged in reality, haha that’s funny.” Randiantsi said laughing. “That makes you a tiny bit older than me. But not by much.”

“Dang, I meant to keep all information about myself a secret... oh well I guess that’s not super important, as long as she doesn’t know my breed or location I think we are good.” Yaoan thought to herself.

“Don’t worry, any information you share with me, I’ll share the same amount with you. It’ll be mutual destruction haha.” Randiantsi said to Yaoan.

Yaoan smiled and gestured to head into the Forest.

While Randiantsi and Yaoan walked towards the forest the surrounding area started to darken.

“Don’t worry about that, it’s just the canopy above. It’s not so ominous once you get used to it.” Randiantsi said to Yaoan who at this point was staring over head. Then Radiantsi handed Yaoan a drink. “Here this is to replenish your energy, I was saving it since before when I was running around with my shield I was getting exhausted nearly immediately, but now that I don’t even have to move to use my skills I think you should take it.”

Yaoan drank it and her stats return to their original positions. “Wow, thanks that really got me back into shape.” Yaoan said as Randiantsi spotted the plant.

“There it goes, now we can just grab it and go back to the NPC in the center hub.” Randiantsi went to grab it, but someone came and stepped on her hand stopping her from grabbing it.

“Haha look, we what we have here, some new players walking around in our territory” a tall well armoured avatar said with two others behind him.

Chapter 3

Yaoan and Randiantsi have encountered their first griefers. They don’t seem to care about having an enjoyable gaming experience, what they are after is the satisfaction of dominance.

“Hey, if this is your territory, we will just leave, we don’t need this herb from here anyways.” Randiantsi said as she tried to get her hand from under the guys foot.

“Where do you expect to find one, then. This entire forest is our territory.” He said still with his foot on Randiantsi’s hand.

“Hey, you can’t claim an area like this, this is where new players complete their first quest.” Yooan yelled at the guys.

“I don’t think you’re in any position to talk, you’re both extremely low leveled and it’s three of us vs two of you.” The guy told Yooan.

Yooan’s hand began to brighten with heat, as her anger began to grow. Just then the guy was smacked across the face by a staff and flew to another tree. His party members were also taken out by the members of the opposing party.

Rider had arrived with the other training mates.

“Looks like you guys encountered some griefers.” Rider helped up Randiantsi.

“Looks like it’s Seven vs three, I think you guys should get going!” Yooan yelled at the main griefer.

“Don’t let us see you two alone, because when that happens, it’s over.” The griefers then left.

Randiantsi shook her arm from Rider’s hand. “Thanks, but I’m pretty sure we had that handled.” She then walked back to Yooan.

“Well isn’t it a small world Randiantsi haha.” A member of the training team Rider brought said to Randiantsi. “Who would have thought that following this guy would lead us back to you...” the member then looked around. “Though since this is a level one area I can’t say that I am surprised.

“You know these people?” Yooan asked Randiantsi pointing at the group.

“Yea, I was originally in their party until like the third quest then they threw me away!” Randiantsi said directed towards the group.

“We didn’t even think that you would have returned to the game. Considering how weak your weapon is.” The training team member then addressed Rider. “I wouldn’t recommend you teaming up with her all she is going to do is slow you down.”

“Stop telling people that, I have a new weapon now, and I am sure it’s way better than what you have now.” Randiantsi said to her former party members.

“I’ll believe it when I see it, and what about you newbie. You must have had pity on her to bring her along this far.” The former member said to Yaoan.

“Why are you guys so mean!?” Yaoan said to the group.

“This is a game, you either try to be the best or stop playing. If you are looking for pity or something casual play a farming simulator.” The former member said to Yaoan. “Now what is your weapon?”

“I don’t know...” Yaoan responded.

“So Rider, you brought us all the way back to the level one area to train up a casual and someone who doesn’t have a weapon. Man, we thought you were cool.” The former party member said.

Rider looked at Yaoan and back at the former member. “Wait XVRaider! I really didn’t know honest. Beside we don’t even know the other girl, I just know Vina. So it’s cool if we just train her up right.” Rider said to XVRaider.

“Yea sure whatever, if she will become a valuable asset then we can train her up.” XVRaider responded.

“You hear that Vina, lets go and get those levels!” Riders said to Yaoan excited.

Randiantsi then looked at Yaoan, then Yaoan looked at Rider.

“Nah, I think I’ll stick with Randiantsi, I’ll grind my way up slowly.” Yaoan responded to Rider.

“Damn you guys are dumb, come on, let’s go, I’m not trying to stay around this sappy area. If you want to come along Rider then you better start, because we will get rid of you in a heart beat.” XVRaider said as they began to ride away in their vehicles.

“Well, I’ll talk to you later then Vina, I can’t waste this chance, I’ll just catch you in the real world.” Rider said to Yaoan before hopping on his vehicle following the group.

Randiantsi walked up behind Yaoan and grabbed Vina’s hand. “Thank you for staying, I thought for sure you were just going to go with them, then I was going to be alone again.”

“No way, I know how it feels to be alone. I would not wish that on anyone.” Yaoan said as she went to pick up the herb. “I hope this is still okay enough to give to the NPC haha.” She said looking at Randiantsi.

“Don’t see why not.” Randiantsi said as they both got up and headed to the hub.

After crossing back across the field they arrived at the hub. Which significantly had less people.

“Here you go my good sir.” Randiantsi said handing in the items.

“Well the MORTER AND PESTO are amazing quality, so I’m going to ignore the garbage you gave me as an herb. So here’s your reward.” The NPC gave Yaoan an Energy drink. “Stop by here if you are ready for your next quest.”

“Hey, where is everyone?” Yaoan asked the NPC.

“Current time is 1540.00, these are low hours.” The NPC responded.

“Oh crap really!! I’m late to class!” Yaoan said to Randiantsi. “I’ll talk to you when I get back on. I need to go now!”

“Okay, talk to you later Vina!” Randiantsi said as Yaoan logged off.

There was no one in this Music Room as the other rooms were playing songs. Yaoan proceeded to exit and tried to sneak across the cafeteria and the student hall into the classrooms.

“What are you doing roaming around the halls. Show me your pass.” A hall guard said to Yaoan.

“Ah, well, you see... I don’t have one.” Yaoan said looking down.

“Then I’ll escort you to the office and you can get a pass from there, along with a detention.” The guard told Yaoan as she was then escorted to the administration building.

“So what were you doing Student 1076, doesn’t seem that you have any disciplinary marks on your record, guessing you may have slept and let time slip by.” The Vice Dean of the school said to Yaoan.

“Oh, yea, it was something like that Sir...” Yaoan responded to him.

“Considering this is your first infringement on the rules of the school, I will be giving you detention for half the typical detention period, following which you are to promptly return to Class. Is that clear.” He addressed Yaoan.

“Yes Sir, you are very merciful Sir.” She responded.

“Now don’t let me see you in here again unless you are being rewarded, here’s your pass and get to class.” He said to Yaoan as he gave her a note.

She left quickly without looking back. And headed directly to her class. Part of the way to her class room a guard began approaching her. She then hid behind her pass that she held in front of her face.

“Dang, these guys are just eager to get Students in trouble.” Yaoan thought to herself entering her Mythology class. Yaoan sat down in the back and thought about the game she just got done playing. She looked at her real life hand and had a joyful thought of the what she would do if she was actually able to shoot fire from her hands.

The mythologies class were going over the tales of The Legendary Island of Qyran. A place that was said to exist in the Far East, on the other side of the world that was home to giants whom tried to venture unto the mainland but were defeated by Turoklan the Ren Zuiperi Demigod who later destroyed the island and the giants.

Yaoan heard this story a billion times by now. She had her eyes on the board but in reality she was not in the room but in her own head day dreaming. Then classes continued on like that until alas the school day ended and she could head home.

Student 1145 was waiting at the gate hoping that he would see Yaoan walking out of the school towards her home. Yaoan saw him and head over to scold him.

“Why on Earth did you just leave me sitting in the Music Room!” Yaoan said angrily.

“I didn’t know what to do, you seemed like such a pro at getting in trouble earlier that I thought you had a plan up your sleeve to avoid trouble if you were late.” Student 1145 responded.

“If I was a pro at getting in trouble then I would not be getting caught.” Yaoan said as she then continued to walk home.

“You know that is a good point, I should have thought about it a bit longer.” Student 1145 said as he followed behind Yaoan hesitantly. “So what did you think of the game, it’s cool right?”

“Yea, it’s fun, but I did not appreciate you leaving me and Randiantsi behind earlier, that was very uncool of you.” Yaoan said stopping and pointing at Student 1145.

"I've been playing for like a week, and those guys were like bosses, when they offered to teach me the ropes I couldn't say no, especially since I've just met you." Student 1145 said before Yooan lifted her finger with a bit more anger.

"Well if you barely knowing me is a good reason to leave me whenever something seems advantageous then I don't really need people like you in game or in real life." Yooan said as she turned back around and quickened her pace.

"Wait that's not what I meant." He said attempting to follow behind her.

"Don't follow me!" Yooan said walking home without turning around.

"Oh... okay..." Student 1145 said as he turned around looking back at Yooan.

Yooan picked up a drink from her corner market, and a bag of finger snacks and headed up into her room. She threw off her shoes and watched some videos in her living room.

The videos were about how there was another explosion in Marian South and how the citizens there were distrustful of the government. The talking heads were speculating on a soon overthrow of the country and their desire to return to being under the leadership of the Queen of Marian North.

Yooan turned off the video. She never enjoyed news like that. It seems like the war never ends. That video brought back terrible memories, she then proceeded to throw her snacks into the fridge with her other half eaten bags, and got up to wash her body.

"I wish this world would just stop being so selfish" Yooan thought as she angrily looked in the mirror. "Damn, I hate this so much, I feel so powerless..." Yooan spit out her teeth cleaning liquid and continued into her shower where she then cried.

After her shower she felt a bit better and laid in her bed where she put on her device and began to play Ratanu. "I need to get away, just for a little bit, better than my dreams." Yooan thought to herself as she logged in.

Yooan saw that Rider had filled her messages with apologies and gifts. "I only care about your actions, I don't need gifts." Yooan said reading the messages and storing the gifts in a case.

"I'm back online Randiantsi if you are on." Yooan messaged Randiantsi who immediately replied.

"Wow you were able to sleep?" Randiantsi replied. "I'll be on shortly, I just have to make sure my mom doesn't hear me playing haha."

“Cool!” Yaoan replied. Though the word “mom” really made her feel a certain way. Yaoan went to the Fields and just wanted to release some steam on some Serephs. She knew that opening her hand would release a giant burst so how about if she just pointed with one finger.

Doing this caused a laser like beam to shoot from her hand slicing where she aimed. “Well that’s cool. I think I can control that.”

Randiansi came up behind Yaoan to surprise her. Yaoan was startled and shot a laser beam at Randiansi. But she had her Shield up, so her Shield took the damage.

“Haha, cool looks like you got some control.” Randiansi then gave Yaoan some items. “I cleared the Second and Third quest for you, let’s turn these in and get to the real battles.” Randiansi said showing joy to Yaoan.

“Yea, sure, I’m dying to get into some real battles.” Yaoan said heading to the NPC. “Here you are, all the items you need for the second quest.”

“You are indeed correct, you have gotten everything. So here is your third quest.” The NPC said as Yaoan then handed him those items.

“Well looks like you are done with this one, now here is a map since I trust that you can take care of yourself. If you ever are lost, come back here and I’ll give you a hint. See you soon!” The NPC then went back into his hut.

“Nice, so I saw this cool cave just to the east, we really need to go in there. I think it might have some cool loot!” Randiansi said to Yaoan.

“Oh that reminds me, her is some cool loot for you.” Yaoan handed the case of Items that Rider gave her.

“Oh wow, where did you get these from, some of these are epic rarity.” Randiansi looked at the clothing.

“I got it from that guy from earlier today, you know Rider, the one that left us to hang out with XRaider or whatever his name was.” Yaoan said looking at her map.

“Oh does he have a crush on you or something?” Randiansi said as she was looking through the items.

“I don’t know and I don’t care. He can’t win me over with some gifts.” Yaoan said still looking at the map.

Randiantsi then drank some of the EXP boost drink in the case. "Haha, I wish I received gifts, that would be so cool."

"You did receive a gift, I gave these to you haha." Yaoan said no longer looking at the map.

"Pssh you know what I mean." Randiantsi said closing the case.

Chapter 4

Randiantsi and Yaoan entered the cave, but before continuing further it began to feel extremely dangerous.

"I don't think we should go in any further..." Randiantsi said as they both looked into the dark abyss in front of them.

"Yea, I think you are right. If I had more control over my power I'm sure this would not be an issue." Yaoan said to Randiantsi.

"Same here." Randiantsi replied. They both back up out of the cave and decided to head towards the ocean instead.

"I hear the ocean is a good place to grind for EXP. There's like a billion fish just eager to die with a single blast, or a throw of a needle." Randiantsi said as she tossed her needle into the ocean and pulled out a fish.

Yaoan clapped, "well impressive. I see that you did some practice while I was in class." Yaoan said to Randiantsi.

"Don't you have school tomorrow, why aren't you asleep?" Randiantsi asked Yaoan as they were both shooting fish in the shallows.

"I have very bad dreams at night, so I prefer to stay awake. Doing this seems better than watching videos all night." Yaoan responded.

They both continued to grind, and were really stacking up on fish and fish bones. "That doesn't sound very healthy, we can talk about it if you'd like." Randiantsi said to Yaoan.

"Nah, just hanging out makes me feel better, my place is like crazy quiet, it deafening." Yaoan said, leaving out the part about listening to fight is the only noise she hears because that is a huge indicator of where she is.

Randiantsi then stopped. "Hey, Vani. I know we just met, and that we met just in this game. But you're my friend, if you need to talk or just to hang out, I'm here." Randiantsi addressed Yooan.

"Same here Randiantsi, you're my friend too Randiantsi." Yooan responded. She then received a message from Rider. "Geez Rider, do you not get a hint!" Yooan said out loud.

"Oh what's wrong?" Randiantsi asked Yooan.

"It's Rider again, he's like super annoying right now." Yooan responded. "He just said that he couldn't stop thinking about what happened today and wants to make it up tomorrow."

"I'm guessing he means in person right." Randiantsi asked Yooan.

"Yea in person, same place where I first logged in." Yooan told Randiantsi.

"Dang, you must be breathtaking in person haha." Randiantsi said as she shuffled through her bag.

"Trust me, I am not. I think he just wants to be liked by everyone." Yooan said also preparing her bags.

"Well let's sell these and get some mad cash" Randiantsi said all packed up on Fish, and they headed back to the Center.

They went to the Shopping Hub, then into the Fish market. Then placed the bags of fish onto the table.

"There you are, tons of fish for your enjoyment." Randiantsi said to the NPC.

"Well let's see what we have here, it's impressive how little damage you all caused to these fish." The Shop NPC said as he inspected the haul. "Hmm for these amount and this quality I'll give you 200 Rare Crystals." He quoted to them.

"200 Rare Crystals, what are you trying to do Cheat us!?" Randiantsi said to the NPC.

"What are you doing, 200 rare crystals is an insane amount." Yooan whispered to Randiantsi.

"Yea, but I bet he will give us an extra 5 Rare Crystals if we haggle him a bit." She responded to Yooan.

"Fine, 210 Rare Crystal, but I am not going any higher than that, I have a shop to run." The NPC said to Randiantsi.

“Sure, we will take it, but I got my eyes on you man.” Randiantsi said to the NPC as she gestured her two fingers from her eyes to his eyes.

They both walked away with an extreme haul.

“Here, that’s 105 for you, and 105 for me, now we can go out and try some of that fancy food I hear this place has.” Randiantsi said to Yaoan as she transferred money to her.

“Why would we eat food here, it’s not like it’ll affect us in our actual bodies.” Yaoan asked Randiantsi.

Randiantsi turned around quickly and pointed at Yaoan. “That’s where you are wrong, we are able to taste while in here since all of our senses can be simulated by our brains, which include tasting.” Randiantsi pointed at her tongue.

“So we can actually taste the food in Rutanu?” Yaoan asked.

“Yea as much as we can see Rutanu, hear Rutanu, feel Rutanu and so on. We can taste it.” Randiantsi said gesturing wide.

Yaoan picked up some grass to see if everything has been programmed with taste. She placed a bit into her mouth, and immediately spit it out. “Bleh! That was horrible! Oh that tasted like rotted fish carcass.” Yaoan said scraping her tongue.

“How do you know what that taste like haha.” Randiantsi laughed.

“Hurry up! Let’s find somewhere so I can replace this taste.” Yaoan said looking through the map. “There it’s not far, looks like they have Soba.” Yaoan said heading in that direction with her tongue still poking out.

Yaoan and Randiantsi entered the place and saw a crowd of people surrounding a table in the restaurant.

“What do you think is happening there Randiantsi.” Yaoan asked and then proceeded to order Yaki Soba.

“Beats me, I have as much clue as you.” Randiantsi responded.

They both kept looking at what was causing such a ruckus. Yaoan then caught a glimpse of his face.

Yaoan stunned shook Randiantsi’s shoulder. “It’s Yuski! He’s in the restaurant with us!”

“Yuski? Whose that?” Randiantsi responded receiving her Soba.

Yaoan was about to reply but then the crowd of people opened up. Following this Yuski began to walk towards the girls.

“Oh dear, how could you have not heard of me?” Yuski said to Randiantsi.

“I just haven’t, are you some sort of NPC?” Randiantsi responded to him.

“Haha funny, you’re a funny one. How about you watch me in action, it’s a shame that not everyone has gotten the pleasure to see me fight.” Yuski then handed Randiantsi a Legendary ticket to the fight arena. “This is a front row seat to my fights tomorrow, please come watch.”

“I’m not going to watch it alone, I’m in a party with Vina here.” Randiantsi said to Yuski grabbing Yaoan’s shoulder.

“Oh, my apologies, then here is two. And Waiter please allow me to pay for their meals.” Yuski went on saying.

“We have that taken care of thank you!” Randiantsi said to Yuski.

“Haha feisty I see, well please do come Vani and…” Yuski trying to get Randiantsi name.

“Randiantsi.” Randiantsi finished his sentence.

“Haha already finishing each other’s sentences, well Vani and Randiantsi, I’ll see you tomorrow at the Stadium. Bye bye, he then left as he was being followed by hordes of people trying to be his pupils.

“Well that cool you just got a personal invite to watch Yuski’s match up close and personal.” Yaoan said to Randiantsi. “Looks like you got yourself a new crush.”

“I’m sure he hands these out like candy.” Randiantsi said before she called out to another guy on the other side of the restaurant. “Hey you how much are you willing to pay for front row seats to watch Yuski fight.” She asked a random player.

“Hypothetically right? I would say I’d probably cough up maybe 5 Ultra Rare Coins for that.” He replied.

“Well do you have that much?” She then asked again before being stopped by Yaoan.

“Hey what are you doing?” Yaoan asked Randiantsi before she just went and sold the tickets.

“You heard him, he would be willing to pay 5 Ultra Rare Coins, that’s like 50 times what we made today for essentially nothing.” Randiantsi responded back to Yaoan. “Beside why would I want to go see him run around and beat up other players, I rather just do that myself.”

“You know what, I can see your point. It feels kinda rude, but we really didn’t ask for them anyways right.” Yaoan thought about then agreed with Randiantsi.

“So I have her two prestige worthy front row tickets to Yuski’s match tomorrow. I’m willing to sell them to this guy unless someone is will to let say pay 8 Ultra Rare Coins” Randiantsi said out into the newly arrived group who went to check out the seat Yuski sat it.

“8 URCs, that’s a steal! Of course I’m willing to give that up.” A guy said in the crowd. “Well then it’s 9 URCs from me!” Another guy called out.

“Haha hero worship at its finest.” Randiantsi whispered to Yaoan.

After Yaoan and Randiantsi finished their meals they left the restaurant with a delicious taste in there mouths and a pocket of 23URGs.

“Well this was a productive night. I am going to head to sleep, I’m sure my mom will be able to tell if I got less than 2 hours asleep, so I’ll be off.” Randiantsi said to Yaoan as she prepared to log off. “Feel free to dig into the party funds, 23 URGs it a lot of cash dollars.” Randiantsi said logging off.

Yaoan also decided to log off for the night. She was tired enough to feel like she could sleep immediately without having to lie awake with her own mind. So she pulled off the device and placed it next to her bed.

“Hmm 3 hours until classes, I also have detention later, Damn... and did I have homework...” Yaoan thought before she went to sleep.

Yaoan fell into a deep sleep, and she heard crying next to a burning house. She walked closer to it to notice that it was her as a tiny child.

“Aww what’s wrong little girl?” Yaoan asked the dream version of her. The little girl pointed at black figured that were trapped under the rubble. Yaoan then tried to help but she was unable to move the debris. The rest of the building became to collapse on top of her and her alarm woke her up.

“Ugh, I hate that dream...” Yaoan said annoyed. She got up slightly groggy, and dragged herself through her morning routine. “I have to set an alarm for myself to stop playing, I feel like

dirt right now.” Yaoan thought to herself as she cleaned her teeth and made some breakfast for herself.

She had on videos as she ate her breakfast. “Vlagora still struggling to keep up with the progress of Marian North. We keep on winning.” Was the message from the news networks.

“Yea, whoa, everyone’s a winner in Marian North.” Yaoan mockingly said to herself. She then continued to eat and finished her meal.

Yaoan left her home and saw another cute object on the ground. She wanted to pick it up, but chose to leave it on the floor. Considering she didn’t want another cute object destroyed.

“Oh wow Yaoan, you look way worse than yesterday, did you get hit by a train haha.” One of the usual girls walked by mocking Yaoan.

“She should get hit by a train, at least she will come out looking more attractive hehe.” Another said as they walked to school.

Yaoan pointed her finger at the girls. “I bet the world would be slightly better if I only was able to.” Yaoan thought to herself. And then shook her head. “No, I can’t be thinking like that, they are probably going through stuff in their lives and just taking it out on me...” Yaoan thought some more. She then continued to school.

“Student 1076, let me see what weird object you’re trying to sneak into my school this time.” The same patrolman from yesterday said to Yaoan.

“Don’t worry, I didn’t bring anything weird today. Though tomorrow who knows.” Yaoan said trying to lighten her mood from the lack of sleep.

“Just get going.” He said to Yaoan before having her continue on forward.

As she entered the hall her home room was in, Student 1145 waiting for her there.

“Hey 1076! Did you get my messages from yesterday?” Student 1145 said to Yaoan.

“Yes I did, I gave the items away.” She said walking passed him in the direction of the room.

“I’m sorry.” He said to Yaoan before she entered the room. “I don’t want to be a stranger to you, can I please have a chance to make things right...?” He asked Yaoan.

Yaoan stopped and thought about it. “Ah, whatever...” she thought to herself. “Same place as yesterday, though I am going to be late because I have a half detention period to serve thanks to you.” She said to Student 1145 before entering the classroom.

Student 1145 celebrated with a small fist pump.

Home room class went as they normally do. Yaoan fighting to concentrate on the syllabus for the day. The teacher targeting Yaoan to try and have her wait outside. The other students who are literally asleep not having any repercussions. Same thing day in and day out.

Yaoan went to Royal Etiquette, which was basically just a class about how to treat the Royal family, and all of their accomplishments over the years. Yaoan could swear that half of the stuff is made up, but she wouldn't say that out loud.

Following which she promptly went to Anthropology just to learn about the speciation and so on of the Humans from the proto humans to the Ren Genera. Ren Xi differences all the way up to Ren Neo with an * next to the Ren Neo tree indicating that it's theoretical that another form of human branched off from the Ren Neo line but no bones have ever been found, only eye witness testimonies.

Natural Mathematics came next which is science and math mixed into one study. Since the study of both fields are based in discovery of what exist and can be interpreted through equations that can then be used to simulate reality. So on and so forth Yaoan is just being thought that with sufficient amount of equations the universe could be discovered in the palm of your hand.

Yaoan then had to sit through historical recreation class which is basically just the Royal Etiquette class except with everyone else included. Simple theatrics really. Following this class Yaoan headed right to detention.

"I don't think I've ever been more bored in my entire life!" Yaoan thought to herself as she wanted to bang her head against the desk. She laid her head down on the desk to start to daydream.

"Student 1076! This is punishment, not nap time. Do school work or just sit erect and quiet." The Detention guard yelled at Yaoan.

"Dang, sheesh. Guess I'll get some Anthropology homework done." Yaoan thought to herself as she brought out school work from her bag. "I wonder what Titanus and those other guys are doing now... maybe they are out torturing another soul." Yaoan thought as she was looking at the heritage tree of the Ren Neo.

Detention continued on for Yaoan until the first half signal rang. Yaoan grabbed her stuff and immediately headed towards the door.

“Hey, where do you think you are going?”, the detention guard said to Yooan holding his hand out to block her way out.

Yooan pulled out her note from the Vice Dean showing that she was only supposed to serve a half period, not the full detention. The Guard snatched the note from Yooan’s hand and scanned it with his device. He then handed back to Yooan.

“You’re free to go.” The guard said lowering his arm.

“Thank you Sir.” Yooan said lifting her bag back onto her shoulders. She then proceeded to head to Area 9 and the Music Rooms.

She ran across the court yard, through the cafeteria and into the Area 9 Building.

“Hold on, where are you rushing to.” The patroller asked Yooan stopping her.

“Oh come on...” Yooan thought to herself. “I’m on my way to the Music Rooms from Detention, I want to use the most of down time as possible before the second half of the school day.” Yooan tried to explain to the Patroller.

“Sounds like a likely excuse, let me see your note.” He asked of Yooan.

She handed him the note that was signed by the Guard in Detention.

“You’re story checks out. Don’t run in my halls next time.” He handed it back to her, and Yooan briskly walked to the Music Rooms.

She entered and found everyone with their devices plugged in. She then sat in the corner next to the door and proceeded to also start playing. Entering the game Yooan found a message from Rider, and one from Randiantsi. Obviously Yooan read Randiantsi’s message first.

“Whenever you get on, come on to the Fields! I just bought a vehicle with the money we “earned” yesterday.” Randiantsi sent Yooan.

Yooan then read Rider’s message. “Hey Vani! Thank you for giving me a second chance today, when you get on please come to the stadium. I have a little show I want to present to you.”

“I’m going to meet up with Randiantsi first, then we can both head to the stadium.” Yooan thought to herself as she geared up and headed towards the fields.

“I’m almost at the fields Randiantsi.” Yooan sent her. Yooan then got an immediate reply.

“Oh just head to the Stadium, looks like we got another invite from Yuski to watch him fight. I’m not going in until you are here though.” Randiantsi responded.

“Hmmm that worked out.” Yaoan thought. And then she received another message from Randiantsi.

“You can summon the vehicle from the party list, just bring up the menu and summon it. That’ll definitely guarantee that you get her as fast as possible.” Randiantsi message read.

Yaoan then pulled up her menu and noticed a new vehicle icon. “Where there it is, she really bought a vehicle.” Yaoan thought before clicking on the icon. Then a vehicle emerged in front of her being completely digital white in colour then gained its material.

The vehicle had wide wings about 4 times the length of Yaoan arm width. A bright Blue and red colour throughout the vehicle with a egg shaped seating area enough room for two people and what looked to be two ornaments sticking up from the front of the vehicle.

“This thing is enormous!” Yaoan thought to herself as she entered into the seating area of the machine and it proceeded to move forward. “Oh no, how do I use this thing.” Yaoan thought as the vehicle continued to move at higher and higher speeds.

She then messed around with the joystick and the vehicle took off into the air. Yaoan was now gliding overhead and saw the wide expanse of Rutanu. Yaoan saw a dark mountainous area in the distance with red clouds surrounding its peak. “Well that looks dangerous.” Yaoan thought before trying to steer her vehicle while it was gliding.

“Okay, the Stadium is right there, so this should be as easy as riding a Walker.” She said thinking out loud. She then pressed her feet on a pedal and the vehicle halted its forward momentum and began dropping out of the sky.

“Oh no, this is bad!!” Yaoan yelled before taking her foot off the pedal. “Well let me just steer downward and I will just let Randiantsi explain the rest.” Yaoan thought as she lifted her feet completely off the floor of the vehicle to ensure that she was not touching anything but the joysticks.

Randiantsi spotted Yaoan flying overhead, but noticed that Yaoan kept on circling around her. “What are you doing Vani!!” Randiantsi yelled up to Yaoan.

“I don’t know how to land this thing.” Yaoan said trying to steer the vehicle into the ground. Randiantsi then threw her needles up at the vehicle and pulled it down from the air, then placed a shield, with comfort lining in its interior, around Yaoan to protect her from impact.

The vehicle crashed into the ground then disappeared, Yaoan's shield ball rolled towards Randiansi. Once it was an arms length away it open and Yaoan was in there dizzy.

"Wow, you've gotten strong Randiansi." Yaoan looked at her while still feeling a little dizzy.

"Yea, there is a training center just passed the Forest. It cost like 10 SRCs for a Class, so I just spent the day in there." Randiansi responded.

"Wow, that's awesome! What..." Yaoan was saying to Randiansi before Randiansi interrupted her.

"It would've been awesome if Yuski didn't show up in the middle of my training, I told him I sold his tickets, since he asked me if I was excited to see him fight." Randiansi said to Yaoan gesturing Yuski's motions. "He then sent a quest into my menu which said 'go to the stadium and watch a pro match', first off I didn't even know he could do that. and Second off it's like a Tier 3 Mission. That's like a trillion experience." Randiansi kept trying to go on.

"Haha, I think he has something he is trying to prove to you Randiansi." Yaoan then started pushing Randiansi into the Stadium where the quest activated and they both were placed in the Second Row of the Stadium matches.

Yuski was fighting some players again, and dominating them as usual. Yaoan messaged Rider. "I'm in the Stadium now, what was it you wanted to show me?"

"Hey! You actually replied. Well my match is coming up next, so you then." He replied before closing the chat.

"Wait what?" Yaoan thought to herself and then saw that Rider was walking out into the field.

Yuski looked up after winning that last match bowing to his fans. And then he saw Randiansi in the Second row. He pointed at her and mouth the words. "This match is for you."

Randiansi had a disgusted look on her face as she brought her knees up to her face as she sat.

"This is going to be bad." Yaoan thought as she was watching Rider walk out waving his hands to the crowd.

"A 1v1, what are you crazy?" Yuski asked Rider.

"Maybe, but I have something to prove." Rider said pulling out his Sickle.

"I'm not going easy on you this round, so I hope you thought this through." Yuski responded.

"I won't be going easy on you either." Rider said in return.

The fight began and Rider ran at Yuski with a tornado sickle move which was easily dodged by Yuski. Then spits an acid unto Rider's leg. Rider then proceeds to fall over.

"You can't rush like that without a secondary plan if I dodge." Yuski said to Raider as he then landed softly unto the ground.

Rider now injured tried another of his signature moves he calls the Sickle Boomerang. He throws his sickle around the arena covering the perimeter with its motion.

Yuski blows a gust of air at the ground in front of Rider throwing a cloud of air into his vision. Yuski proceeded to grab the sickle from mid air and directs it back at Rider.

Rider trying to see Yuski was unable to see his sickle returning at him and gets cut in half.

"What happens now!" Yaoan asked Randiantsi seeing that Rider has now been cut down.

"He'll return, but with half of his total experience. And considering how high level your friend seemed to have been that is a big cut, Haha literally." Randiantsi responded snickering at her own joke.

"Well that sucks." Yaoan responded. "What were you thinking Rider." Yaoan thought to herself as he then disappeared from the Stadium.

The crowd cheered for Yuski as he bowed once again, and looked at Randiantsi pointing at her again.

"A perfect victory, nearly as perfect as I am" Yuski said out into the crowd.

The quest on Randiantsi menu lit up and was listed as complete. Yaoan received a fourth of the experience for being present for the quest.

"Looks like we are done here." Randiantsi said to Yaoan as they both got up from their seats. Yuski Thanked his fans and said that he had to go somewhere really quickly. Then the matches changed to exhibitions.

"Hey hold up." Yuski said rushing behind Randiantsi. "So what do you think, I'm I not incredible." Yuski asked Randiantsi.

"You're good but I'm not all the impressed. I bet me and Vani here could take you on and win." Randiantsi said taunting Yuski.

Yuski slumped down. "I can't fight against someone as cute and tsundere-like as you." Yuski said grabbing Randiantsi hands.

"How about you join my party, then we can train together and I wouldn't have to worry about eliminating you." Yuski asked Randiantsi.

Randiantsi looked at Yaoan, then back at Yuski. She pulled away her hands. "Nah, I'm good, you're not really my type anyways." Randiantsi said turning towards Yaoan.

"What is your type, trust me, I can become anything I want to be." Yuski said responding back to Randiantsi.

The crowd then came out of the building after finding where Yuski was.

"Ahem, I mean. Guess I'll just see you some other time you two." Yuski immediately changed his composure in front of the crowd and headed back into the stadium.

Yaoan and Randiantsi looked at the crowd and Yuski walk back into the stadium. Randiantsi then pulled out her vehicle. "Come on Yaoan, let's ride!" Randiantsi addressed Yaoan. Yaoan got into the vehicle, behind Randiantsi. "Ah, can you please take the front." She asked Yaoan.

"Oh yea sure, I hope you are ready because I am a terrible driver." Yaoan replied switching places with Randiantsi. "Wow you really got him under your spell, guess he thinks your avatar is super cute." Yaoan then started the vehicle and it slowly went into the air since Yaoan seemingly can only control it in slow motion.

"Yea, that's weird right haha." Randiantsi responded back to Yaoan. "I bet he is like super ugly in person."

"Eh, I'm not really sure, my avatar took my facial features automatically, so I just assumed everyone else's did too." Yaoan said still slowly gliding around with Randiantsi grabbing her waist.

"Same here, mine took my appearance too, but I assumed that could be change. Well I'm glad that you look like your avatar because yours is very good looking." Randiantsi responded back to Yaoan.

Yaoan blushed a bit, not really knowing how to reply. "Haha, I'm sure you're just being nice, I don't look quite as good in person haha."

"You said that before, but I'm not sure I believe you haha." Randiantsi said as Yaoan finally began moving straight.

They flew right over the forest and into a valley, with old wood pieces laid throughout the ground.

“Oh land here, this is my territory!” Randiantsi said pointing below.

Yaoan then tried to land, still taking forever to do so. Randiantsi jumped out of the vehicle and pulled the vehicle out from the air again.

“You know if we keep doing that, we’re going to have to repair it eventually.” Yaoan said emerging from her ball.

“Meh, I’m sure we have enough.” Randiantsi said before spreading her hands showing Yaoan the area. “So what do you think!?” Randiantsi asked Yaoan.

Yaoan kicked some rocks that were on the ground. “This place looks like a dump.” Yaoan looked around at all the destroyed trees and stones.

“Yea it looked better before I started training... but hey.” Randiantsi said before sitting atop a boulder. “It’s our dump!” Randiantsi said again pointing around.

“Haha sure.” Yaoan said shooting a laser from her fingers to carve their names into the stone. “There, now our names are on it.”

“Oh cool.” Randiantsi said looking down admiring the writing. “You write in Marian Script, so that must mean you at least grew up in Marian right?” Randiantsi asked Yaoan.

“Haha, well since you called the place Marian I can assume you don’t live in either of the countries.” Yaoan said walking to Randiantsi. “It’s been Marian North and South since the Marian Civil War about 10 years ago.”

Randiantsi responded surprised. “Oh really, I didn’t know it split the country. Well dang, I guess I should have been paying more attention in school.” Randiantsi then checked the time. “Talking about school, isn’t it almost time for you to get to your classes.”

Yaoan checked the time. “Yea it is haha, thank you Randiantsi. I’ll be back on later today. I’ll meet back up here right?” Yaoan asked Randiantsi.

“The best place in the World, Vandiantsi, haha... maybe I’ll work on the name a bit more.” Randiantsi responded back to Yaoan.

“Ha, sure, I’ll see you later.” Yaoan said before logging off, and looked around the room to see that Student 1145 was still plugged in.

Yaoan thought about leaving him there as pay back, but didn't have the heart to do so. So she shook him to get him to notice the time. He disconnected his device shortly after and went to his knees.

"I lost like 4 days of progress in just one match!" He cried to Yaoan as he grabbed her legs.

"Get off my legs and get up, we need to head to class. It was your fault for challenging him, what did you think was going to happen" Yaoan said lifting him to his feet.

"I thought the power of friendship was going to lead me to victory." Student 1145 responded to Yaoan.

"You watch too many movies 1145." Yaoan said brushing her leg.

"Anhou" Student 1145 said as he got up.

"What?" Yaoan responded.

"My name is Anhou." Anhou said gathering his stuff.

"Oh, I'm student 1076." Yaoan responded as they both were heading out of Area 9.

"So, I guess we aren't at our real name level yet." Anhou asked Yaoan.

"Eh, not quite. But you made a good first step towards that today." Yaoan said not to come across as overly mean to Anhou.

A smile appeared onto his face. "Did I really!" He said with some joy.

"Meh..." Yaoan shrugged. "I mean you're like the only person I talk to in this whole school so that counts for something." She said.

"Haha nice. So how about after school I treat you to a meal." Anhou said to Yaoan.

"Ah no, you're pushing it." Yaoan responded.

"Sorry." He said before walking silently.

They left Area 9 and had to go in separate directions in the Classrooms.

"See you tomorrow at Home Room period, or in Rutanu, whichever comes first." Anhou said before heading to class.

Yaoan shook her head. "Ha sure." She then also proceeded to head to class.

In her Mythology class it was finally a topic she enjoyed. It was about the Fates. The Fates were said to be 3 Omnipotent beings who guide the motion of all events in the world. One Fate represents Pain, One Represents Happiness and the other Represents Success. Yaoan believe in the Fates, and pleaded each day that they would fill her life with Success and Happiness, but so far it has just been pain with some successes.

The Fates are said to have emerged once FATHERA, the creator of creation, left his position to live among the created. The Fates then emerged from the void and set the laws of the Universe in Place, and ensures that all being including the former FATHERA obeys the laws.

The Fates battled against the new Creators that emerged from the Created Universe of FATHERA, but the creators lost and were relegated to being creators of other universes, never to again have the power that FATHERA had.

The Fates can not create anything, but they have dominion over everything that was created.

Yaoan was so fascinated by this, she knew in the back of her head that this just sounds like a myth to explain why things happen in the world, including the good and the bad. But this cognitions dissonance was not enough to prevent the belief. It's just like how some in Marian North believe that the Queen is a physical representation of the Creator.

Yaoan listened and in no time the class period ended. And the rest of the night classes continued as usual.

Yaoan walked home. Anhou wasn't waiting for her this time, so she continued home alone. She again purchased some snacks from the store on the corner and walked up the stairs into her home.

She kicked her shoes off and removed her skirt as she then proceeded to lay in her living room relaxing and decompressing after what felt like a week's worth of days.

Yaoan ate some of her snacks, thinking about eating an actual meal one of this days. "Dang, Randiansi doesn't live in Marian North, that sucks, so I may never get to meet her." Yaoan thought to herself remembering the events of the day.

"Hehe, today was actually pretty fun." Yaoan laughed at her thought as she got up and turned on some videos.

"The Queen issued a holiday for all those who participated in yesterday's..." the video began to say before Yaoan changed it. "This Summer looks to be calm for the rest of..." Yaoan

changed from that video too. "Tournament to christen the successful first week of..." Yaoan then prepared to change the video until she heard it say "Rutanu's launch."

"Yea, I am thoroughly enjoying the interactions of the players from these last 13 days. I had a feeling that this would be a big hit, but never in my wildest dreams did I imagine that we would already have a player base so large. So to celebrate I am going to give each player who signs up before tomorrow an egg that will be hatching into a companion. As well as hosting a tournament that will take place in Vesatanis, the Capital City of Vlagora." The creator of the game said.

"So what kind of prizes are at stake?" The interviewer asked the Founder of Rutanu.

"Well obviously it's going to be a lot of money, as well as other exclusive features made just for them." The founder said and then continued. "Trust me, it's more money than I think a single person would ever need, and I'm doing this to decrease my tax bracket now, eh, maybe. But that shouldn't stop anyone from participating. So I'll see you at the end of this week Players. Slay the game." The video ended and Yaoan jumped up.

"Oh wow, that is such short notice, I wonder did Randiantsi see this news." Yaoan said before going into her bag to pull out her device. "Eh, on second thought, I should clean up a bit before logging on." Yaoan thought looking at the mess she caused from jumping up too quickly.

Yaoan cleaned up her living room and washed up quickly before immediately logging into Rutanu.

Yaoan checked her messages. "Do you see how many people are online now, this is insane, what is going on?" The message from Randiantsi said. "Did you see the video about the tournament 1076, we could go to Vlagora together for the tournament." Rider messaged. "I'm getting flooded by party requests Vina, whenever you log on can you please help me delete them." The second Randiantsi message read.

"Well looks like the World just got a whole lot more crowded." Yaoan said before summoning up the vehicle. She then proceeded to head over to their territory. Yaoan looked below and saw that the main hub was crowded, the second new hub was also crowded and that another was being built. "Hordes Field must be a nightmare right now."

Yaoan landed in the Valley that Randiantsi has massively improved since last time Yaoan was here.

"Hey Randiantsi, are you around?" Yaoan called out. Randiantsi then jumped down from a top overlooking mountain using her needles to swing below.

“Oh thank the Fates it’s you, what took you so long Vani, I’ve been protecting our land from new players for like the past hour. Where did they all come from?” Randiantsi asked Yooan.

“Well the creator of Rutanu just announced a tournament in Vlagora in about a week and I’m guessing people are taking this chance to try and win some money.” Yooan responded to Rutanu.

“Dang really, I guess Yuski is going to have a field day cleaning up this new players then.” Randiantsi said joking to Randiantsi.

“So what do you think?” Yooan asked.

“About what? The tournament? I’ve never been interested in those things. Where in Vlagora is it supposed to be?” Randiantsi said picking up some debris.

“Ah, Vesatanis, the Capital City.” Yooan said remember the location.

“Oh really... are you going to go to it?” Randiantsi asked Yooan seemingly excited now.

“I suppose that I can go with Rider there, but I don’t see why I would if you...” Yooan was saying before being interrupted by Randiantsi.

“Yes I’ll be there, I literally live in Vesatanis, so this is a perfect chance for us to hang out in reality.” Randiantsi said excited about the prospect.

“Oh cool you live in Vesatanis, I heard that technology there is the only one close to comparable to Marian North.” Yooan asked Randiantsi.

Randiantsi facial expression was slightly confused. “Ah, I’m pretty sure Vesatanis has the top technology in the world haha.” Randiantsi responded.

“Must be Countries trying to make themselves seem like the best I suppose” Yooan said also moving some debris.

“Besides, you all still have to go to actual classes, I just get a link and interact with the educator.” Randiantsi replied to Yooan.

“How does that even work.” Yooan asked.

“Beats me, well it really doesn’t, but I don’t like talking about school, let’s expand our territory before these New Players start claiming everything.” Randiantsi said making a fist.

Chapter 5

A group of new players were encroaching on Yaoan's and Randiansi's territory. This has been like the 5th wave today.

"This is crazy, I would have expected that most people were asleep already." Yaoan said shooting another player with her finger beam.

"Damn! You're right! This is going to get a whole lot worse tomorrow during day light. Randiansi replied slicing apart a party with her threads.

"We should either build a fortress or gain new party members." Yaoan said resting a bit after the end of that wave.

"I am 100 Percent down for building a fortress, especially considering these new players just joined for money." Randiansi said landing.

Yaoan looked around and figured that the best thing they could do would be to build a pyramid around their base since anyone can jump over a wall.

"How about I carve out the stones of the surrounding mountains into blocks and you can carry them with your threads into place." Yaoan recommended.

"Whoa, that's a lot of weight for me. And that's a lot of power coming from you, you think you can handle it?" Randiansi asked Yaoan.

"Yea, as of now I've been using a tiny percent of my actual ability, I think it's about time I crank it up a notch." Yaoan replied.

"Oh yea, I completely forgot that your ability isn't lasers, it's some sort of blast." Randiansi said reminded of Yaoan's skill. "Well go on, let's see what you can do."

Yaoan took a stance and cleared her mind. "Okay, destroy the mountains into blocks..." Yaoan chanted in her own head. Then she threw out her hands. But nothing happened.

"Ah... what was that." Randiansi asked Yaoan.

"Nothing it seems, I guess I did something wrong." Yaoan then looked at her hands and just casually sent her hand out. Then a giant hole appeared in the mountain.

Randiansi and Yaoan both looked at the damage and were left speechless. They looked at each other and then at the hole.

"I didn't even see anything. What did you do!!" Randiansi said excited.

“I just sent my hand out like this and pictured a hole shooting from my hand.” Then another hole appeared in the mountain as Yaoan finished saying that.

Another astonished look appeared on Randiansi face. “Oh you are very dangerous now haha, maybe you would win the tournament.” Randiansi said looking at Yaoan’s hands.

“Okay, let’s scrap the pyramid thing. Let claim a cave! Randiansi said pointing at the cave they were trying to go into the first day they met. “You could just go in there and clear the entire area.”

“Yea, but then I would also blast off the roof of the cave...” Yaoan responded.

“Oh dang, that is a good point again...” Randiansi said. “Well I’m all out of ideas. Maybe we should just go further inward.”

Yaoan looked around their territory and didn’t just want to abandon it, so she directed her blast at the ground and began shooting.

Randiansi watched confused at Yaoan’s actions.

Once Yaoan finished there was a 100 meter deep 50 meter wide trench in front of the territory. “There, now we have a huge hole in the front, flanked by two mountains to our right and left, the only people who can get over that are high level players who would have no interest in our land and people with vehicles.” Yaoan said drinking a restoration drink.

“It’s simple and effective I suppose. Nice idea Vina!” Randiansi said looking at her work. “Now you rest a bit. I am going to look on the map to see if I can hire some NPCs to patrol this area.”

Randiansi said opening up her menu. Yaoan kept a look out during Randiansi’s search.

“Oh check this out Vani, we can hire this NPC for 1RC a day. That’s like insanely cheap. We could fill up this entire area with these guys.” Randiansi said showing the unit.

“Yea, I’m sure it would be just free loot for anyone who does happen to get across.” Yaoan said turning back towards the trench.

“Wow there’s actually a lot we can do.” Randiansi continued to look. “Oh so this is how Yuski was able to give me a quest.” Randiansi said out to Yaoan. “He just went through the NPC abilities tab and selected request a quest. Cost Crystals and Experience, but maybe we can do something with that later.

“How long are you planning to stay awake tonight Randiansi?” Yaoan asked.

"I don't know, until my mom walks in I guess." Randiantsi said still looking through her mission. "What about you Vani, how long are you staying awake?"

"Eh, I'll stay on as long as you are on, I don't have a bed time haha." Yaoan said laughing to Randiantsi.

"Dang lucky haha." Randiantsi responded.

"Yea, until you know the reason why I don't have one..." Yaoan thought to herself.

"So what do you suggest we get, like 100 Armoured guards, 100 Stealth Warriors or 100 Calvary Knights." Randiantsi asked Yaoan.

"How much is all of that going to cost?" Yaoan replied back.

"Does it matter?" Randiantsi questioned Yaoan.

"Eh, no not really. Get the Stelth Warriors, I want the people who do make it across to think that they are safe then get ambushed by them." Yaoan said to Randiantsi.

"Then that is what you will get." Randiantsi then pressed the option. They both looked around and didn't see anything.

"Ah, so what happened?" Yaoan asked.

"Hmm, let me press it again." Randiantsi pressed the option again, and once more nothing happened.

"Are they taking money away from us each time you pressed?" Yaoan asked.

"Yes they are, well that's not cool at all." Randiantsi said out loud.

Yaoan went over to Randiantsi to see what was up. "Let me take a look at your menu." Yaoan said scooting up next to Randiantsi. They both looked around to see if they missed something. Yaoan then noticed a number counting down on the bottom of her page. "Ah, what's this mean?" Yaoan asked.

"Oh that's new, I wonder what that means too." Randiantsi looked at the numbers.

"Pretty sure that's the March time it takes for them to get to our location." Yaoan looked at Randiantsi.

“Well guess we have 300 Stelth guys coming in about 40 minutes.” Randiantsi informed Yooan.

“That may be a bit of over kill wouldn’t you say?” Yooan asked Randiantsi.

“Then the best thing for us to do is make them cover more territory. Let’s expand Vandiantsi!” Randiantsi said jumping next to Yooan.

“Still didn’t come up with a name huh.” Yooan said in response to Randiantsi proposal.

“Nah, I’m cool with the name, it has equal parts me and you in it.” Randiantsi explained.

“Fine, Vandiantsi it is.” Yooan responded.

Yooan and Randiantsi set out into the wider wilderness behind Vandiantsi. They trusted that the guards who would show up would protect the area they were assigned once they arrive. Yooan and Randiantsi laughed as they hopped on stones trying to see which would give the most commanding appearance. In the short amount of time they have doubled the amount of land that they had previously explored in the past few days.

“The beast out this fair are not as tough as I figured they would have been.” Randiantsi said after cutting down a Cereph.

“Yea, it must be from the excessive amount of experience we gain from defending our lands, and not to mention that day with the fish.” Yooan said picking up its remains.

“Yea, do you think Rutanu has Raids?” Randiantsi asked Yooan.

“What is a Raid?” Yooan responded.

“You know, it’s in a game where the bosses become so difficult they recommend you having a team to attack them. And these bosses usually drop like crazy rare items.” Randiantsi informed Yooan.

“Hmm, earlier when I was going to meet you at the Stadium, I flew extremely high in the air and saw a dark fiery mountain looking area in the distance. Maybe that’s where the raid is.” Yooan told Randiantsi.

“Oh we should so check it out.” Randiantsi said bringing out their vehicle. “No reason to keep cutting down small fries, let’s go after the big boss.” She said presenting Yooan her sit. “Can you please drive.” Randiantsi asked Yooan.

“Yea, sure.” Yaoan then got in front of Randiantsi and took off into the air towards the area with the fire mountain.

“Wow, that place looks frightening!” Randiantsi said looking at the black and red clouds surrounding the mountain.

“So does this fit the description of what you would call a Raid?” Yaoan asked approaching the mountain.

“I’m not sure yet, we have to actually land there and see. As of right now I am inclined to say it does.” Randiantsi responded to Yaoan.

They both landed at the base of the mountain and felt the immense heat emanating from the sides of the mountain.

“Whatever is in there, it is hot.” Randiantsi said feeling the mountains stones.

Then a guy came from around the mountain. “Hey! It must be my lucky day, fancy seeing you here.” He said.

“Oh no, not you...” Randiantsi said seeing Yuski approach them.

“Come on, you wanted to take on this beast right.” Yuski said gesturing at the mountain. “I was showing a couple of some promising new guys this location, but now since you are here I guess we actually battle against this behemoth.” Yuski said speaking towards Randiantsi.

“So you aren’t strong enough to take this beast on your own?” Randiantsi mocked him.

“Oh no I’m plenty strong enough to do this on my own. I practically do it once a day, it’s a good place to get loot to sale. But for experience I go to the one located deep beneath the sea.” Yuski responded.

“Well aren’t you a hero...” Randiantsi said sarcastically.

“I can be your hero anytime.” Yuski responded to Randiantsi sarcasm. “So how about it. Join me to take on this guy?” Yuski asked Randiantsi.

Randiantsi turned towards Yaoan. “What do you think, should he tag along with us?” Randiantsi asked Yaoan.

“I literally have no issues with him, I say yes, since he seems genuine enough.” Yaoan told Randiantsi.

“Dang, I was hoping you would give me an excuse to say no.” Randiantsi lowered her head and turned to Yuski. “Sure, you can tag along with us.”

Yuski cheered a bit. “Okay, so open up your Raid party and invite me into it. I’m sure you already know my name.” Yuski said winking.

“Sure.” Randiantsi added Yuski to their Raid party. “And what about those new guys over there?” Randiantsi pointed at the new recruits.

“I’ll have them join my raid Party, I don’t want you to have to split your loot 6 ways. I prefer it being Split into thirds, then I split my third with them.” Yuski responded.

“Oh, that’s actually pretty cool of you.” Randiantsi said to Yuski.

“Oh, my heart, that’s the first compliment from a Tsundere I’ve ever gotten, am I really the protagonist of this adventure.” Yuski said all dramatic like.

“And like that you are back to where you were.” Randiantsi said completing the registration.

“Okay, everyone ready up. You two take my flanks, when I reload I want you to cover me with Air Blade Strikes from your sword, and Sharp Strikes from your Whip. Slashing damage does not work on this beast so don’t get any ideas sword guy to try and run at this boss. Whenever the beast is at its most vulnerable you two come behind me and I will deliver a piercing blow into its chest where you will proceed to slash its heart and you use your whip to pull it out.” Yuski laid out a plan to the 2 recruits who readied in his party.

“Do you have a plan for us?” Yaaooan asked Yuski.

“Ah, you guys don’t have to do anything we got this completely under control.” Yuski replied to Yaaooan.

Yaaooan walked back over to Randiantsi. “Well I guess we are just going to be observing this time.” Yaaooan told Randiantsi.

“Yea, no freak that, we are going to battle just like the rest of them.” Randiantsi said as the mountain opened up and the cage containing the beast broke apart.

It was a burning Wyvran, with thick dark red skin and bright yellow eyes. It’s tail was on fire and it’s teeth stuck up from its bottom jaw. It had three horns on its head, two on the top and one almost on its nose. The beast hit the ground below and created a thunderous Earth Quake.

“Oh wow, this is scary.” Randiantsi said preparing her threads.

Yuski spit a huge jet of water from his mouth chilling the skin of the beast, as the other guys behind him waited as they were told to.

“He is not going to get all the glory from this.” Randiantsi said as she threw her needles at the Beast and then tried to cut it into pieces with her threads. But her threads snap since it’s skin is invulnerable to slicing damage which Randiantsi weapons were. “Oh crap.” Randiantsi said holding pieces of her thread.

The beast looked at the two girls and turned it’s attention to them ignoring Yuski.

“Oh no!!” Yuski called out as he then tried to rush to them. The beasts tail tried to smack Yuski out of the way, keeping him distracted. “What are you two doing, go over there and protect your party members!” Yuski said fighting to get from under the beast’s tail.

The beast inhaled a huge breath of air and then shot an extreme flame at Yooan and Randiantsi. Yooan covered her head with her hands and launched an enormous wave at the beast tossing it across the arena.

Everyone was stunned including Yuski. Yooan then uncovered her head to see what damage as been done. She noticed that everyone was looking at her as she then helped Randiantsi to her feet.

“Impressive...” Yuski looked at the Party list. “Impressive Vani!” He said as he was clapping.

The beast then got back up with half of its face missing. It then began to swing its tail with reckless abandon.

Yuski ran over to the two girls and lifted them up out of the way of the tails impact. The two new guys were thrown hard into the side of the mountain.

“Are your guys okay?” Randiantsi asked Yuski.

“Oh they are fine, they have nearly top tier armour.” Yuski said before watching the beast blast the two guys with the most ferocious blast of heat he has ever saw. “Ah, well, I’ve never seen that happen.” Yuski said preparing a revival drink. “I hope you have another one of those blast in you Vani because I’m going to be occupied at bit.” Yuski said heading over to his party.

“You see that Vani, my weapon has no effect on this beast. I’m basically useless right now.” Randiantsi said throwing her threads to the side.

Yooan watched the beast try and launch another place at the distracted Yuski. “You’re not useless in this Raid, use your shield.” Yooan said to Randiantsi.

“Use my shield, for what, do hide behind, or maybe your expect me to...” Randiantsi then had a bright idea. She summoned her shield and ran out to Yuski.

“Hey Yuski, spit your frozen breath at my Shield.” Randiantsi said calling out to Yuski.

“I can’t do that to you, I’ll going to hurt you.” He said worried.

“Just do it, and we can hang out later.” Randiantsi said to Yuski.

He then immediately spit it at her Shield. The Ice began to spread throughout her Shield and almost to her hands before Randiantsi threw it into the air. “Vani shoot a beam to lodge my shield into its skin!” Randiantsi called out to Yaoan who immediately shot the shield driving it into the beast’s skin.

The immense cold from Yuski’s breath spread into the innermost layer of the Beast body freezing it from the inside.

“Oh I see what you’re doing!” Yuski said as he ran at the now slow beast and kicked open its chest exposing a nearly frozen heart.

Randiantsi took out her thread and threw the needle into its heart pulling it out of its Chest. Ending the Raid.

Yaoan came down to Randiantsi, as Yuski was healing up his Party. “Nice thinking Randiantsi.” Yaoan said to Randiantsi giving her a hug.

The beast body drained into the ground and a cave opened up showing its stockpile of treasures and SRCs.

“Oh wow, have you ever seen so much treasure Vani!” Randiantsi said to Yaoan.

“No I haven’t... this is insane.” Yaoan replied as both of their names received an icon next to them indicating that they defeated one of the Raid bosses.

“Ah, dang, we basically just got in your way. Sorry about that.” One of the new Players said to Yaoan.

“Oh no, no, that’s just how things went down, don’t feel bad about it.” Yaoan responded to the guy.

“You were amazing Randiantsi, such a quick wit.” Yuski said standing in front of Randiantsi.

“Ah, thanks Yuski...” Randiantsi responded.

“Now about that hang out.” He immediately brought up.

“And back to normal.” Randiantsi said turning away from Yuski. “Let’s go collect our loot and head back home.” Randiantsi said to Yaoan.

“But the Shield thing...” Yuski said in a quieter voice.

“You have my contact, just message me later.” Randiantsi said to Yuski as she summoned a vehicle and proceeded to jump on it leaving room for Yaoan to take the front sit.

“That was fun Yuski! Don’t be too hard on those guys.” Yaoan said before they drove forward back home.

Yaoan made it back to their home territory and found a copious amount of experience just laying around their home.

“Well it looks like those Stelth Warriors did their job, and just 10 of them parishes, neat. I think our place will be secure during school tomorrow.” Randiantsi said collecting the dropped equipment.

“Yea, I guess it will be. Sucks that I do have to go to school, this world is so much better than reality.” Yaoan said to Randiantsi as she checked the time.

“I agree, that’s why I spend nearly all my free time here now.” Randiantsi responded. “Wish it was this easy to move around in the real world haha.” Randiantsi said sitting next to Yaoan.

“So see you here tomorrow?” Randiantsi asked Yaoan.

“You bet haha.” Yaoan said before logging off.

“Another fun time with Randiantsi. I hope I dream about this.” Yaoan thought to herself as she then got into bed. Yaoan then heard some fighting outside of her room.

“I wish reality didn’t suck so much...” Yaoan thought before she went to sleep.

Yaoan dreamt that she was standing in front of two giant women. One with the name of Pain on her chest and the other with the name of success. The Success women continued to give Yaoan stuff trying to make her happy, then the one with Pain continue to hit Yaoan with her fingers.

Yaoan looked at the 3rd woman who was turned away from her playing with other people. Yaoan tried to call out to her but her voice seemed like she was underwater and Yaoan could not even hear herself.

The third woman began to turn around then the alarm rang.

“Damn, same old stuff, just a different day.” Yaoan thought to herself as she stretched and went to her bathing room.

Yaoan turned on some videos as she brushed her teeth. She saw that people started vlogging their adventures in Rutanu. She watched how much of a hard time they were having getting past the forest. She even saw some people try to enter her territory and get defeated. This brightened Yaoan’s morning as she then headed out bringing her essentials.

Yaoan headed out and heard that same annoying voice behind her.

“Hey Yaoan, why do you have a smile on your face today, are you getting surgery later to fix that ailment on your face, wait... oh I’m sorry.” The girl said as the group laughed and continued on.

“It wouldn’t be a school day unless I see them, I swear they just wait for me to head to school.” Yaoan thought to herself as she continued on behind them.

Chapter 6

Yaoan approached the gate of the school.

“Bringing anything weird into my school Student 1076?” The patroller said.

“No Sir, I am clean.” Yaoan said going into her home room’s hall.

“Hey 1076!” Anhou called out to Yaoan in the hall.

“Hey Anhou, what’s up.” Yaoan responded.

“I tried to grind up some level yesterday but got completely obliterated, I think I’m back to square one haha.” Anhou said to Yaoan with a smile on his face.

“Why are you happy about that?” Yaoan asked.

“Last night I was super torn up about it, I wanted to quit the game completely. Now that I got a little rest I realized that I’m playing Rutanu to hang out with my friends. I know I won’t be able to be the best.” Anhou responded to Yaoan.

“If you learned that lesson earlier you may have been part of my party.” Yaoan said about to head into the classroom.

“Yea that the thing though, since we will be going to the tournament together how about we join in the same party and hang out a bit more, so it’s not so weird when we go.” Anhou said as he was rubbing the back of his head.

Yaoan stopped and turned around to look at Anhou. “Ahh, sure…” she reluctantly said. “But only because we are going to the tournament together, not for some relationship type of thing.” Yaoan told Anhou.

“Sounds good to me.” Anhou said pausing for Yaoan to finish his sentence but she continued onward. “Ah excuse me, it would be nice to know your name.” He tried to quickly say before Yaoan entered the class.

The hallway was empty for a second with just Anhou standing there waiting.

Yaoan came back out. “My name is Yaoan.” She then entered her home room.

Anhou pumped his fists.

“I guess it’s actually going to happen. When I land in Vesatanis I should just stay there and have an apartment.” Yaoan thought to herself as she pretended to pay attention.

“Don’t think I can’t tell that you are just daydreaming Student 1076.” The home room teacher addressed Yaoan. Yaoan then popped back into reality. “Don’t let me catch you daydreaming again or else I’m kicking you out.”

Yaoan then sat up in her chair and stared at what the teacher was writing.

Same classes as usual passed through the day. Royal Etiquette, then Anthropology and so on.

Yaoan just went through the motions of the day classes. Eagerly awaiting for the break period. “Why am I even carrying this bag, it’s not like I’m trying to stay at this school.” Yaoan thought to herself. She imagined just tossing out here school material then going out on an adventure, but of course she would never do that. She isn’t Vina, she doesn’t have the power to just go off and do whatever she wanted.

History recreation class ended with the recreation of the collapse of The United Eastern Federation which caused Marian to separate from Vlagora, Kima, Capicalo and various other nations. This event occurred nearly 3 centuries ago due to political differences and the handling of pollution. “Such small differences back then.” Yaoan thought to herself.

Yaoan went to the Music Rooms and they were filled with new students. “Dang really... where am I supposed to sit?” Yaoan said under her breath.

Then Anhou tapped the back of her shoulder. “Hello Yaoan!” He said with some joy in his voice.

“What do you want?” Yaoan responded.

“Well since there is no room here, I thought I would go and find a place more private.” Anhou said moving his eye brows.

“I’m not going there with you.” Yaoan responded.

“Okay okay, it’s not private, it’s just in the court yard next to the cafeteria. There are some of the OG players there.” Anhou told Yaoan.

“Sure lets hurry up then, I don’t want to keep Randiantsi waiting.” Yaoan briskly began moving.

Anhou followed behind Yaoan as they both found a place to sit in the courtyard. There were about a dozen other players around already logged in.

Yaoan logged in, and Anhou soon after.

Rider saw the icon next to Yaoan’s name. “Damn really! You already completed a Raid, you’ve only been playing for like 3 days.” He said to Yaoan.

“Yea, but the difference between us is that I actually enjoy my time grinding with Randiantsi, your previous party just left you.” Yaoan said to Rider.

“What?! You think Randiantsi won’t leave you once you become too weak. You don’t even know her in person.” Rider said to Yaoan as they were setting up their equipment.

“Hmm maybe I should reconsider adding you to my party Anhou.” Yaoan said as she was annoyed by his statement.

“Okay, okay, I’m sorry. I just don’t want to see you get burned like I did.” Rider said following behind Yaoan.

Yaoan then threw him a bag and a string. As she then summoned her vehicle. “Here.” Yaoan said as Rider caught the bag and string.

“What is this for?” Rider asked.

"I'm not going to let you ride with me. Tie the string to my vehicle and sit in the bag, no one who talks ill of party members are going to ride in this vehicle." Yaoan said to Rider.

"Come on, you can't be serious." He said as Yaoan turned on her vehicle. "Okay! Wait!" He tied the string to the vehicle.

While the two were in the air and Rider was being tossed around.

"So what happened to your vehicle An... Rider." Yaoan said to Rider being spun by the wind.

"Well I got jumped by a group of new players and tried to escape, but they damaged and destroyed my vehicle. I didn't have enough money to repair it, so the repair time period elapse and I just lost it completely." Rider said to Yaoan who was barely able to hear him.

"What happened to your money?" Yaoan asked trying to get more information about the game.

"Well funny story on that one, I tried to level up as fast as possible so I bought me some incredible gear, then I went and found a pretty good party and bought them some incredible gear too... then they attacked me, destroyed my gear and killed me, setting me back a few hundred SRCs." Rider told Yaoan.

"Sounds like you've been having a rough time." Yaoan said to Rider.

"Yea, yesterday was not my day... but I'm sure today won't be as bad." Rider said as his bag began to roll on the ground because Yaoan landed.

"Dang, you've been doing some work Randiantsi." Yaoan thought as she looked upon the city Randiantsi created. "Hey, Randiantsi, I'm here. Where are you hiding?" Yaoan called out.

"Randiantsi, I don't know who you are talking about, I am the Great Stone of Vandiantsi." A voice from behind the bolder tried to sound like a guy said.

"Oh Great Stone, certainly you heard about the legendary Randiantsi. She is the slayer of beasts, the founder of nations and the heart throb of Heros." Yaoan said to the boulder.

"I'm not sure about that last part, but I might know who you are talking about." The voice continued. "Just keep going, my memory is funny like that."

"Hmm she's also like a meter tall and enjoys bitter stew." Yaoan said jokingly before being interrupted.

"I am not just a meter tall!" Randiantsi came out from behind the Stone.

"I knew it was you the whole time." Yaoan said laughing at Randiantsi.

Randiantsi then noticed Rider. She pointed at him. "What is he doing here, doesn't he have friends to abandon us for?" She said angrily at Rider.

"Ah, no I don't have friends to abandon you for, it's just me, a lowly lvl 1 Player." Rider said to Randiantsi.

"Boy you have fallen hard." Randiantsi responded. "So what are you looking for, some Crystals? Some armour?" Randiantsi asked Rider.

"He is trying to join our team." Yaoan said to Randiantsi.

"That's a no, 100% no." Randiantsi said immediately after the statement. "We already have Yuski trying to join us, and he's like a billion times a person of better Character than Rider."

"Oh Yuski is trying to join us?" Yaoan asked Randiantsi. "When did that happen?"

"Eh some time after the glowing ground lights, I told him he had to wait until you logged in before he gets my answer." Randiantsi said to Yaoan.

"Wait so Yuski is in your party?!" Rider asked stunned at this revelation.

"Keep quiet!" Randiantsi said to Rider. "Every word you say makes me more and more not want to add you."

"I think we should add Yuski, he's a bit weird, but not in a malevolent way." Yaoan told Randiantsi.

"Yea, he invited me to this expensive city hall meal whenever I get an answer. So I suppose I'll head over there and tell him." Randiantsi said summoning the vehicle. "Can you take me there, I like riding behind you."

"Sure thing, but what should we do with Rider?" Yaoan pointed at him.

"He can ride along the same way he got here." Randiantsi said looking back at Rider.

"Sorry Rider, that means back into the bag you go." Yaoan said to Rider.

Rider jumped into the bag, and settled for a bumpy ride. "If this is what I need to do to gain your trust again, then there is no pain too great." Rider said bracing himself.

“Okay let’s go.” Randiantsi said as Yaoan took off.

“We are on our way Yuski.” Randiantsi messaged.

“Seems you are tolerating him a bit more now huh?” Yaoan asked Randiantsi.

“Well he spent the morning helping build Vandiantsi, as well as helped me hire up some NPCs, and how to put these New Players to work by making them grind for material in exchange for quests. He went from being a creepo to just being a weirdo.” Randiantsi said to Yaoan.

“Step in the right direction I suppose.” Yaoan added. “Don’t think that’ll work for you Rider! Doing things for us is not going to get you on our good side.” Yaoan yelled down at Rider.

“What?! I can’t hear what you guys are saying, are you talking about me?!” He yelled back up in response.

The group landed in front of the city hall where there was a crowd of people standing in front of the building. Yuski was hounded by Players trying to be recruited by him, and those who tried to get a quick attack on him.

“Randiantsi its my pleasure to see you, oh and the amazing Vani as well. I am so happy to see you too.” Yuski addressed the two girls. Rider then popped out of his bag.

“Hello Yuski nice to meet you again.” Rider said to Yuski.

Yuski was taken a back by the surprise. “Ah did you know he was riding along with you guys?” Yuski asked the two girls.

“Yea, he has to earn his keep, so we carried him below the vehicle.” Randiantsi said to Yuski.

“Yuski, remember me, I fought you yesterday in the stadium.” Rider said to Yuski.

“I’m sorry, I fight a lot of people in the stadium each day. You’ll have to be more specific.” Yuski inquired more information from Rider.

“I challenged you 1v1, I had a sickle and you threw it back at me...” Rider tried to clarify but it seemed that Yuski still didn’t know. Rider then paused a bit... “You got a perfect victory from me...”

“Oh yea, glad to see you are still playing, most people would have given up in your shoes, you got heart. I might recruit you into my underlings party, we will just see how this meeting goes.” Yuski said to Rider right before him, Yaoan and Randiantsi went into the building which was restricted access from those without a Raid badge.

“Ah finally I can decompress, it’s not easy being on top.” Yuski said to the two girls. “So what do you guys said, can I be in your party?” Yuski asked excitedly.

“First let’s taste what they have to offer.” Randiantsi said moving forward.

“Oii you are so cute when you’re mean.” Yuski said following behind Randiantsi.

They all were seated at a circular table in a separate room so that they could talk personally. The NPCs came in and out filling up their drinks, replacing dirty dishes and changing out cold meals for warm ones.

“Okay, Yuski.” Randiantsi began talking. “After careful deliberation, me and Vani... mostly Vani though, have decided that...” Randiantsi then pause for effect.

Yuski eagerly awaited the final words.

“You are the newest member of our Party.” Randiantsi said as his name icon changed to match the colours of Yaoan and Randiantsi.

“Now this is special, never has their been a more genuine gaming relationship as the one you two have and I am so happy to be a part of it.” Yuski said standing up. “Will we all get to hang out at the tournament?”

Randiantsi placed up her finger.

“Oh right, baby steps.” Yuski said sitting back down.

Outside, Rider was being questioned by the onlookers who were trying to get on Yuski’s good side.

So how’d you do it? You’re just a level one, do you know Yuski personally? Were among the questions asked to Rider.

“Calm down folks, you could say that I am an OG Kingpin at this Game. What you see here is prestige. It’s when you become such a high level that you have the option to reset but keep your weapons.” Rider said trying to seem great to the crowd.

Then two Black Vehicles arrived on the scene. The crowd went silent as they saw a character step out of the vehicle in armour made out of LCs.

“That has got to be 1000 Legendary Crystals at least...” someone in the said.

The guy pointed at Rider. "Im currently the highest Ranked player in this entire game, how come I haven't prestiged yet but you have." He asked Rider.

"Ah... well you see..." Rider said too nervous to answer the question.

"Go on, spit it out." The guy pressed on.

"Well... Ah..." Rider tried to find a way to get the words out of his mouth. "Well... actually you have to combine a Revival Drink with a Power Up Drink, then sacrifice yourself in the Hordes Field... and Ah" Rider was then interrupted.

"Stop lying to these people, you are just a low level one trying to be more than he actually is." The guy said to Rider.

"Hey, he is being considered an apprentice for Yuski, you might want to show some respect." Some guy in the crowd stood up for Rider.

"Yea, show me some respect." Rider said to the guy.

"You know that would be impressive, if I wasn't." The guy then took off his mask. "Samarino Supra."

The crowd then became the most quiet it has ever been since the start of Rutanu.

"Whose Samarino Supra?" A new player asked.

"You know how Yuski has 2 loses on his record. Well Samarino Supra is The one Who caused 1 of them." Another in the crowd explained.

Samarino Supra then Omnislashed the entire area killing all the players surrounding the city hall. "That should teach them to stop hoarding around places they don't belong." He said as he walked into the building.

Rider messaged Yaaooan. "I've just been killed again, but you won't believe by who. It was by Samarino Supra I am so happy right now."

"Hmm Rider just messaged that he got killed again, by a guy named Samarino Supra." Yaaooan said to Randiantsi and Yuski.

"Wow, now that's a name blast from the past, I wonder how he's doing." Yuski asked out loud.

Then they heard a knock on their door. "Yea, who is it?" Yuski asked the person at the door.

“You know who it is Yuski, open up.” Samarino said on the outside of the door.

Yuski opened it up. And Samarino walked in.

“Oh, I’m sorry, I didn’t know he had guests here.” Samarino said as he looked at Randiantsi and Yaoan. “I’ll just wait until you’re done.”

“No it’s okay please sit.” Yuski pointed at a place where an NPC immediately brought out a seat. “So what is it you wanted to talk about. Oh these accepted me into their Party, this is Yaoan and the lovely Randiantsi.”

“It’s just Randiantsi, I didn’t put lovely in my username.” The two greeted Samarino.

“Well I’m back on my grind considering the tournament is coming up, was interested if you were down for a rematch.” Samarino asked Yuski.

“Eh yikes... I would but I’m part of a party now and I kinda don’t want to leave it to battle you.” Yuski said to Samarino.

“That’s fine, I’ll battle all three of you. Kill three birds with one stone.” Samarino said to the group.

“What do you say Randiantsi?” Yuski asked.

“Vani?” Randiantsi asked Yaoan.

“Sure, I think we have a solid team.” Yaoan said to Samarino.

“Neat, I’ll meet you all at the Stadium.” Samarino got up from his seat and left the hall.

“He seemed a lot nicer than I would have imagined someone of his stature being.” Yaoan said to the two.

“Oh yea, guys like us, we really like video games, so our tough persona is just to give a certain awe. But deep down, we just enjoy playing, that’s why it’s so frustrating to see players taking all the fun away from it.” Yuski said to the two.

“Pretty solid message Yuski.” Yaoan said.

“Ha, I get one a day.” Yuski responded. “Let go and win this battle.” Yuski said getting up and cleaning his mouth before proceeding to throw the towel onto the table.

The party exited the hall.

“Wow he really did clear out the crowd.” Randiantsi noticed seeing no one around blocking Yuski’s way.

“Wow, so this is how it feels being able to move freely across this part of town.” Yuski said, spreading his arms out.

“Hey Vani, how confident do you feel that we are going to win this?” Randiantsi asked Yaaooan.

“I think we are going to do pretty well, we have you with your incredible threads and obviously Yuski is very adapt at these PvP battles.” Yaaooan said to Randiantsi.

Randiantsi looked at her hands. Yaaooan then grabbed them.

“Besides, even if we do lose it’s not going to change much of anything, we can just go back out to the beach and catch like a billion more fish haha.” Yaaooan said to Randiantsi who then wrapped her arm behind Vani.

“You two never registered for a battle Yea?” Yuski asked the both of the girls.

“Of course not! But I’m sure you’ll be more than happy to tell us.” Randiantsi responded to Yuski.

“Damn you know me so well now.” Yuski said with a wink. “So you go to the stadium master here at the entrance, he’s an NPC, so no real conversation to be had there.”

“False!” Randiantsi said walking up to the NPC, as she looked at Yuski. “How’d that statement makes you feel Mr Stadium guy.” Randiantsi said to the NPC.

“You know, until you mentioned it, I guess being said to be incapable of a real conversation doesn’t feel so good.” The NPC responded to Randiantsi question.

“Well... guess I.” Yuski began saying until the NPC continued.

“Are you here to register for a match?” The NPC said to the group.

“Am sure they don’t stray too fair from their preprogrammed responses.” Yuski finished the sentence he began saying.

Randiantsi then turned back around to the NPC. “Yea we want to register, but not before you tell me what your favourite colour is.” Randiantsi told the NPC.

“It’s Teal. So which category do you want to register under.” The NPC responded.

“That seemed preprogrammed...” Yaoan added, and Yuski’s smirk grew.

Randiansi with an increasing disgruntled look on her face started Machine gunning questions at the NPC.

“What’s your favourite animal?” Randiansi asked.

“A Caifer, so about that category.” He responded.

“Favourite Movie!” Randiansi asked.

“Ruseo and Hidres, have you thought about trying a ranked match?” He responded.

“Favourite Terrain!” Randiansi asked.

“A babbling brook, exhibition matches are full for today, you may want to try again tomorrow.” He answered.

“Can you quote the Poem of Suyudan in Summer?” Randiansi asked.

“Bright Daylight Star beams on my skin a magnificent light.

For this shows me I am alive.

When the night comes to hide you behind the Earth,

Am I also practicing for when I die...” the NPC quoted.

They all looked at him, waiting for an extra statement.

“A ranked match will impact your overall record which could be found in the personal tab in your menu.” The NPC finished.

“I give up, but you must admit that who ever programmed them did a pretty good job at covering a bunch of topics.” Randiansi said pointing up at Yuski.

“Okay, maybe they can have a Semi realistic conversation, but definitely not one where you could develop at friendship with one.” Yuski then signed the party up for the match again Samarino. “And done! We are battling in 4 matches. We should head in now.”

“Why isn’t it a bit early.” Yaoan asked.

“4 matches go by like this.” Yuski said snapping his fingers.

The inside of the stadium had an enormous cheer roaring for out of it.

“See that’s one match already done, remember how fast I beat the guy with you...” Yuski said looking around for Rider. “Where is he?”

“Don’t know, and don’t care, come on, you said we had to head in there.” Randiansi said as the crowd began cheering again. “See you later Mr Stadium guy.” Randiansi said to the NPC.

“Good Luck!” He responded.

Yaoan, Randiansi and Yuski walked into the Stadium waving their hands at the crowd.

“Wow, I’ve never seen this many people around me before.” Yaoan said looking at the crowd.

“Don’t focus on that too long, you might become nervous, or thrilled. I don’t know your life.” Yuski said as he began stretching.

Then the stadium went silent, marking the entrance of Samarino. Samarino came in with his Omniblade swirling around himself creating a bright blue light. He walked slowly inside, looking around for anyone to make a peep. He dropped his dark cloak revealing even more blades underneath. Then he waved his hand and they all disappeared.

“Did you spend all your free time choreographing that entrance?” Yuski said taking a fighting stance.

“As you can see my control over my blades is mastery.” Samarino responded.

“Oh quick detail, Samarino’s ability is Telekinesis, but only on his swords. So watch yourself and you should be good.” Yuski told Randiansi and Yaoan.

“Well that’s good to know.” Randiansi said preparing her shield. “Guess my threads are useless against him.” She said to the two.

The audience began cheering as the match began.

Yuski ran around the arena setting spit traps to keep Samarino in place. Randiansi threw her shield at the ground to roll at the same speed at Yuski to kick up dust, hiding the location of the traps. And Yaoan prepared her finger for when it was time to attack.

“Everything’s set, let’s all attack him at once and throw him off balance.” Yuski said preparing a spit ball at him.

Randiansi threw her shield into the air and Yaoan shot it to send it at Samarino, at speeds no one would be able to keep up with. Yuski also launched a sticky ball which would force Samarino to either take the Shield attack from Yaoan and Randiansi, take the impact from Yuski’s attack, or dodge and risk exploding.

Samarino did not move. And joy came across the face of Randiansi until...

Samarino blades came out, cut her shield in half, split the spit path of Yuski's attack, and swiped the ground destroying the traps, all in an instant. The crowd were in awe. Samarino pulled his blades back.

"Damn Yuski, I spent some time away, I thought you would've had something better prepared for me." Samarino said to Yuski.

"I didn't expect that you had that kind of range." Yuski responded spitting liquid metal and crafted himself a long sword. "I'll go in and fight him hand to hand. If I attack him repeatedly without rest, I'm sure his mind couldn't keep up." Yuski ran in dodging the thrown swords of Samarino. Yuski closed the gap nullifying Samarino's range.

"Bad move Yuski." Samarino said as hundreds of swords appeared protecting Samarino's front.

Yuski attempted to rapidly strike the shield but it was no use, the swords just blocked him.

"This ability I developed no longer requires me to control the swords, they move automatically to protect my body. So your speed means nothing now." Samarino said as he laughed behind his continuous protection.

Yuski attempted to spit but the swords swiped it out of the way. "Oh this is not good."

Samarino then guided blades to surround Yuski. But then Samarino was blasted across the arena and into the stadium walls destroying all the swords he had out.

Yuski looked at Yaoan and gave her a thumbs up. "Nice shot!" He called out.

"I destroyed a mountain with that blast before!" Yaoan said back to a Yuski.

The crowd roared even louder. The sound was deafening. The match looked to be won by the trio.

"Ah... why didn't it show a victory icon on our screen..." Yuski thought as he, Randiantsi and Yaoan looked at the rubble.

"So she's the powerhouse of the group." Samarino got up severely damaged.

"No way! He survived that!" Randiantsi said shocked at this new event unfolding.

Samarino then ran at Yaoan before anyone noticed and sliced her into pieces. "And like that, one bites the dust." Samarino said returning his swords back to him.

“No! Vani!” Randiantsi yelled out as she then summoned her shield and began running at Samarino. “Prepare to be crushed!” Randiantsi yelled out. Yuski then jumped in front of her.

“No, we need to think this through. Revive Vani with this.” Yuski handed Randiantsi a revival drink. “I’ll try to keep you protected, our abilities can’t get past his protection.” Randiantsi then ran towards Yaoan.

“I’m not going to let you do that.” Samarino then sent a sword out to Randiantsi. Yuski blocked it with his crafted sword. “Okay, i see what you are doing, then let’s see you block a tornado of swords.” Samarino said before summoning up thousands of blades to come down upon Yuski.

“Well... that’s unfortunate...” Yuski said before being consumed.

The party was not down to Randiantsi who only had her shield. “Looks like its game over for you.” Samarino said guiding the tornado to consume Randiantsi next. Randiantsi tossed her shield to the side and tried to use her threads to pull the swords out of the tornado.

“Valiant effort, but pointless in the end.” Samarino said bidding a farewell to Randiantsi. The tornado then came barreling down onto Randiantsi.

But then it was blasted away.

Yaoan has been revived.

“Wait, how are you back up.” Samarino asked Yaoan.

“I poured the revival into my shield and threw it to her corpse, allowing the drink to drip on her body.” Randiantsi explained.

Randiantsi then showed that she had another bottle to revive Yuski.

“Oh no you don’t!” He said sending swords at Randiantsi as she ran towards Yuski’s corpse. Yaoan sent a continuous blast over Randiantsi head preventing Samarino from being able to hit Randiantsi.

“Looks like we found your counter!” Yaoan said shooting out beams at his blades. He then tried to launch them at Yaoan but she again blasted them away from her.

Yuski was revived. “Vani, shot these at him.” He then spit some bombs into the air.

“Those aren’t going to get to me.” Samarino then prepared his swords to destroy the projectiles.

Yuski threw the bombs into the air and Yaoan shot them, but instead of going forward that went under ground and blew up under Samarino feet. Randiansi showed that she used her threads to pull the bombs into the ground with the momentum that Yaoan provided.

"I don't need to see to protect myself." Samarino said as he relied on the automatic protection.

"That's what we intend." Randiansi then forms a shield around Samarino's body, which his swords did not see as a threat. But she left the top part open.

Samarino saw that Yaoan had jumped over head and aimed her hands directly in the gap. "Well, I'll be..." Samarino said before being blasted into juice in Randiansi's shield.

The thud from the impact shook the entire Stadium. Yaoan landed and the three looked at the Shield. The audience looked at the shield in silence. Everything was quiet.

Then a victory icon appeared on the Parties Menu. And they cheered.

"Yea!!" Randiansi yelled out as she jumped on Vani. Yuski stood off to the side watching. Randiansi then looked at him. "What are you doing, get in this." His face lit up and he joined in the hug celebration.

The trio eventually left waving to the audience as the cheering continued and the next ranked match was to begin. Outside of the Stadium they saw Samarino.

He stood up the the 3. Silent, menacingly.

The trio also stood there looking at Samarino.

He then threw down his frown and smiled congratulating the three. "Dang, I guess a 3v1 was a bit too much for me haha." Samarino said rubbing the back of his head. "Next time I'll be sure to challenge any one of you in a 1v1."

"Ha, you wish. Me and Vani are a package." Randiansi said in response.

Samarino looked at Yuski. "Guess I need to grind my way back up before the tournament huh." He then looked at the other black vehicle behind his. "MaiTry is probably going to destroy me when I get back."

"No way, MaiTry is here?, I thought she gave up playing after beating all the raid bosses." Yuski asked Samarino.

"She did, but like me she got back on and dominated once again. Would you like to challenge her again." Samarino asked Yuski.

“Oh never again, she’s the only person that has ever got a perfect on me.” Yuski said shaking his hands back and forth.

“Yea, same here, she is really a talent.” Samarino responded. “I can guarantee that even a 4v1 with all of us, she would probably still perfect the match.”

Randiantsi then chimed in. “No way, you guys are making this person up.” Randiantsi then pointed at Yaoan. “What ability does she have that could withstand a blow from Vani?” Randiantsi finished.

“MaiTry’s ability is portal.” Samarino said as a. Metaphorical lighting emanated behind them.

“Portal?! How is that even fair? So those that mean she can’t be hit?” Randiantsi asked Samarino.

Yuski then answered. “Not only that but she can created portals that launch your attacks directly back at you. Completely impregnable.”

“Yea, even my Omniblade technique just got transported back onto itself. All raid bosses, enemy, mercenaries, and Outer World Deities failed to lay a finger on her.” Samarino said walking backwards to his vehicle. “Best no for me to keep her waiting, I’ll catch you guys at the tournament.” They then drove off.

The trio watched the vehicles blast away.

“Well that was a bunch of excitement.” Yaoan said as she looked at the two.

“So what do you think of the MaiTry person, do you think you can take her with one of your devastating blasts?” Randiantsi said imitating Yaoan.

“No way, she has portals, me shooting a blast against her will just result in it being directed at you guys.” Yaoan responded.

“Fair point, I think even I would have a hard time against what your skill is. But it’s still in its infancy. You aren’t really able to use your ability for anything constructive huh?” Yuski asked Yaoan.

“I’m hardly even able to do that, I either shot tiny lasers, or huge ground shaking blasts, there’s really no in between.” Yaoan pointed out.

Yuski then walked up to Yaoan. “You know what you need?” Yuski asked.

“Ah, no I don’t think I do.” Yaoan responded.

“You need a montage!” Yuski said closing his eyes and nodding his head. Then gained composure again. “But really though you should try the training centers, get some good practice there.”

“Hmm, I actually have yet to try those out. I guess it wouldn’t hurt.” Yaoan replied.

“Hey, you are just trying to get more alone time with me.” Randiantsi pointed at Yuski. “Don’t think I don’t see through your plan!”

“Oh so cute!” He said as he fell to the ground.

“I’ll go to the ones that you went to Randiantsi.” Yaoan said to her.

“Ah, really? Well it’s close by Vandiantsi, we can all go together.” Randiantsi said to Yaoan.

“Haha, no it’s okay, I need to let off a little stem before the class period begins.” Yaoan said summoning up the vehicle.

“Aww, can you take me to Vandiantsi along the way, this stadium sorta thinks.” Randiantsi said running to the vehicle.

“Sure, that’s no issue at all.” Yaoan said starting up the vehicle.

“Aww, Randiantsi! Don’t leave me!” Yuski sad reaching up at their vehicle.

“Boy, you know where I’ll be, just get on your vehicle and meet me there.” Randiantsi said as their vehicle took off.

While in the air, Randiantsi looked around to see what was flapping around their vehicle.

“Ew gross, Rider’s bag is still tied to our vehicle!” Randiantsi said looking at it flutter around.

Yaoan then remember that they completely left Rider behind at the Stadium.

“Dang it, I left him behind. I need to go back and get him.” Yaoan said to Randiantsi.

“Huh? Why?” Randiantsi responded back.

“Well he is my ride to Vesatanis in the real world so I at least have to be sorta nicer to him.” Yaoan said.

“Eh, I don’t like the guy, like you said before, I think his he just wants to be popular. That’s bad company.” Randiantsi said back to Yaoan.

“He says he is going to redeem himself again, plus I already told him my name so I guess that means something.” Yaoan said steering the vehicle down.

“Wow, he knows your actual name. You guys are like childhood friends now hehe.” Randiantsi said laughing at Yaoan.

“Oh don’t make me throw up haha.” Yaoan said stopping at Vandiantsi.

“Guess I’ll see you later tonight as usual?” Yaoan said still in the vehicle as Randiantsi already got out.

“More often than not!” Randiantsi responded with a smile.

Yaoan then took off into the air to get Rider. “Where are you Rider?” Yaoan messaged.

“I’m with some guys right now at Hordes Field, I’m giving them some pointers.” Rider responded.

“Why are they receiving pointers from you, aren’t you like the lowest level possible.” Yaoan asked.

She then got an immediate response. “That’s because I prestiged.”

“That’s not a real thing...” Yaoan responded, then sent a quick second message. “I’m coming to get you, be ready or I’ll be the next person to zero you out.” Yaoan said before closing the chat.

Yaoan landed at Hordes Field and saw Rider demonstrating his simple scythe strike.

“Yea that’s when I spun my blade on the first raid boss like this.” Rider showed another move. “Then he started spilling his juices everywhere. Then I sliced him again like that.” Demonstrating another simple move.

Yaoan went over to grab Rider from his performance. The group gasped. “It’s Vani! She defeated Samarino with Yuski.” Someone said in the crowd.

“So it is true, Rider did teach her everything she know.” Another said in the group.

“I thought he was talking BS, but I guess he is the real deal.” A final person commented.

“Let’s get going before you keep building your ego with lies.” Yaoan then threw the bag at him. “Get in, we are going training until classes start again.” Yaoan said as she then entered her vehicle.

She took off as Rider was barely fully in the bag and in was hanging on my his feet.

“You know if you’re going to lie about fighting the first Raid boss you should at least know that it’s invulnerable to slashing damage before going around telling people that you slashed it to death.” Yaoan said to Rider.

“I could barely hear you down here, so can you tell me when we just land?” Rider said still being twisted around.

Yaoan and Rider landed in front of the training center. Yaoan looked at the ground and found a tiny trinket. She was again reminded of her mother’s accessories from her childhood days. She picked it up and held it.

“Oh sweet, are we going to be crushing junk into pieces!” Rider said looking at Yaoan’s hands.

Yaoan placed the object in her inventory, and Rider went on to slashing at random stones.

“Okay, we are going to be heading into this building, I can have you telling people that you are ‘prestigid’ anymore.” Yaoan told Rider.

“Yea, I get it.” He responded half seriously.

Yaoan and Rider then began to enter the building, but Rider was stopped.

“Hey, this ain’t a free workout facility chump, if you ain’t got the cash, then train in the grass.” The NPC said to Rider knocking him back.

Rider pulled out his scythe. “I’ll show you whose a chump.” Rider said staring down the NPC.

The NPC got up revealing a giant of a man. “Are ya threatening me chump.” The NPC said walking up to Rider creating small Earth Quakes with each step.

Rider then tried to slash, but the NPC barehanded grabbed Rider’s blade and snapped it. Then he went to crush Rider.

Yaoan jumped into the coward position of Rider and the incoming impact of the NPC’s fist.

“Sorry about that sir, he will pay double to train here.” Yaoan said with her arms spread. Then the NPC began lowering his hand more. “Ahh, triple then, I’ll cover it.” Then the NPC pulled his arm back.

“That’s a hard Sale, but I can’t deny allowing others to train for a fee.” The NPC said walking back to his post.

Rider then got up from his position and stood completely erect. “Thanks Ya... I mean Vani. I’ll pay you back whenever I get the SRCs.” Rider said walking into the building. Yaoan followed behind and the NPC shook his head.

“This is the first time I’ve been in here so don’t ask me to try and guide you through.” Yaoan said to Rider as they both went around and looked at the equipment and the labeled rooms.

“Hey, this one says PvE Advanced High Exp Gain, so I think I am going to go in here.” Rider said walking in.

Yaoan was still looking around for the kind of training she wanted to do.

“I suppose I want technique training him anything.” Yaoan thought to herself as she hear a room open up. And it was Rider changing locations.

“Ah, I don’t think I’m equipped enough for that room, I’m going to go into PvE Beginner Low Experience Gain.” Rider then went inside and looks like that’s where he was going to stay.

Yaoan found a technique and combinations room, it didn’t offer any exp but it did offer proficiency. So Yaoan entered into the room.

“Hello there! Welcome to Technical and Expertises, would you like assistances.” The NPC in the room asked.

“Ah yes, sure. I don’t really know how to begin this.” Yaoan responded.

“Very well, I’ll be happy to help. First let’s check out which technique list to offer you.” The NPC said before showing Yaoan a glowing plate. “Place you hand here, or any part of your body, and we can see what your ability it.”

“Oh well I already know what my ability is, it’s energy blasts.” Yaoan said as she put her hand on the plate.

“The plate reveals that you are an Electromagnetic Energy Manipulator.” The NPC said looking at the alphabet on the plate.

“Yea, that’s just like shooting blasts right?” Yaaooan asked.

“Oh no, that’s definitely something you could do, but in higher proficiencies you’ll be able to control anything that emits radiation. A very rare ability indeed. It’s up there with one person I saw who could manipulate Space itself.” The NPC finished.

“Well the Space Manipulator is obviously MaiTry.” Yaaooan thought. “So how can I train?”

“The best way to start training is my trying to steer objects that have an exceptionally high EM value, so I will send out this creatures that are as hot as magma.” The NPC said as they reached for a lever.

“Wait! How do I do that technique?” Yaaooan asked yelling to make sure the NPC didn’t relate enemies before she was ready.

“I can certainly help with that.” The NPC said letting go of the lever. “The same way you released burst of energy, you must release an empty sphere which is to absorb a certain amount of energy before you can control your target. Think of it like throwing a dry sponge into a tub and it’s unusable until it absorbed enough water.” The NPC demonstrated with visualizations. “The amount of water available for the sponge is how much energy the target contains, and the size of that sponge is how much control you’ll have over it, a sponge that can drain all the water from its container gives you full control over all of its energy.”

“Okay, I think I understand. If I want to control something big, I have to create a big enough sponge.” Yaaooan said as she looked at her hands. “But what if it’s extremely cold?” Yaaooan asked.

“Have you tried to use a sponge on ice.” The NPC said before pulling the lever.

A cow like beast came roaring out of a cage. It looked to be made of Stone and dripped lava as it came rushing.

“I’ve never seen this creature before!” Yaaooan yelled dodging its charges.

“These are found in the wicked mountains past the first raid boss, far this difficult for zone 1.” The NPC said.

Yaaooan then tried to use her abilities but was unable to because she had to keep dodging. The beast kept charging spilling it’s extremely hot contents on the ground.

“How am I supposed to do this if I am busy dodging, I thought this was a place for me to try and master my technique.” Yaaooan said yelling again.

“The plate also revealed that you don’t show what you are capable of until you are pushed. Therefore, we have to push you to use new techniques, then over a few more usages then you’ll be fine to use it calmly.” The NPC said as they pulled the lever again releasing another beast.

“That is not funny!!” Yaoan said as she was now running from 2 beasts.

“Sadly you aren’t at a mastery where you’ll be able to fly. You’re a long way from that.” The NPC said watching Yaoan. “Seems you’re having too easy of a time with two, I’m throwing in another for good measure.” They then hit the lever again releasing a third beast.

Yaoan now was surrounded and tried to visualize a sponge. The first beast then charged at her and she went to protect herself. But nothing happened. She looked out between her fingers and saw the beast mid charge but still. Then the second charged and Yaoan slammed the first beast into it using her control over it.

Yaoan then visualized a bigger sponge for the third beast who then came barreling at Yaoan, she moved out of the way as the beast began to turn around. She then kept her focus on the third beast as the second got back up and began to charge her from behind. She went to turn around and look at it and the lava that has been sitting on the ground shot up and knocked the second beast upward.

The third beast now came rushing in at her and Yaoan directed her hand downward and made the beast rush directly into the ground. With all 3 beast incapacitated Yaoan took control of their body and visualized draining her sponges resulting in the beasts releasing all of their heat energy and then parishing.

Yaoan then had loss Heat Energy swirling around her.

“Oh that’s cool.” Yaoan looked at it spin. “What is this?” She asked.

“It’s left over energy from your battle, you can either absorb it, or let it swirl around you offering protection.” The NPC answered.

Yaoan then directed this Heat Energy around her practice area.

“That is extraordinarily cool!” Yaoan thought to herself. “Okay, lay another batch on me!” Yaoan said to the NPC.

“Coming right up!” The NPC said pulling down levers.

Yaoan continued her practice, and had grown so much as an EM Energy Manipulator. She absorbed the now fire tornado worth of energy around her then proceeded to leave, but right before doing so.”

“Thank you for your help!” Yaoan said to the NPC.

“It’s my pleasure, come back around if you are up for me expertise training. Maybe next time you’ll learn to create energy constructs.” The NPC said before the door closed.

“Energy what?!” Yaoan said, but it fell on no ones ears. She then went to go get Rider so they can head on back to classes.

She saw Rider had moved on to the novice room, and was just standing looking at a wall.

“Hey Rider, what are you doing?” Yaoan said surprising Rider from behind.

“Oh, nothing, really, hehe…” Rider said nervously.

There was a short pause until he spoke again.

“Ah, looked at my level now, I’m past where I was even before I lost that fight to Yuski, it’s crazy how much experience you gain from training.” Rider said showing Yaoan his level.

“Yea that’s cool and all.” Yaoan said not really paying attention to his level. “It’s time for classes now, so we should log out now.” Yaoan said to Rider.

“Really! Darn, I was hoping to get a bit stronger. You know for the tournament and all, I’m going to need all the help I can get.” Rider said as he checked the time.

“Be genuine and I’m sure you’ll get there.” Yaoan said as she went to log off.

Rider then logged off shortly after her. “More than one way.” He said before completing logging out.

Chapter 7

Yaoan and Anhou disconnected their devices from the back of the necks. There was still a good number of students still in the courtyard logged in.

“Dang, I could have gotten like an extra minute or two of training.” Anhou said as the pair began walking to the classes. “You know as your friend in the real world, I don’t so much appreciate the harsh treatment in the game.” Anhou said to Yaoan.

“It’s just treatment for the way you treated Randiantsi in the very start of meeting her.” Yaoan responded.

"I said I was sorry for that, cut me a break. I'm really a changed person now honest." Anhou said walking in front of Yaoan turning towards her.

"If you really have, then I'll bury the hatchet, cool?" Yaoan said to Rider with an open gesture.

"Oh, really, it's that simple? No more like trials or anything like that?" Anhou said questioning.

"Yea, holding a grudge against you was making me feel heavy, I already have enough things on my mind to worry about." Yaoan said finally passing Anhou.

"Oh, Ah, nice. Didn't expect such a jump in relationshh." Anhou was saying before Yaoan interrupted him.

"Also you seem a bit slow on the uptake." Yaoan added before she went her separate way to class.

"Sometimes you need to take things slow yeah?" He said shouting towards Yaoan as she was now some distance away.

"That's not what that means!" Yaoan said back in a similar manner.

Yaoan sat in her next class just looking at the teacher talk about the Legend of Odi. When she felt someone touch her back. She turned around.

"Hey, I saw you in the courtyard earlier. You kinda look like Vani from Rutanu. You wouldn't happen to be her huh?" A girl behind her asked Yaoan.

"Um, yeah, but why are you asking me this now?" Yaoan responded to the girl.

"Oh, nothing, I just remember you fighting alongside Yuski and that other girl, I think her name was Randiums or something." The girl was saying before Yaoan interrupted.

"Randiansi." Yaoan said.

"Oh yes, Randiansi. Well any way, I loved the showing. You put me in a good mood now knowing that someone as normal as us could get to such heights. Needless to say, I am a fan." The girl said as she sat back down.

Yaoan then went back to paying attention in class. But rather than just thinking about how garbage the world was, she now had a tiny smile on her face knowing that she lifted someone's mood due to her actions.

The teacher continued his talking but Yaoan started to feel some excitement, and actually had a tiny desire to compete in the tournament. Not for any money however, Yaoan pretty much had that covered from her previous adventure with Ren Neo, no this was so that she could bring lift the mood of others.”

Class ended and the girl from earlier waved bye to Yaoan. Yaoan then continued to her next night classes, where nothing unusual occurred. Then to the next and to the next.

“Dang that was boring...” Yaoan thought to herself leaving the classrooms.

She exited the school gate as usual and headed back home. There was a noise of glass breaking and someone yelling, but that’s usual for her area. Yaoan went down to the corner store and got her some snacks. Yaoan left, but then paused for a second. She grabbed an instant meal from the store then continued upstairs to her home.

Yaoan threw off her shoes and bag and began to heat up some water. She turned on a video and sat down on her couch waiting for the beeping noise.

“Another destructive explosion in Mar-“ Yaoan switched from that video.

“Hmm I wonder did anyone record my fight?” Yaoan thought as she was searching for it. She found plenty of strategy videos and begin to dig through Stadium Videos. Then her water began to beep. Yaoan jumped up and threw the water into her instant meal.

She sat back down to eat it, and looked at the dish. “Congratulations Yoyo, you deserved this.” Yaoan said to herself as a tear ran down her face. As she had a quick thought of her parents.

Yaoan wiped away the tear and started scrolling again. “Okay, let’s see what is going on.” She then found the video she was looking for. Of her, Randiantsi and Yuski battling against Samarino.

“Wow! Samarino has so much control, I wonder can I spin my heat around like his swords...” Yaoan thought as she watched Samarino deflect Yuski’s spit.

“Hmm I never really thought about it, but what is Yuski’s ability. I should ask him soon.” Yaoan said continuing to watch the battle.

Yaoan finished her meals and was back on to watching new announcements for the game until she finally decided that it was time to clean up and log back on. Yaoan threw away her trash. Cleaned up her floor and went into her bathroom to wash up.

Finishing all of this she laid in bed and logged back into Rutanu.

She headed directly to Vandiantsi to see Randiantsi hard at work building some more structures.

“Wow Randiantsi, you really get a lot done while I’m gone.” Yaoan said looking at the work done to the territory.

“Shoot, I would have got a lot more done if we didn’t get people every 5 minutes trying to be recruited into our party.” Randiantsi said using her strings to pull another person down into the trench.

“Its like second nature to you now eh?” Yaoan asked.

“Basically! I keep getting experience from them, but it’s no where enough to get me to the next level...” Randiantsi said before pausing quickly. “Oh look look at what I made for you!” Randiantsi said leading Yaoan to the center of the small town.

“Tada!!” Randiantsi said showing Yaoan a statue of the both of them standing tall in the middle of the town square.

“On Earth! This is crazy! How’d you learn to craft this well?!” Yaoan said stunned at the craftsmanship of the statues.

“Well in the real world I have a lot of time spent just sitting down, so I picked up sculpting to past the time a while ago. So I guess here it just got enhanced.” Randiantsi said looking at Yaoan admire the piece.

Yaoan then noticed a sculpture of Yuski in the Randiantsi Statue’s pocket.

“Ah, what is Yuski doing in your pocket?” Yaoan asked.

“Well he was sitting there watching me work and I offered to make a smaller statue of him off to the side. But he said that he would very much prefer a even smaller sculpture of himself but in my pocket.” Randiantsi explained.

“That’s weird...” Yaoan added.

“Yea, he’s a strange one.” Randiantsi also added.

“So what is he doing?” Yaoan asked Randiantsi.

“He is battling in the Stadium, something about honing his pvp skills.” Randiantsi then shot another needle to the other side of town and prevented yet another person from getting over the

trench. "If he wanted pvp he really could have just stayed here, not that I don't mind that he's gone!" Randiantsi said to Yaoan.

"So what do you feel like doing tonight Vani?" Randiantsi asked Yaoan.

"When I was training earlier the NPC in the technique area had me fight against these beasts that were in another zone or something. We should go and check out the far reaches. Like beyond the first Raid Boss." Yaoan said demonstrating how the creatures looked to Randiantsi.

"Oh! Another far off adventure with Vani! You don't have to ask me twice." Randiantsi said summoning the vehicle. "You drive of course." Randiantsi said moving back.

Yaoan sat in from of Randiantsi as Randiantsi wrapped her arms around Vani's waist.

"Off to distant lands, hunter guys!" Randiantsi said calling down. "Protect this place while we are gone!" Randiantsi ordered the NPC.

"With our life!" They saluted.

Yaoan and Randiantsi blasted off high into the air. "So which direction are we in the mood for. North, East, South or West?" Yaoan asked Randiantsi turning in those directions as she spoke.

"Hmm." Randiantsi sounded as she looked hard in each direction. In the North she saw the mountain that they have been to before with the raid boss. In the South was the Ocean. In the East looked to be deep plains leading into a desert, and to the West was more city to explore. "I say we should go East, but let's stock up on some items since it's looking quite dry out there." Randiantsi said pointing Eastward.

"You mean like we are going to need water out there." Yaoan said wondering if that was required for the adventure.

"Water, I wasn't thinking that... I was thinking more along the lines of revivals and energy drinks." Randiantsi said looking at her inventory.

Yaoan also looked at her inventory and saw that it was rather bare, especially considering her level. "Okay, let's swing on by to the shopping district and pick us up some equipments."

Yaoan then turned the vehicle westward and down into the city.

When they entered they noticed a festival was going on.

“5 days of Battles...” Randiantsi read the banners around the city.

“Looks like there’s an event going on. The NPCs decorated their shops with ribbons, and banners.” Yaoan said looking at the bustling crowd.

“Well they better have their stuff discounted then.” Randiantsi said grabbing Vani’s hand and pulling her to a shop close by. “So what ya have big man.” Randiantsi said to the shop owner.

“I have the best spiritual material west of the Zemion Range!” The NPC said displaying his materials. “You can use these materials to boost you armour strength or increase your energy pool.”

“Wow, I am not interested in that at all.” Randiantsi said as she started walking away. Yaoan stood there wanting to actually look at the items. “Come on Vani.” Randiantsi said to Yaoan.

“Ah why are we just walking away.” Yaoan began to say before the shop keeper called out.

“Wait! I’ll give you a 20% discount on any of my materials, plus the 10% discount for the festival, I’m practically giving this stuff away.” The NPC said towards the girls.

Randiantsi then looked at Yaoan. “That’s why.” She then walked back to the NPC. “Well now you have my interest, which one offers a durability increase to like weapons, since you see my threads are okay for now but they get cut through all the time.” Randiantsi asked the NPC.

“Hmm, your threads seem to be boosted by your energy pool in material. I think I got something for you.” The NPC said as he pulled out two large cases. “Okay so this case contains a scarf that boost your overall energy pool by 1%, and this will is a specialty case that replaces your threads from its current energy pool ones to a solid object.” The NPC demonstrated the strength of the thread.

He took out a sword and tried to cut through it. The sword failed. He took out a torch, it didn’t burn through it. Randiantsi then held the thread. “You don’t mind if I test it out really quick right, I mean if it’s as good as you say then you wouldn’t be worried right?” Randiantsi asked the NPC as she held the thread.

“Go for it.” He folded his hands.

“Vani shoot a laser beam at this thing.” Randiantsi told Yaoan as Yaoan then took aim.

“Wait! I’ve never tested it like that!” The NPC said as he tried to reach out for it. Yaoan then shot at the thread.

The beam deflected to two different areas, one directed up at the sky and the other into the ground. They all looked at the thread and just saw it vibrating, but still in one piece.

“Dang, impressive. I think I am going to go for this one.” Randiantsi said pulling back the thread into her hands.

“Yes certainly... the NPC said as he took out his payment counter. “So that’s initially 30URCs, but with the holiday discount that’s 27URCs, then with the 20% that’s 21URCs and 60SRCs.”

“I actually would like both discounts to be used together as 30%, making it an even 21URCs.” Randiantsi said handing the guy the 21. “Since I did help you out by testing it with a real test.”

“You know, you drive a real hard argument short stuff.” The NPC said staring down Randiantsi as she stared back. “Well, it’s not going to be doing anything just sitting in my shop, and you look like you’ll be able to use it to it’s full potential so.” He then confirmed the payment. “It’s a deal.”

“Now what about you are you looking for something here, I’m sure I can boost that laser ability of yours.” The NPC said to Yaoan.

“I’m not sure I’m looking for anything at the moment, I’m still working out my capabilities.” Yaoan said to the NPC.

“Oh you could get something like a mirror so you could throw them on the ground and guide your blasts.” Randiantsi said aiming her finger like a laser pointer.

Yaoan then rubbed the back of her head. “See that’s the thing, after training earlier today I learned that I could actually steer my blasts even after releasing them, so no mirror needed.” Yaoan said to Randiantsi.

“Oh really? Well that’s cool to know.” Randiantsi said as the NPC also chimed in.

“How about some orbs to store your energy for later use.” The NPC said as he showed Yaoan silver colored orbs.

“Yea, I found that if I really wanted to I could store my energy as swirling heat around my body... so I guess I wouldn’t have much use for that.” Yaoan replied.

“Wow! I thought you were a bit overpowered before but you’re still finding new ways to be more awesome.” Randiantsi said stunned at Yaoan.

“Actually, you know what, I’ll take the silver ball things you just showed, I’m sure they’ll come in handy eventually.” Yaoan said grabbing the objects.

"I agree, it's never wrong to be prepared. These things can store up enough energy to release a 30MegaTon explosion if you really wanted to push them that far." The NPC said to the two.

"Oh so they are like Rutanu equivalence to the Energy Shards in the real world." Randiantsi said also holding on to one of the silver objects.

"There's something like this in our world? Is it like new technology?" Yaoan asked Randiantsi.

Randiantsi then looked confused. "Ah, no... it's like as old as Earth itself. And Vesatanis has been using them to power our cities since Vesatanis became a thing."

"Wow, who would have thought that's how other places get power." Yaoan said to Randiantsi.

"Then how does Marian get power for the cities there." Randiantsi asked Yaoan.

"The Queen drains her power into the city and that's where we get our power, that's also what made it so that we can't die in Marian South." Yaoan responded turning towards the NPC.

"Vlogora also has immortality... and I suspect that every place does ever since the white glow each light became a thing. I think your Queen is taking credit for stuff she didn't do." Randiantsi responded to Yaoan who was half paying attention.

"Ah how much for these?" Yaoan asked the NPC. "No way everywhere has immortality, Marian South has been having daily deadly violence, and Vlogora doesn't seem to be doing well with the epidemic going through there." Yaoan said to Randiantsi.

"100SRCs each, with the upfront 30% off you'll asked me for that'll be 70SRCs each. If you buy 15, I'll give them to you for an even 10URCs." The NPC said to Yaoan.

"Sure, I'll take 15 then!" Yaoan then gave the guy 10URCs. Then Yaoan and Randiantsi left. "

"There hasn't been a death in Vlogora for like 7 years now." Randiantsi said to Yaoan then she went silent.

Yaoan then turned around to see what was wrong with Randiantsi. She saw Randiantsi just standing still, and she immediately went to go comfort her.

"Hey Randiantsi, like you said earlier, if you need to talk about anything I am here." Yaoan then paused. "Talking about the age of immortality makes me sad too since I lost my parents right before it in the War between Marian North and South. Did you lose someone too?" Yaoan asked holding Randiantsi.

“No... it’s just that...” Randiantsi then stopped. Then she took a deep breath in, held it, and released. “It’s just not cool for her to be talking credit for that you know.” Randiantsi then wiped her face then regained her upbeat attitude. “Okay let’s continue shopping so we can adventure, this has really turned to a downer huh?”

Yaoan then got up as well and nodded her head as they continued down the road to another shop.

“Oh check this out!” Randiantsi said pointing to a long black silk like robe with red trimmings along it seems. The robe had a hood and went over head like a poncho.

“That is intense.” Yaoan said getting a closer look at it.

“Yea, I would look so cool in it...” Randiantsi then looked at Yaoan. “I must have it.” She said with a flame in her eyes.

“Ha, do as your heart desires.” Yaoan said with a smile.

“Do you think I’ll look cute in it?” Randiantsi said reconsidering.

“Well you practically look cute in anything.” Yaoan responded.

“I heard, but I mean cute, for like you.” Randiantsi said to Yaoan looking at her. Yaoan then looked back with a slight look off confusion. “Hehe, nevermind, forget that last question. I’m just going to go in and buy it.” Randiantsi said rushing in.

Yaoan again didn’t know if she was supposed to answer that last question or not. Yaoan looked through the window at Randiantsi talking to the cashier. Yaoan was thinking about how Randiantsi said that they were immortal in her region too. It made Yaoan begin to question what she thought she knew.

Randiantsi then came out wearing the robe showing it off to Yaoan. “Damn, I feel powerful in this thing!” Randiantsi said spreading her arms wide, then into a fist in front of herself.

“Definitely a confusing look, you’re like super cute so people would want to approach, but also very strong looking so it’ll keep them away. It’s like a baby Sertius (a tiger like creature.)” Yaoan responded to Randiantsi.

Yaoan then jumped as if something stunned her. “Oh, I got something that’ll look perfect on you!” Yaoan said reaching into her pocket inventory to bring out the trinket she found earlier, then she put it in Randiantsi hair. “There now you look perfect.”

Randiantsi looked up at the object in her hair, then looked back at Yaoan. "On Earth is this... it's one of the most beautiful things I have seen!" Randiantsi said looking at herself in the window's reflection. "Now we need to find something new for you. Do you want something tough like a knight's armour set."

"I'm in the mood for a slick form fitting look with a baggy top, and maybe a poncho or satch over my shoulders." Yaoan said trying to describe the attire.

"Oh going for that very light weight look." Randiantsi said looking around. "Hmmm, let's see, who is selling speed style clothing." Randiantsi said once again looking around. And then she spotted one. "Ah! Over there!". She said pulling Vani over.

"Oh black leggings, and a black long sleeved short dress, can't say that's far off from what I was describing." Yaoan said to Randiantsi as they both looked at the attire. "Now I just need some silky and bright over my shoulders." Yaoan said as she walked in being followed by Randiantsi.

"Why hello there! I'm the owner of this here shop. We specialize in form fitting and form hugging attire." The NPC said.

"Yes, I do see that. First I'm interested in what you have displayed in the window, and second do you have some sort of light blue, or light orange colored poncho?" She asked the shop keeper.

"Yes I do, those kinds of things should be over where the scarves are since they are more accessories like." The NPC responded. "I'll have that windowed outfit reserved for you until you come and purchase."

Yaoan and Randiantsi walked over to the selection. "Oh wow, I should definitely wear these head feathers!" Randiantsi said putting two large red feathers in her hair.

"Haha definitely not, you look too full of yourself." Yaoan said looking at the selection too.

"And here I thought it made me look bad to my core." Randiantsi responded taking the feathers off.

"That's one way to describe it, it just didn't give off that impression to me."

"What if I tied them back like this..." Randiantsi attempted to tie the feathers together.

"Please refrain from doing that, if you break my goods you'll have to pay full price for them." The NPC said to Randiantsi.

"Definitely don't want to do that if you don't like it Vani." Randiantsi said smiling at Yaoan.

“No you should definitely get it if you want, I was saying that you didn’t look ‘bad to your core’ you still looked cute wearing it.” Yaoan said trying to laugh it off.

“Meh, I think I’m okay with what I have, we came in here to look for your stuff.” Randiantsi plopping the helmet onto a shelf.

“Actually we came to this area to stock up on goods for our adventure in the East remember.” Yaoan said looking at Randiantsi with a grin.

“Oh yea, guess we did get a little distracted, yea. Let’s hurry up and head out Vani!” Randiantsi quickly left the shop always down for an adventure.

Yaoan secretly bought an outfit, and soon followed after Randiantsi.

“So I estimate that we will need 3 cases of Energy Drink, two cases of Revivals, a bundle of Chewies, and maybe a few dozen Yammers.” Randiantsi said listing off a list she made in her list.

“Why would we need Yammers? Aren’t we going to be in the middle of the Desert?” Yaoan asked confused because Yammers is a Spicy Pepper that increased your perspiration.

“Because the creatures there love this stuff, and rather than chasing them down we can just lay those on the ground and lure them out of their hidey holes.” Randiantsi noted as if she was a master planner.

“Can’t argue with that.” Yaoan added.

“Well then let’s do it! Let’s get out of this crowded place.” Randiantsi said dashing to a grocery shop.

The two quickly found their materials without a hitch. And because of the sell they were able to get their items extremely cheap. Yaoan summoned the vehicle and Randiantsi hopped in the back.

“Hold on tight, we are going to be traveling exceptionally fast because the region is a bit of distance away.” Yaoan told Randiantsi who immediately grabbed tightly to Yaoan.

“Don’t have to tell me twice.” Randiantsi said wrapping her arms around Yaoan.

Yaoan then immediately launched into the air and the two flew off at incredible speeds to the East.

This part of the game had a environmental buff where you take damage from the heated air and the sharp sand if your level or equipment was too low.

“Oh looks like the vehicle is taking some damage just being in the area.” Yaoan noticed as the health of the vehicle slowly decreased.

“Dang, really. We are barely in the heart of the area, I would have to go about it on foot.” Randiantsi upsettingly remarked.

“I can’t we can run this thing into the ground if we must, it’s not like we won’t be able to get a new one.” Yaoan said continueing forward.

Randiantsi checked the equipment logs and quickly replied after noticing something rather critical.

“Oh! We should land like right now! I’m not able to purchase anything while out in this region. The transports who make the deliveries can’t get to this area.” Randiantsi said knowing that if the vehicle broke down they would have to travel on foot all the way back.

Yaoan slowed the vehicle down letting it glide to a stop.

They both hopped out.

“Good thing you caught that. We could have been in serious trouble.” Yaoan noted as she returned the vehicle into their inventory.

Randiantsi looked around. “Other than the wind kicking up sand this place actually seems less dangerous than the main hub area.”

The two walked deeper into the region and each time they stepped they felt a rumble under their feet.

“Wow, you have some pretty heavy steps Vani.” Randiantsi said jokingly as they walked.

Yaoan paused. “Ah... I thought those were your steps...”

The two looked around at their surroundings. But they saw nothing. Then they felt the rumble again.

“You felt that again?!” Randiantsi asked nervously “Is it invisible?”

Yaoan then picked up a rock from the ground and threw it. When the rock landed the rumble happened again.

“Do you think it’s one of those Outer World Dieties Samarino was talking about.” Randiantsi asked getting close to Yaoan.

“I don’t it, those things would come with some sort of grand entrance right? Especially if they are a tier above a raid.” Yaoan noted trying to notice a change in the environment.

Yaoan said a part of the ground raise a little heading in their direction.

“I think it’s under ground.” Yaoan whispered to Randiantsi.

“Why are you whispering though, shouldn’t we be trying to come up with a plan.” Randiantsi said wondering why Yaoan was being cautious.

“I think it’s using the vibrations we make to locate us, I think because we would be considered a large meal it took interest in us.” Yaoan said trying to be quieter.

Yaoan gestured to be quiet and pointed to a large stone in the distance. She motioned for Randiantsi to use her Strings to pull them both over to it so that they could get off the ground.

Randiantsi nodded and threw her needles at the large rock in the distance. She hit it directly and Yaoan grabbed Randiantsi around the chest.

Randiantsi then pulled them both to the large rock. Just as they were approaching it from the air a Large Long Scorpion came out from under the ground and crushed the stone into pieces shoving it into its mouth.

Yaoan and Randiantsi landed harshly on the sand and the Beast went back under ground.

“Did you see the size of that thing! It makes the Raid boss look like a tiny lizard in comparison!” Randiantsi said in complete awe.

“Well it definitely knows we are here, so we either have to take it out or run, what do you think Randiantsi.” Yaoan said cautiously.

“Ha! Between the both of us, there is nothing to be worried about.” Randiantsi pulled out her needles and shield and began to swirl it around themselves in a large circle to make the Beast come up from under the ground.

The Giant Scorpion came out from under the ground and grabbed Randiantsi’s shield. Randiantsi planted her feet into the ground and began to wrestle with the beast as if it was a large fish.

“There it is Vani, out in daylight. Go ahead and kill it with one of your insane blasts.” Randiantsi said happily, but still struggling.

Yaoan powered up a Laser shot and aimed it directly at the Scorpion.

She launched it out and it hit it directly but her laser bounced right off of it.

Both Yaoan and Randiantsi were shocked. The Scorpion then managed to wrestle control from Randiantsi and threw her into the air.

The Beast quickly scurried to catch Randiantsi in its mouth.

Yaoan then shoot the ground directly underneath the Beast and it fell into the hole. Yaoan then quickly rushed to catch Randiantsi as she fell.

They both landed on the other side of the hole and they felt the rumbling underground once more.

“This is bad, your attack didn’t work on it!” Randiantsi said worried.

“It must be heat resistant, especially considering it lives in this harsh region.” Yaoan said aloud trying to come up with a plan.

The rumbling got loud again directly beneath them and Randiantsi summoned her shield threw it directly into the air, attached herself and Yaoan to the needles and pulled themselves into the air barely getting out of the way of being eaten.

“Do you have any plans Vani?” Randiantsi asked as the two began to descend back towards the ground.

“Looks like we are going to have to rely on you for now, do you think you can keep me safe until I come up with something.” Yaoan asked as the two landed.

Randiantsi nodded her head and began to run and make noise as she made her way away from Yaoan.

“Hey you Giant Vermon! I’m over here! I’ve been described as cute enough to eat, so how about you be the first to try!” Randiantsi slammed her shield into the ground and stomped her feet.

The Scorpion came up from under the ground to try and eat her but it just ate her shield instead.

Randiantsi tried to throw her needles into its skin but it was too tough to penetrate.

“Dang really! There has to be a weak spot.” Randiantsi said as she summoned another shield.

“Does the inside of its mouth seem vulnerable!?” Yaoan yelled out as the beast began to move again under ground.

Randiantsi then dragged her shield along the ground and had the scorpion come out attempting to eat it again. Randiantsi quickly pulled the shield away and threw it directly into its mouth. The shield melted as it went in.

“I don’t think that’s its vulnerable spot, looks like it’s an acidic liquid throughout its insides.” Randiantsi said after losing yet another shield. “I could keep creating these all day, but eventually I’ll run out of energy.” Randiantsi said quietly.

“I got an idea, but it’s going to take some more time! Do you think you can handle that!?” Yaoan yelled out at Randiantsi.

“Don’t worry about me, do what you need to do.” Randiantsi replied.

Yaoan then began to drain the Energy from her environment and began to form a fiery sphere around herself.

Randiantsi summoned another shield and tried to use it as bait but the beast wasn’t going for it and instead went towards Yaoan.

It came out of the ground directly towards Yaoan with its claws coming at her, Yaoan was too focused to move.

“Oh no you don’t.” Randiantsi said as she threw her needles at the Beast and wrapped her threads around it. She then pulled the Beast towards herself and moved out of the way having it hit harshly against the ground.

It eventually snapped through her threads and went underground again.

“Wow, it broke right through. I should ask for a refund...” Randiantsi smirked trying to determine the position of its next exit point.

Randiantsi saw the ground rise up and she went to attack it. She wrapped it in her threads but noticed that it was just its tail. The Scorpion came up from behind her and went to grab her.

Randiantsi summoned her shield around herself as the scorpion now had her in its claws.

“Darn thing tricked me... Ah what to do, what to do...” Randiantsi thought as she was trapped within her shield and being brought directly into the Beast’s mouth.

Yaoan saw this and tried to go to try and attack, but she saw that Randiansi had sent threads out of tiny holes in her shield and wrapped them around the claw. This made it so that she could not be consumed without it sacrificing a claw to do so.

“Don’t worry about me Vina, I got this under control. You keep doing what you need to.”
Randiansi yelled out from inside the ball.

The beast then began to slam its claw into the ground trying to force Randiansi’s shield off. Randiansi was being thrown around inside.

Yaoan had formed a sizable ball of plasma and took aim at the Scorpion.

“You may be heat resistant but I doubt it’s enough to fully counter all of this.” Yaoan said as she threw it at the Scorpion.

The plasma ball flew through the air and hit the Scorpion on its back. It shrieked out in pain and dove underground with Randiansi still attached.

The area had now become silent. As Yaoan looked into the hole it dug into.

“Hello! Randiansi can you hear me?!” Yaoan yelled out but she got no answer.

Yaoan then walked around loudly to see if she could get it to come out, but there was nothing. She then really began to panic.

Yaoan’s device rang. It was a message from Randiansi.

“It stopped throwing me around, but I’m still inside of my ball. Did you kill it?” Randiansi messaged.

“No it dug under ground after I hit it, I don’t see it anymore and it stopped coming out.” Yaoan replied.

Some time passed.

“Wait, so it’s not dead... then where am I.” Randiansi messaged with worried images attached.

“I have no idea...” Yaoan messaged back as she continued to look around the area. She saw smaller creatures which would have been good to farm for experience and materials.

“Did you leave your shield?” Yaoan sent another message.

Randiantsi sent an image. The Scorpion had molded and now wasn't moving as it was restoring its energy.

"I'm in like this cave, it's extremely hot down here, and the thing is sleeping." Randiantsi message.

"It's eyes are open, that's so creepy." Randiantsi messaged again shortly after.

"Well as long as she's not in immediate danger I can calm down, but she is in eminent danger..." Yaoan thought as she paced above ground.

Yaoan then began to create deep holes in the ground with her blasts to try and locate Randiantsi.

Protection Material Unlocked a notification appeared on Yaoan's device. And then a message from Randiantsi.

"I gathered data from the Beast Discarded flesh. Now my Shields are made from its skin. I have insane protection now." Randiantsi messaged.

"Wow that's really cool! Find a way out?" Yaoan messaged as she was beginning to worry.

There was a rumble under Yaoan's feet but she could tell that it wasn't directly underneath her. Yaoan ran to the location of it.

The rumbling got louder and the ground shook.

"Oh no, it must be awake now, Randiantsi stay strong!" Yaoan worried as she aimed her beam at the ground.

Yaoan fired a few shots and the hole kept on filling itself up. The rumbling kept getting louder and louder. And Yaoan fired more rapidly. Then it all stopped.

Yaoan then jumped back and put all of her strength into a blast that would result in her having barely enough Energy to move.

She blasted an enormous hole into the ground and immediately jumped in.

She found Randiantsi badly burned and the Scorpion dead.

Yaoan picked up Randiantsi and tried to wake her up.

"Randiantsi, Randiantsi... are you okay!" Yaoan tapped her face to get her to wake up.

Randiantsi then came to and smirked. "Yea, I managed to kill then thing by making needles from its stinger, but then as I went to leave I got wrecked by what I imagine was your attack haha."

Yaoan grinned and held Randiantsi close to her. "Sorry about that, I was so worried."

Randiantsi then weakly pulled something out of her pocket.

"Look, that thing dropped this when I defeated it. Seems like some loot." Randiantsi handed it to Yaoan.

Yaoan placed it into the Inventory and focused on Randiantsi. "Are you going to be okay Randiantsi, I didn't hurt you too badly right?"

"Don't worry, I just like being held by you, give me a few minutes." Randiantsi said light hearted.

Yaoan then just held Randiantsi looking around at the carnage that happened underground.

It looked like Randiantsi ripped the Scorpion apart piece by piece leaving only its torso intact. Then smashed its head with her newly modified shield.

"Wow, so much fury packed into such a small package." Yaoan thought as she looked at Randiantsi.

"Don't stare too heavily on me, you might burn a hole right through my face with your hotness." Randiantsi jokingly said as she opened her eyes seeing Yaoan looking at her.

"Good you are up. I think we should head back to Vandiantsi. This area may be slightly out of our league. That thing wasn't even a boss." Yaoan noted.

Randiantsi got up and nodded her head. "Yea, I'm at low health, you are at low health. We still have all of our equipment but we can use it when we are more prepared."

Yaoan summoned the vehicle. "I'm a bit weak right now so it's going to be a bit of a slow ride."

"Sounds good to me, do you want to drink an Energy drink before hand. It won't restore your health but it'll get the Energy flowing." Randiantsi said handing Yaoan a drink.

Yaoan chugged it down and it barely filled up anything. "Looks like I'm going to need about a dozen of those before I start feeling in top shape." Yaoan joked.

“Yea, definitely didn’t expect us to expend this much.” Randiantsi said as she hopped in the back.

Yaoan got into the drivers position and they both started to head back.

While in the air.

“Oh that orb I got is a summoning orb.” Randiantsi said looking at her loot.

“What does that mean?” Yaoan asked as she was paying attention to the skies.

“It means that we can summon that Scorpion to fight for us. We should totally release it at Vandiantsi. Guarantee that we won’t get ant traspassers.” Randiantsi said joking.

“Doesn’t sound like a bad idea to me.” Yaoan replied.

“We can release it in the frontier parts, the Warriors have the main regions under control.” Randiantsi added.

The two eventually got back to there base.

“That was fun as usual Vina. I’ll be here waiting for you to log back in tomorrow okay?” Randiantsi asked Yaoan.

“Of course!” Yaoan said preparing to log out.

“And we will see each other in person soon yes?” Randiantsi asked nervously.

“Definitely, it’s in like 5 days. I’m planning on getting a temporary apartment there for us to hang out. I’ll be riding up with Rider but he definitely won’t be staying with me.” Yaoan laughed.

“Then I’ll definitely make arrangements to stay there! We can talk about it more tomorrow!” Randiantsi said eagerly

“Definitely! See you tomorrow!” Yaoan said as she logged off of the Virtual World.

“Wow, I’m exhausted in real life too, let me get some sleep.” Yaoan then laid down and drifted quickly to sleep.

She then began to have another nightmare. She dreamt that Randiantsi was unreachable as Yaoan tried to run to her but was making no progress.

Randiantsi didn't notice Yaoan as she was slipping slowly deeper into more darkness. Yaoan dreamt that she was slowly fading away, unable to interact with Randiantsi.

Then a hand reached beneath the darkness and Yaoan grabbed it as it lifted her out of the despair. As Yaoan head broke through the darkness she woke up.

Her Alarm rang shortly after.

"Hmm compared to my usual standard of dreams I would consider that a good one." Yaoan thought to herself.

She did her morning routine to begin to head to school. Cleaned up her face, grabbed a quick bite and ran out with all that she imagined she needed for the school day.

Yaoan walked down the road thinking about the meaning of her dream.

"Don't think too hard now, you might blow off your dumb head." One of the girls from the everyday group mocked Yaoan.

"How come you guys are always here when I'm here?" Yaoan asked. "I even left a bit early today."

None of them answered and just kept walking in front of Yaoan. As Yaoan gave them a bothered look.

Chapter 8:

Yaoan reached the gates and this time the gate teacher didn't ask if Yaoan brought anything into the school. So she continued to walk through.

"Oh he must be thinking of something else, better not push my luck around here." Yaoan thought to herself as she tried to maintain a small profile when walking passed him.

"Hey! What do you think you are doing?!" Yaoan heard the gate teacher say behind her.

Yaoan turned around and saw that he was scolding another student, so she left in a heart beat to not incur his wrath too.

Anhou was waiting for Yaoan in the hallway. He waved at her and she went to approach him.

A few students who were walking into the homeroom walked by Yaoan and greeted her. "Morning Vani!" they then entered the room.

This caught Yaoan again by surprise. She is so used to living in silence. Yaoan then gave a smile and a small nervous wave, then continued to walk to Anhou.

“What’s up Anhou?” Yaoan approached Anhou.

“Looks like your skills in the game is gaining you notoriety in real life.” Anhou noticed.

“Certainly looks that way. I don’t see how word could spread so quickly that Vani belongs to me..” Yaoan said curious.

Anhou pulled out his device. “You must not have seen the videos of you guys fighting against Samarino.” He showed Yaoan the video. “You see there’s like dozens of these from all angles. Its being used to promote the tournament coming up on the main site.”

Yaoan covered her face. “Oh this is embarrassing!” Yaoan thought to herself seeing the amount of people who saw her moving around.

“Why are you hiding?” Anhou tried to look at Yaoan’s face. “If I was you, I would be milking this for all its worth.”

“Well there lies the difference between us two doesn’t it.” Yaoan continued to cover her face.

“Ah whatever, I know you like this.” Anhou said jokingly. “So where do we want to meet during the Half Time Period?”

Yaoan lowered her books. “We can go to Area 9 in the Music Rooms.”

“There’s going to be a ton of people there, are you sure you don’t want to go anywhere more secluded.” Anhou said raising and lowering his eyebrows.

Yaoan turned around and headed into homeroom. “Yes I am sure. I’ll see you there.”

Anhou laughed nervously and entered his homeroom as well.

Yaoan tried to pay attention in Home Room as they were being marked for attendance, updated on grades, and preparing for the testing cycle soon.

“Pretty soon I won’t even be in this school anymore, so no need for me to worry about that.” Yaoan thought to herself as Teare Ro was going over the exam.

Yaoan noticed that the same students who greeted her earlier were now looking at her in the classroom.

She glanced at them and they gave her a giant smile.

They gestured to Yaoan indicating that they wanted to say something to her.

Yaoan gestured asking “what?”.

They signed back to her saying. “We saw you on the main server page, how’d you do that?”
“I don’t know, I barely knew I was being recorded.” Yaoan signed back to them.

“Can we be in your next one?” They replied.

“I have no idea. But I do recommend that you just play the game normally and you may get lucky to be captured. Just enjoy yourself.” Yaoan replied.

Then Teare Ro turned around trying to catch anyone speaking. She glanced at Yaoan seeing that Yaoan’s posture was abnormally straight and front facing.

“Your distinct correctness is a sign that you were doing what you weren;t supposed to be doing Student 1076. Don’t let me catch you in the act.” Teare Ro said as she turned back around writing on the board.

Yaoan then relaxed her posture and went back to day dreaming about moving away from this country.

Yaoan headed to Royal Etiquette class where today’s lesson was on Presentation of attire to the Queen.

“A Good Citizen will present the clothing to the Royal Family with their arms straight out and the head of the clothing on the forearm and the base of the clothing between the gap. If the garb is too long you are to fold the extra length and place it on your second forearm before the presentation. Extra cloth signifies a wasteful citizen.” Yaoan and her classmates repeated that dozens of times to drill it into their heads.

“Radiantsi said that there were Energy Shard things that other nations use to power their cities...” Yaoan was curious. So she requested to ask a question.

The Royal Etiquette teacher allowed the Student Leader to go to Yaoan and be asked the question. For in their classes Students aren’t allowed to ask a question out loud to the whole class. The Question must be passed through the Student Leader who then would ask the Teacher, if they couldn’t answer it, who would then choose to answer the question loudly or in private.

Yaoan asked the Student Leader. "Does the Royal Family use Energy Shards to provide us with Energy to live? I heard that is the way other countries do it."

The Student Leader laughed at her. "Energy Shards?! Ha, that's absolute garbage, how would they even pull energy from it."

The Royal Etiquette Teacher then gestured for the Student Leader to return and asked Yaoan's question.

Both of them spoke with each other for some time. Then the Student Leader left the room.

Yaoan was confused about this, but continued to recite the lesson.

A little later two Guards came into the room and the Student Leader pointed at Yaoan. The two Guards came over to Yaoan and removed her from class. They then escorted her to the back half of the school.

She was then seated down inside of a room that was mostly empty and they shut the door, locking her in. Another individual came in who looked rather professional. He carried a fancy piece of technology with him and sat down in front of Yaoan.

It was silent for a little. Then he offered Yaoan a snack. It was a piece of dried seafood. Yaoan declined and continued to sit quietly.

"So..." The Professional Man looked at his device. "Yaoan. That is your name correct?"

"Yes that is correct Sir." Yaoan replied nervously.

"We received information that you've been talking to people of other nations about the Royal Family. Is that correct?" He asked Yaoan.

"I don't talk to them about the Royal Family, it just comes up in conversation." Yaoan responded.

"I would prefer you to keep the answers to a yes or no, understand?" He responded.

"Yes Sir, I understand." Yaoan responded.

"So which country is this person from that you are speaking to?" He asked.

"The Nation of Vlagora." Yaoan responded becoming scared that she may be in serious trouble.

The Professional wrote in his device, and swiped on it. "What is this person's name and where did you speak to them?"

"I don't know their name actually, just their avatar name." Yaoan responded.

"Avatar name? So this interaction was not physical?" The Professional asked.

"That is correct Sir..." Yaoan responded.

He then opened his hand and gestured. Yaoan knew that he wanted to confiscate her device. But she had to make sure.

"Yes Sir?" Yaoan asked.

"Hand me your device." The professional commanded.

Yaoan removed it from the side of her neck and gave it to him. He then connected it to the fancy device he brought in and started pulling information from it.

Yaoan sat there silently as he was processing her device.

"Which server do you use to communicate with this individual?" He asked Yaoan.

"It's a game called Rutanu." Yaoan responded and then sat in silence again.

Some more time past and Yaoan just sat in the room. Then his face became disgruntled. He then stood up and began walking out of the room with Yaoan's device.

"Wait Sir, you still have my thing." Yaoan said nervously.

He then grinned. "This isn't yours anymore, this is now the property of the Royal Family." He then closed the door and left Yaoan in the room alone.

"Dang it! Now what!..." Yaoan sat in the room slightly upset.

They had her sit in the room for what felt like hours. She hummed songs in her head, and thought about how she could talk herself out of this situation.

Even longer past and Yaoan could tell that Half Period had already passed.

The professional walked back into the room.

“Your parents died as a result of the Marian Civil War, do you have any ill intent towards Marian North for that?” He asked Yaoan.

“Of course not Sir.” Yaoan said caught off guard at the harsh nature of the question.

“How much do you love Marian North.” He asked her.

“With all my heart, it’s my home.” Yaoan responded as if rehearsed her entire life.

“Which do you love more, the Country or the Royal Family.” He asked Yaoan.

“Without the Royal Family there is no Country Sir.” She responded to him.

He then stood straight back up. “Don’t you forget that. Do you have anything in this Rutanu Game that contains information about you trying to desert Marian North, or providing anymore information on Marian North that we didn’t discuss today?”

“I talked about how the Queen gave everyone in Marian North immortality, and that we were the most advanced Nation on Earth...” Yaoan said becoming more terrified.

He then left the room, leaving Yaoan to sit alone again.

“What was that about...?” Yaoan thought to herself.

The door to the room opened and Yaoan was taken out of the room by the same two guards. They took her all the way to the gate of the school.

“You are not to tell anyone about what happened today. If you do we will find out.” One of the guards said to Yaoan.

“Return home. You are not to leave your place of residence for two days.” Another guard said to Yaoan as they then pushed her slightly forward.

Yaoan began to walk home and the Guards followed her.

“I can’t leave my house for 2 days? What am I supposed to eat... what am I supposed to do?” Yaoan thought to herself as she was being followed.

“Boo!” someone yelled out at Yaoan as she was walking home.

The three of them got to Yaoan place.

“Excuse me could I pick up something to eat from this store. I don’t have any food.” Yaoan politely asked.

They then pushed Yaoan to continue to her house. “No you can not. You can eat after your stay. Its not like you are going to die.”

Yaoan then entered her home and the guards stayed outside.

She shut her door and locked it. Then she ran to her couch and started crying.

She yelled into her cushions and cried loudly into them. She felt terrified, angry and sad all at the same time.

She wished that her life wasn’t this way.

Yaoan eventually wore herself out with her emotions and laid silently on her couch.

“Dang, I hope Randiansi doesn’t think I ditched her...” Yaoan laid with her face still in the cushions.

Yaoan got up and went to her refrigerator. She saw a bunch of half eaten snacks.

“Guess I might as well finish all of these up since its the only thing I could do.” Yaoan thought as she pulled them out of her fridge.

She turned on her videos in the living room and sat and watched the news.

“Marian North has donated trillions of developmental material to her Neighboring Nations yesterday in what is truly the greatest act of gratitude in all of Human History.” The news reporters said.

“How about give some of that development to the Ren Shaole communities...” Yaoan thought to herself. Then immediately stood up in disgust.

She covered her mouth. “Did I really just think that!... Oh no!” Yaoan turned of the Videos and went into her bathroom to look at her face.

“Come on... you’ve been through worse than this Yoyo... don’t think like that just because of today.” Yaoan then threw some water on her face.

“I mean look, you got one of the nicest homes for a Ren Shaole...” Yaoan said trying to name off the good things of Marian North. “... though it was because of Ren Neo that I was able to afford this, and I don’t know where they were from...” Yaoan thought some more.

She then pulled out a map of the Nations of Earth and started to try and figure it out.

“Ren Neo live South of the Central Mountains...” Yaoan then paused. “How did they get up here through all of those other nations. And how did such lower developed countries get into ours.”

Yaoan then returned to the living room with the map. “And why would they then run me through an experiment if I am in a more developed country than them...” Yaoan head began to hurt from all of the inconsistencies with what she was taught in school and what reality states.

“Of course it makes sense... I am just tired.” Yaoan threw the map to the side. Then turned back on the video. “I’ll just put on something entertaining.”

Yaoan flipped through the networks and found the Rutanu video. She saw Randiantsi and her fighting against Samarino. Yaoan then smiled and kept watching it on replay.

“This isn’t fair, I didn’t even say anything wrong.” Yaoan sat upset that they kept her device. “I’m probably getting dozens of messages from Randiantsi right now.”

Yaoan got up from the couch and started cleaning up her home. Seeing that she had already become tired of watching videos.

“You actually never know how much you want to go outside until you are unable to.” Yaoan scrubbed her rooms cleaned, giving everything in the house a deep wash.

“Great, now I have nothing to distract me from my nightmares...” Yaoan thought as she went into the bathroom to clean herself up.

Yaoan laid in bed, and just stared up at her ceiling.

“How can I speak to Randiantsi...” Yaoan then closed her eyes and tried asking the fates to intervene, to help out her situation. “Please All Mighty Fates, I beg of you to not let me lose my friend Randiantsi, let her know I am thinking about her, and that I am just trapped in my own home for a prison.”

Of course this did nothing but calm Yaoan’s mind into thinking that she tried.

Yaoan went to sleep accidentally.

Randiantsi left her, her parents left her, her country left her. Yaoan stands all alone in the dream. She goes to move but her legs are too heavy. She tries to breath but no air comes out. Yaoan then begins to suffocate in her dream. She begins to feel trapped hen she falls.

Yaoan wakes up feeling cold.

"I can't sleep..." Yaoan sits up in her bed and looks out the window.

She ignored the sounds of people fighting outside to look up at the stars. "I know somewhere you are looking at the same stars as me."

The ground then began to glow then fade.

"Guess that means its the new day." Yaoan continues to look out the window. She was able to see a planet in the distance in the sky. It appeared as a tiny blurry blue dot in the distance.

"Wonder if anything lives on there." Yaoan got up from her bed and carried her covering with her to the couch.

She got comfortable and turned on a movie, trying to go to sleep while watching it.

She slowly was drowsy but never could quite go to sleep. The daylight came into her home and she heard something hit her window.

Yaoan went to check.

"Hey Yaoan! Are you avoiding school because you look disgusting!" One of the girls yelled up at the window.

Yaoan went to check. It was the same group that made fun of her everyday.

"Oh, hey guys..." Yaoan greeted them.

"Why aren't you heading to school!" Another yelled up.

"I can't go today. I'm... sick." Yaoan responded knowing that she can't tell them the real reason.

"That never stopped you before you fart for brains!" The first one said.

The one of the guards went to the group. "Move along, theres no reason to loiter here any longer."

The group was moved away from Yaoan's home.

“Wow, I guess the guards are still outside my house making sure I don’t leave.” Yaoan thought as she closed her window again.

She turned on another movie. At this point she was feeling extremely hungry. But there was nothing in her fridge.

Yaoan became grumpy at this development.

“Ah, I want something to eat!” Yaoan then tried to look through old bags of hers. She found some old dried fish in her suitcase and began to eat that.

“This is at least a Year old.” Yaoan still enjoyed it. As she chewed on it while watching her movies.

It soon became the half period as the star was high in the sky.

“Well thats a total of 3 sessions that I missed out hanging with Randiantsi.” Yaoan thought, still sitting on the couch feeling like she was dying.

Yaoan then heard another rock hit her window.

She looked outside and it was one of the girls from the morning.

The guards were again yelling at the girls as they began to try and chase them.

Yaoan went down the stairs and saw that she was no longer being guarded. She quickly ran off to go to the store to get something to eat.

While Yaoan was trying to go quickly to gather what she needed before the guards returned one of the girls came into the store.

“So why are those guys guarding your door? Are they doing something bad to you?” She asked Yaoan.

“Why do you guys care? Don’t you all like hate me.” Yaoan said trying to move pass her.

“We just dislike Ren Zuiperi more than we dislike you. It looked like they were holding you prisoner. We cant let them push us around in our community.” She responded to Yaoan.

“Okay, so they are just the greater evil for now.” Yaoan purchased her stuff and then went to leave.

The girl grabbed Yaoan's arm then turned Yaoan's head and saw that she was missing her device.

"For freaks sake." She reached into her pocket and pushed an object against Yaoan's chest.

"How long are they going to keep you up there?" She asked Yaoan.

"Until tomorrow Half Period." Yaoan responded.

"Just give that back to me the next day's morning, if those guys begin to mess with you hit us up." She then pushed Yaoan against the wall and ran out.

Yaoan looked at what she pushed against her and it was a device to connect to the World servers.

"Well... that was unexpected." Yaoan then ran upstairs before the guards could return. She hid her food in her bags and the device within her bed. Yaoan then sat on the couch.

The guards ran up the stairs to check to see if Yaoan escaped.

She looked at them in her doorway and they looked at her on the couch. They did a quick sweep of the home and opened up Yaoan's fridge.

They then began to leave out again. "One more day. Stay put!" The guard said before leaving.

Yaoan got up and took the device from within her bed.

She then connected it to herself. "Paiyi is the one that gave this to me...Le Anna is the one that always speaks second...YauYue and Zuoyi are the younger two. Who would have thought that they would come to my rescue."

"Guess I shouldn't connect to Rutanu until after half period right... so that people won't start talking about me being online rather than at school..." So Yaoan just waited and continued to watch her movie.

Yaoan was feeling a lot better. She was no longer feeling as trapped as she did yesterday. She now had actual food in her bag and a device to connect with the world.

On the device Paiyi had installed a network skimmer, which was able to connect to a broader range of signals removing the Location Restriction on the Marian North device.

“Oh wow, this is like super illegal.” Yaoan thought to herself going through the devices settings. But her curiosity got the best of her and she explored what other things she could do without the block.

Yaoan started to read information from the Marian South news networks.

“I can;t believe that those people actually believe that clearly fake information they are getting in their news. Marian South is a wasteland, not a technological super power.” Yaoan shook her head believing that what she was reading was Marian South propaganda.

She went to look at Vlagora. And saw images of the Rainbow Forest, the Statue of Vius and that the weather there in Vesatanis was 27C. She looked through the locations of Vesatanis and at how unimaginably beautiful it was.

“This can’t be real.” Yaoan thought to herself still convinced on the idea that Marian North was the most developed place on Earth.

Yaoan was about to keep going through until she heard banging on her door again. She removed the device and put it into the couch.

“Hmm, so that wasn’t you then...” The guard looked around from the doorway. “Fine, carry on.”

They shut the door and Yaoan let out a large exhale feeling like she narrowly escaped being caught.

“Okay, I’ll wait until it’s dark out to log into Rutanu.” Yaoan thought as she continued to watch the videos.

Chapter 9

The Night came and Yaoan logged into Rutanu.

She was bombarded by a few dozen messages from Randiantsi, Rider, Yuski, and various other random people asking about where she was and wishing that she was safe.

“Hey Vani... I hope you are safe... I miss you very much. If you are staying away from the game because you are feeling bad you can talk to me. Miss you.” Was the last message Randiantsi wrote during what would have been Half Period earlier that day.

“Yo, this is Raider aka Anhou. What happened, why weren’t you in area 9 like you said you were. I didn’t say anything wrong this morning right?” Was the message from Anhou.

“Hiya there Vani, Randiantsi is super bummed today. She really misses you. I hope that you are okay in real life, not just for Randiantsi sake. You both are like the dynamic duo, would hate if something happened to split that. If you need anything done in real life we got your back.” was the message from Yuski.

Yaoan smiled and immediately messaged Randiantsi. “Are you back at Vandiantsi?”

Randiantsi replied instantly. “Of course! Come on over! I missed you so much!!”

Yaoan then rode over to their base.

When she arrived she saw many statues of herself in the territory.

“Wow what is all of this?” Yaoan said looking at the renovations into what looked like a shrine.

Randiantsi came out in an incredible outfit. And extremely high level.

She ran over and gave Yaoan a huge hug. “Wow, I’m hugging the real thing now!”

“I am beyond happy to see you too Randiantsi!” Yaoan said back. “What is all of this?” Yaoan pointed at the statues.

With her head still on Yaoan’s chest. “We were trying to vibe you back into the game. It was our summoning ritual.”

“Well looked like it worked!” Yaoan said with a big smile.

Randiantsi then backed up and brushed off her shoulder. “Well of course it did because I made it. But anyways what happened to you!?”

“Oh, my devices got confiscated yesterday. Because I told you about Marian South.” Yaoan said to Randiantsi.

“...And you’re not allowed to do that? Why?” Randiantsi asked confused.

“I didn’t even know that we couldn’t, it was all news to me.” Yaoan said also confused.

Randiantsi then hopped on her newly refurbished rock. “Then what happened?”

“Then I got imprisoned in my house by these two Ren Zuiperi guys, they didn’t even allow me to get food.” Yaoan told Randiantsi about what happened. “Technically they are still guarding my house.”

“I thought the Marians were a Ren Zuiperi majority nation, is it weird for Ren Zuiperi to be guarding?” Randiantsi asked confused.

“No, it’s not weird. It’s actually very normal. Just where I live they aren’t the norm.” Yooan added.

“Ah interesting, I didn’t know there was something like that in the Marians.” Randiantsi then became extremely curious. “So in Vlagora there is main Vlagora and Vesatanis Vlagora, you’ll need to know this when we are together.”

Yooan nodded her head listening.

“Vlagora is like all Ren Zuiperi, and in main Vlagora it is ruled by the Vlagoran People. But here in Vesatanis it is ruled by a group which call themselves the Bo People who aren’t Ren Zuiperi.” Randiantsi was explaining. “So I was wondering if the Marians had something like that since you sounded like you weren’t part of the Ren Zuiperi population there.”

“Bo People? Who are they? Are they Ren Shaole?” Yooan was also curious.

Randiantsi then rubbed her chin. “Hmm, you know, how about we stop trying to be mysterious. I’ll tell you my real name and that should tell you a lot about me okay?”

“Oh! Are you sure? I mean if you really want to...” Yooan was nervous.

“Definitely, you are my dear friend. I think we can share this without feeling weird right?” Randiantsi asked Yooan.

Yooan nodded her head. “Of course.”

“My name is Mainya Te'Rayu” Randiantsi revealed to Yooan.

“That’s a Ren Zuiperi name...” Yooan was thinking completely surprised. “A nice Ren Zuiperi...” She continued to think.

“Ah Vani? Earth to Vani?...” Mainya was trying to get Yooan’s attention.

Yooan zoned back in. “Oh yea?”

“What is your real name Vani?” she asked Yooan.

“My real name is Yooan... ah we don’t have last names haha.” Yooan said laughing.

“Yaoan is your real name, hmmm, if I were to guess that name comes from the Yan People right?” Mainya tried to guess.

“Wow, you were close, but my name is from the Ya People. Just a bit further West.” Yaoan responded surprised at the detail of Mainya’s knowledge.

Mainya was disappointed. “Dang, I should have known, of course it was Ya, you live in the Marians, not in Kima.”

Yaoan then tried her attempt. “All I can say is that your name sounds like it belongs to Ren Zuiperi.”

Mainya laughed. “Well that is like super vague, is that how people are divided in the Marians, by Human Breeds?”

Yaoan nodded her head.

“Well then, I am technically a mixed between Vlagoran and Urian but my name is Vlagoran. So I suppose that makes me a Ren Zuiperi in your eyes yes haha.”

“What’s a Urian?” Yaoan asked.

“The Urian people are Ren Neo as you would say.” Mainya clarified for Yaoan.

Yaoan then became terrified. She then froze.

“Yaoan... whats wrong?” Mainya tried to comfort Yaoan. “You are worrying me... was it too early to share our names.”

“How could such a kind person be both a Ren Zuiperi and Ren Neo...” Yaoan thought to herself. As Mainya was holding her arms around Yaoan.

“Is it better if I just return to calling you Vani?” Mainya was saying but Yaoan could barely hear her over her overwhelming memories from her interactions with the Ren Neo a few years ago.

Mainya then pat Yaoan on her head. This brought Yaoan to thinking about when her mom used to let her try on hair items. Yaoan then returned again.

Yaoan then hugged Mainya back. “No, Im glad we shared names with each other Mainya. I feel so much closer now.”

Mainya was surprised by this turn around. But she felt warm and just took in the moment.

Some time passed and they were back to designing the territory.

“So Yaoan, should we keep up the statues, I really like them.” Mainya said looking from atop a cliff.

“Don’t they make me look full of myself?” Yaoan said looking at the half a dozen 10 meter tall statues.

“You should be full of yourself ha!” Mainya said nodding at Yaoan.

“We can keep them up if we build half a dozen statues of you!” Yaoan responded.

“Sure, go ahead. Because I want to keep yours up haha!” Mainya responded. “But you’ll be the one creating them.”

Yaoan squeezed her face. “I don’t know how to sculpt, you are going to look terrible.”

“Poor little me is going to have half a dozen ugly statues, oh darn. Such is my luck haha.” Mainya responded sending her shield into the ground and pulling it back up with her threads along with a huge boulder.

“Incredible! You are way too strong now Mainya!” Yaoan looked at the 15 meter tall boulder in from of her.

“I had some practice while you were gone.” Mainya flexed her arms.

Yaoan then tried to carve out Mainya’s face. When Yuski stopped by.

“Hey Randiantsi did Vani...-” Yuski then noticed Yaoan. “Hey!! You’re back we were worried about you!”

“Yes, I am glad to be back.” Yaoan responded then quickly turned back to try and work on the sculpture of Mainya.

“What happened? Were you sick?” Yuski asked Yaoan, trying to make his way over to Mainya.

“I had to deal with government stuff, it was such a downer, they didn’t let me do anything.” Yaoan responded to Yuski.

“Oh government stuff, sounds super serious, hopefully you’re not dealing with a strong government like the Jieruresi Republic, Vlagora or The Suminatini Federation ha.” He jokingly responded.

“Nah, I’m dealing with the strongest of all Marian North.” Yaoan said as if it was a big deal.

“Marian North? Oh yea, if you have any issue with that just call us up, now if it was like Marian South, then we might have an issue.” Yuski replied.

Yaoan was even more confused. Both Yuski and Mainya spoke about Marian North as if it was some lower than average nation. “Could it be that their nations are just spreading false information about Marian North?”

“So I heard that you are going to the tournament and meeting Randiantsi there, I asked to join you all but Randiantsi told me that I had to ask you Vani.” Yuski requested of Yaoan.

Yaoan thought about it for a little while. “Eh, maybe while we are in the tournament building.”

Yuski celebrated. “Awesome! I can’t wait to see you both, especially the goddess herself Randiantsi.”

“You are in for a surprise Yuski if you keep hyping yourself up to see my appearance.” Mainya responded to Yuski.

“I know I am, thats why I can hardly contain it. And now that Vani is back, that mean you are going to be in a good mood. Looks like the ritual did work.” Yuski said gesturing at all the statues. “I too should make statues of Randiantsi so that I could summon her as well.”

Yuski then leap away quickly and out of sight.

“Wow, what got into him?” Yaoan asked.

“Eh, he was trying his best to comfort me while you were gone and it wasnt working, I think he is just happy to see me in a good mood.” Mainya responded.

“Aw that’s adorable.” Yaoan said completely messing up on the sculpture.

“Don’t celebrate him.” Mainya said trying to not get mocked by Yaoan.

“So what do you think of what I have so far?” Yaoan asked.

Mainya looked at it, “hmm well I can tell it’s a person at least.” Mainya said being supportive.

“I’m definitely not a sculptor haha.” Yaoan said looking at her sculpture. “You make this look easy.”

“That’s what I used to do all day before I started playing this. Now I can go around freely and sculpt, it’s like a dream come true.” Mainya said coming down to Yaoan. “I’m okay with their being just one statue of me.”

“I don’t think there’s much choice with it.” Yaoan responded jokingly.

“Well since you are done with that now, I obtained a search sheet yesterday. I wanted to go and look for these locations, plants and creatures yesterday, but you weren’t here. So I decided not to do it, but today... how about we go?” Mainya asked Yaoan.

“Oh really? Where’d you get it from?” Yaoan responded.

“It’s being given away at the main hub for new players to get them to be more comfortable with the game. I grabbed the sheet and realized we knew almost nothing on it. So what do you say? Ready to explore? Mainya asked excitedly.

“More than usual, of course I’m down to explore. What the first item on the list?” Yaoan responded with the same excitement.

Mainya opened up her interface and read off the list to Yaoan. “The Hair of a Fureptor, The Gimela Berry, Sivega Seed, 30 Milo Horns, Uskalips Tooth, and to defeat one Rhidonvonivan.”

Yaoan was confused. “I have no idea what any of that stuff actually is. Do we have some sort of dictionary to help us find them?”

“No, you would have to have seen it once before and recorded it to be in our records... so seems like we are out of luck. But that does give us a reason to look in strange places right?” Mainya said optimistically.

“Sure, I guess going for the plants would be the easiest thing to do right?” Yaoan added.

“Sounds good! Then what are we waiting for, lets get in the vehicle and start riding to the forest!” Mainya jumped up in excitement as Yaoan then brought out the vehicle and sat in the front allowing Mainya to sit behind her.

While in the air heading to the forest. “There seems to be a group of people congregated in that particular location, maybe thats where one of the items on the list is located.” Mainya observed.

“Wouldn’t hurt to check it out.” Yaoan said as she steered the vehicle down to the location.

Upon there arrival they say that there was a group of guys who were being surrounded by a moob of people.

“What could be happening here?” Yaoan said questioning why everyone had so much focus on these players.

Mainya cut through the crowd to see what was happening in the center.

“Come on, you can’t hog all the Sivega trees! We are all just trying to complete our lists!” an angry mob member yelled out.

“I’m nah hogging it ya. Iya said that if ye wan a seed jus give us 20SRCs and we ah give it to ya.” The guy standing in front of the mob said to the crowd.

“Move out of the way you jerks! This area is a common territory, you can’t just lay claim to it.” Mainya yelled out at the guy.

“Wha ah? Who ya think yer talkin to huh? I ahta kill ya right now!” The guy said hopping down to Mainya as the rest of the guys behind him tried to look more intimidating.

“Betta yet, you kinda cute, how bout I cut ya a deal. Give me a kiss and I give ya a seed, free o charge.” The guy in front added.

“How about I just shatter your jaw right here and now and I can get all the seeds I want.” Mainya said frustrated at the guy.

“Oi you got a mouth on ya. Well I know a thing er two bout filling up little girl’s mouths.” The guy added on as he stepped forward on Mainya.

Yaoan finally made her way through the crowd and saw that Mainya was about to be gang up on.

Yaoan tried to go through and the people in the crowd grabbed her trying to keep her from joining Mainya.

“Ew gross. Were you raised by animals?... on second thought that actually might be true considering how gross your avatar looks.” Mainya said pulling her head away from his face in disguise.

He got upset “You know wha, we gotta make ya pay.” He gestured for his guys. “Capt this young las and toss her in the cage with the others.” He then walked away and his cronies came out to grab Mainya.

Mainya flicked three needles with her fingers barely moving and each went through the eyes of each of the cronies. She then pulled the threads down and the guys face were shoved into the ground.

The crowd were stunned. "Oh I see, you are a las I gotta deal wif personally." The main guy said.

He then pulled out a projectile weapon to shoot at Mainya. Mainya pulled out her shield and deflected the attacks.

Yaoan noticed that there were people trapped behind where the gang was standing and snuck her way over to there. "Oh there's people stuck in a cage behind the fight. I don't want those guys to use them as hostages against Mainya."

Yaoan approached the cage. Then a younger girl player began to speak to her. "Get us out please! They tricked us into coming in here, all we wanted was to have fun with the scavenger hunt."

"Calm down, I got you. You're safe now." Yaoan then created a laser and began to cut the cage. At which moment one of the gang members who were set on guard noticed Yaoan.

"Hey you dirty harlot, get away from our spoils you thief." He yelled coming right at Yaoan.

Yaoan witnessing this person calling people his spoils made her rather upset. And she pointed her hand at the guy and pulled his heat out of his body. A huge puff of steam existed his mouth and his body became a frozen husk of what it was.

Yaoan then used the heat pulled from his body to burn the cadaver into ashes.

"Disgusting guy." Yaoan then fully released the players from the cage.

"That was awesome! Thank you so much!" Trying to run off.

"Hey wait, aren't you guys forgetting something?" Yaoan said to the players running away.

Yaoan pointed at the trees and gestured for them to take the seeds. The players took them and ran off. Yaoan then ran around the back to see if there were anymore cages. In the distance she could see that Mainya was still fighting the main guy.

"Ha seems like I got ya in constant cover eye." He said as he continued to walk forward to Mainya.

The crowd were yelling out cheering on Mainya. But for each person that cheered the main leader just shut them with his weapon.

"Keep ya mouths shut, or Iya put a bullet in it." He yelled back at the crowd.

Mainya looked at the guys she took down to the ground. They were still trapped. So Mainya threw her needles into their arms and legs after anchoring the thread to the trees. She then pulled it taut. "Perfect" she said quietly.

The main guy was coming up on Mainya but then he was grabbed from behind by one of his goons. "Hey, let go of me!" He yelled at his underling.

"I can't boss! I can't control my body!" The goon said holding onto his leader.

They both were wrestling around. Then Mainya got from behind her shield. And she made his other goons grab him as well. On around his neck, the older in a full nelson, and the last between his legs.

Mainya stepped up to the guys and punched his face, shattering his jaw. "Captured! Like the disgusting creatures you are acting like. I hope in the real world you aren't acting like this!" She said yelling at his face.

He was left with his mouth shattered trying to make out words.

Yaoan finally joined back up with Mainya and say that she completely had the situation under control.

"Hey Vani, what do you think we should do with these creeps." Mainya asked Yaoan.

"Seems like they were going to do gross things to some young players I found caged up. I think we should report them." Yaoan told Mainya.

"Oh really?! I thought they were some gross guys but that even goes beyond what I thought they were capable of." Mainya said disgusted with the group.

Yaoan then began to pull the heat out of the guys slowly making them too weak to move any longer.

Mainya released her hold on them.

The crowd ran up and started kicking the guys while they were on the ground.

Mainya opened up and interface and reported the guys for Despicable Activities of Sexual Nature. "There, let take the seeds and go, if they are citizens of Vlagora then they are going to be in a lot of trouble in the real world." Mainya said, grabbing some seeds.

“Yea, let’s get out of here, I’m feeling gross just being around these guys.” Yaoan summoned the vehicle and Mainya jumped on behind her.

While in the air headed to the next destination. “Well that was a real bummer of a start, even if we did save the day, I can just imagine all the many we didn’t save.” Mainya said melancholic.

Yaoan was silent in the front. Just looking down at the ground.

“Yea, I’ll stop talking about it.” Mainya said, also going silent.

They both arrived on a grassland filled with random creatures. And got out of the vehicle.

“You think any of these could be a Fureptor or a Rhidonvonivan?” Mainya said as she looked out at the field.

“Guess we are just going to have to scan them all?” Yaoan looked at Mainya giving her a smile.

“Nothing to it!” Mainya said trying to lighten up the mood.

Both Mainya and Yaoan went around scanning the creatures.

Yaoan off and on wanted to speak, but she couldn’t get the words out of her mouth to say anything.

“You want to say something Yaoan don’t you.” Mainya said looking at Yaoan.

Yaoan let out a big exhale. “We have significant power in this reality, how about we go around making sure that other people aren’t being taken advantaged of. Like remember the first day I was here how those guys stepped on your hand when we were doing our first quest. We would have been in trouble if stronger people didn’t come by and take them out. Really we were quite lucky.”

Mainya stopped scanning and went over to Yaoan. “It doesn’t seem like we would make much of a difference considering the sheer amount of places and people...” Mainya said reluctantly.

Yaoan then looked at Mainya with a frown. Understanding that Mainya was speaking the reality of the situation.

Mainya then let out a big exhale also. “But I guess theres really no reason not to try. We have the power right?!” Mainya said with a smile.

Yaoan then also got a smile on her face. “Yea, it’s better than just letting it happen”

They both gave each other a hug and grabbed hands.

“Guess we are just going to be some kind of super heroes right haha.” Mainya added.

“Doesn’t sound half bad to me.”

A creature then came rushing at them as they were talking and Mainya trapped it in her threads and Yaoan shut it with her laser. It vanished and they received a notification that they defeated a Rhidonvonivan.

“Nice!” Mainya added.

The two played on, going to any location where it seemed like there was an imbalance of power being abused and resolving the situations. By the end of the night they had completed their scavenger quest and interrupted 8 cases of griffing.

They both returned to Vandiantsi.

“Wow, felt like we were online forever today haha, I really enjoyed today so much. I am glad you are back Yaoan.” Mainya said to Yaoan.

“I am happy to be back, now I got to deal with the real world when I wake up tomorrow.” Yaoan said disgruntled.

“Oh yea, you are still locked in your home by those two “Ren Zuiperi” guards” Mainya noted.

“Haha well you’re different from those Ren Zuiperi, you are actually an amazing person.” Yaoan said jokingly.

“I’m guessing it’s just more to do with the person rather than their breed huh?” Mainya added.

“Sure, that could be it too. I mean yea, the Queen is a good Ren Zuiperi too.” Yaoan responded back to Mainya.

“Is she though?” Mainya said skeptically.

“Hey, I would never doubt the Queen. I’ll just leave it at that.” Yaoan said trying to end the discussion.

“Sure haha.” Mainya said leaving it at that.

“So see you tomorrow?” Yaoan said.

“You know it!!” Mainya said before they both logged off.

Yaoan still on her couch looked outside. “If only I was able to do that kind of stuff in the real world...” Yaoan thought to herself as she slowly fell asleep on her couch.

Yaoan was now in her dream. And again the 3 figures were standing in front of her. But this time the face of Happiness turned towards her. The face became clearer revealing a vague image of a person with Dark hair and was very tall.

“Who are you” Yaoan asked in the dream.

The figure did not speak. Then Yaoan began to sink into the floor again. She called out for help.

The figure then began to fade away again before her hand was grabbed.

Yaoan woke up to the bright morning sky. In complete confusion of the symbolism of her dreams.

“Hey loser!” Paiyi said as they group of girls passed the guards.

“You all come back here!” One of the guards ran after the group as they fled in all directions.

Yaoan watched the scene unfold outside her window as she was trapped until the Mid Period.

Chapter 10

It was now the mid period and the two guards entered Yaoan’s home.

“You are released from your isolation. We have looked over the data in your device and found no evidence of conspiracy. Despite that this will be considered your first strike. Upon the next incident we will make you disappear. That includes you telling other people about what occurred these past two days. Do you understand?” The guard asked Yaoan.

“Yes Sir, I understand.” Yaoan said nervously.

“Then take your bag and head back to classes. Our business is done here.” The guard said as they both left her house.

Yaoan threw on her school clothes and immediately headed to school.

She went outside and felt the fresh air and the feeling of freedom. "Ah, finally!" She skipped down the street in a good mood before coming to the gate.

"Why are you coming to school so late?" The Gate teacher asked Yaoan.

Yaoan had no answer that she could say without having to lie. "I was deathly ill this morning and required treatment this morning, then when I felt better I immediately ran to school like a good student Sir."

"Hmm likely story. Do you have a note from the physician?" The Teacher Guard asked.

"Well Ren Shaole Physicians aren't allowed to give out notes." Yaoan responded.

"Makes sense." The Teacher Guard then gestured for Yaoan to hurry up into the campus and get to class.

She ran off to her Historical Recreation class.

"Stop Running in School!" The Gate Teacher yelled out.

"Sorry Sir!" She slowed down and just walked quickly to class.

"Student 1076, why were you in class yesterday?" The Historical Recreation teacher asked Yaoan.

Yaoan stood up front her seat. "I was overwhelmingly sick yesterday Sir."

The class looked at Yaoan in disgust.

"Well keep away from your classmates, we don't want your disease to spread onto them." He said to Yaoan as the class were going over history lessons.

"The Sanglan people..." They were reciting.

It was now time for Half period and Yaoan went to Area 9 the Music Hall and Anhou spotted her going.

"Hey Yaoan! Where were you the past two days? I thought you moved away or something." Anhou asked concerned.

"Well I obviously didn't move away. I was just at my house." Yaoan responded as they both were heading to the Music Halls.

Anhou then stopped Yaoan from going to the Music Hall. "Wait, you didn't hear. We are no longer allowed to play Rutanu at school."

"Wait really! Why not?" Yaoan asked surprised.

"The Announcements said that the developers of Rutanu were trying to infaultate our national security, so if we are caught playing it that is an automatic failure for the season." Anhou told Yaoan.

"Well that sucks! Then what are we supposed to do during this period?" Yaoan said pondering.

"I mean, me and you could have some personal time together. We don't always have to interact in-game." Anhou said throwing out an idea.

"Sounds boring" Yaoan added.

"Come on, its not boring let me show you." Anhou grabbed Yaoan's hand.

Yaoan pulled her hand away. "I can just follow you, you don't need to grab my hand." Yaoan responded to Anhou.

"Oh yea, baby steps, got it." Anhou said as they both were heading to the Student Gardens.

"The Gardens?" Yaoan said confused as to why Anhou would bring her here.

"You don't like flowers?" Anhou asked.

"No flowers are cool I suppose, but definitely not something to occupy a half period with." Yaoan said. "I spent many a Half Period in the Gardens... I'm not interested in spending more time here." Yaoan thought to herself.

"Well I'm sure you've never been on the roof of the school right?" Anhou excitedly said to Yaoan.

"Neither have you. Unless you somehow found a way to get up there." Yaoan suspicious of Anhou's hint.

"I certainly did, some of us guys go up there to throw rocks at people." Anhou added.

"Such bad kids." Yaoan shook her head.

Anhou then brought Yaoan to a more hidden part of the school, next to the storage building.

“You see this part of the school is a bit older than the older and the wall is coming apart. We climb up those parts to get to the roof.” Anhou said, pointing at the loose wall pieces.

“No way that’s safe.” Yaoan looked at the pieces, and all the debris that was on the ground.

“Are you scared haha, you as Vani wouldn’t have been scared of this.” Anhou joked with Yaoan as he began to climb up the wall.

Yaoan watched him climb up. “Not like Vani, I am Vani, what is he talking about.” Yaoan then also began to climb up the fragmented wall.

Anhou looked down and saw Yaoan below him. “Wow, I guess you are brave.” Anhou said becoming nervous as he was getting higher.

Yaoan caught up with him. “Why are you slowing down?” Yaoan asked Anhou.

“I’ve actually never made it up completely. I see all the upper classmen get up this high...” Anhou admitted completely stopping.

Yaoan let out an exhale. “Come on Anhou, we are already half way up, would you rather go half way back down and fail, or go half way more and succeed.” Yaoan said trying to encourage Anhou.

Anhou then started to move again slowly.

“There you go. We are almost here.” Yaoan said as they both were moving.

“Yea, I’m actually going to do this.” Anhou said, and then he looked down at Yaoan with a smile. He noticed how high up they were and he became dizzy.

“Oh no, Anhou stop looking down!” Yaoan yelled up at Anhou as she saw him begin to slip.

She caught up right next to him and put her hand on the small of his back to give him a bit of support.

Anhou then came to and regrabbed firmly on the wall. “Oh wow, Yaoan, looks like you are the one touching me now.” He jokingly remarked.

“So all that was on purpose?!” Yaoan angrily responded.

“No it wasn’t honest.” Anhou then continued to climb.

Eventually the two did make it to the roof and Yaoan was able to get an amazing view of the community.

“Wow, this is a way better view than from my apartment!” Yaoan was amazed at the sight.

Anhou was looking at Yaoan smile.

“Look at all this world I could be exploring!” Yaoan thought to herself in excitement. She then noticed Anhou looking at her. “Why aren’t you looking at this view?” Yaoan asked him.

“I am enjoying a much better view.” Anhou said looking at Yaoan.

“Just look out at the city.” Yaoan gestured for Anhou to turn his attention.

Anhou got next to Yaoan and they both looked out at the city as the daylight was directly overhead.

Anhou then tried to grab for Yaoan’s hand. Yaoan let him grab her hand as she was enveloped in her thoughts.

Then Yaoan came to. She pulled her hand away from Anhou. “Okay, we are done up here, let’s head back down before we are late to classes.”

Yaoan walked around the roof trying to see if there was an easy way down.

“We have to go back down the way we came.” Anhou said to Yaoan’s dismay.

Yaoan then headed to the edge of the building to begin her descend.

“Are you sure you don’t want me to go first Yaoan?” Anhou asked her.

“So you can look at my butt the entire time, no thanks. I’d rather fall with no security than that.” Yaoan then began to climb down.

Anhou then began his descent.

The crumpling stones from Anhou’s steps were hitting Yaoan’s head.

“Hey! Watch your step Anhou, you’re getting pieces of the wall on me.” Yaoan yelled up.

“Oh stop! I see someone coming.” Anhou said before immediately stopping.

It was a staff member of the school removing trash from the building. Yaoan and Anhou was barely out of sight of the Staff unless they looked up.

The staff member got rid of the trash, then started stretching afterwards. They were rolling their neck and moving it around.

The staff member then continued with their walk.

They then turned around and looked up and saw Yaoan and Anhou on the wall.

The staff member was a Ren Shaole person. "You kids better hurry up off of that wall before one of these Ren Zuiperi see you up there."

The staff member then continued their walk. Yaoan and Anhou quickly made their way down and unto the ground. Then they hurried off past the staff member.

"Thankyou Sir" Yaoan and Anhou said as they both ran off past him.

"Ah to be young again." The staff member thought as they continued onward.

They got back to the gardens.

Anhou and Yaoan were laughing at the close call.

"Wow! That was terrifying!" Anhou said still laughing and out of breath.

"Imagine if they were one of the mean ones, that could have been really bad." Yaoan was also laughing.

"See we can have fun together outside of the game right?" Anhou added.

Yaoan then stopped laughing. "Yea, but this is definitely not a replacement for it."

"So you still want to head to Vesatanis?" Anhou asked Yaoan.

"Shhsh, don't say that so loudly." Yaoan quickly gestured for Anhou to quiet down. "Of course I want to still go to Vesatanis. Are you still going to take me there?"

"Yea, sure I can do that. I have an old family friend who is good at getting people stuff from other places. I'm sure them getting us there is no big deal." Anhou responded.

"Sounds good. Okay let's start making our way back to classes. We barely have any time left." Yaoan said as she began to walk in that direction.

Anhou followed behind her.

They both got to the separating point of their walk.

“Well here we are, where we part ways.” Anhou said trying to stall out the moment.

“Yes, so I will see you tomorrow?” Yaoan asked Anhou.

Anhou then had his head down.

Yaoan then extended her hand. Anhou lifted his head in surprise.

“Come on, you can grab it.” Yaoan said with a smile.

Anhou then grabbed Yaoan’s hand.

“Feel better Anhou?” Yaoan asked him.

“Yea a bit. Could we hang out later tonight too?” Anhou asked Yaoan.

Yaoan was a bit reprehensive, but she had to purchase a new device anyways because she had to return this one that she had in her possession to Paiyi.

“Yes, we can hang out later. Meet me after school at the gates.” Yaoan said before removing her hand from Anhou’s grip and she headed to class.

Anhou did a fist pump in the air and he too headed to class.

In Physical and Health class they had their preExamination Conditioning Class. They were set to have a Physical Fitness Test in about a week and were competing against classes 2 and 3.

The class went over Martial Arts today.

The Teacher were teaching them out to punch using the mass of their body rather than just the mass of their arm.

Yaoan followed closely along believing that this would help her when she logs back unto Rutanu later.

The end of the day came and all the students were let out for the night.

Yaoan went to the gate and found Anhou waiting for her there.

“How do you get her so quickly?” Yaoan asked him.

“My last class is in the Ke’Lakin Building. So getting to the gate is no issue for me, just a direct shot.” Anhou pointed at the building. “So are you ready for our date?” Anhou said smiling.

“It’s not a date, we are just going out so I could buy me a new device.” Yaoan quickly said to Anhou.

“But you already have one connected to your neck.” Anhou observed.

“This one isn’t mine. A fri... a person that I know gave it to me to borrow until tomorrow morning.” Yaoan responded to Anhou.

“What happened to your old one?” Anhou continued to enquire.

“It was stolen while I was out sick...” Yaoan told Anhou.

The two of them began to walk towards the shopping arena.

“Dang, too many pickpockets nowadays.” Anhou said trying to sound wise.

“Yea, sometimes its from people you would never think would take your stuff.” Yaoan said as they bought enter the shopping arena.

“So lets get your thing real quick and get something to eat. My treat.” Anhou said looking at the map of the arena.

Yaoan looked at the arena and it was filled with people of all walks of life around the city. There were Ren Zuiperi and Ren Shaole. Some shops openly denied Ren Shaole entrance, and those were the most fancy of them, but other than that it was pretty heart warming.

“Ah, there’s a tech place just upstairs, lets go and check it out.” Anhou then went to the lift and gestured for Yaoan to follow.

They both entered the Tech store.

“I’m looking for a new Device, similar to this one.” Yaoan said to the store owner.

“Hmm, let me see.” The store owner looked at the device. Then pointed to the mid section of the store. “You find more of those there.”

Yaoan and Anhou went off in that direction to get one.

Anhou pointed at one he thought she would like. “Oh check out this one, it’s a nice shade of green.”

Yaoan found one that she liked. It had a blue lining, and had a deep green base and had an incredibly fast transmission of data speed and high storage. Anhou came over to look at it.

“Yikes, that thing is insanely expensive. I know Vani has a lot of money, but this is the real world Yaoan.” Anhou said to Yaoan, completely stunned.

“I know how much it is Anhou, I have the money for it.” Yaoan grabbed it and headed to the counter.

The store owner looked at the device with suspicion. “Where are your parents? Do you have any idea how much this is.”

“Yes Sir, I do know how much it is. I just want to buy it.” Yaoan responded to the store owner.

“Fine by me. Are you going to pay for it over time?” The store owner asked.

“No, all at once.” Yaoan added.

“Okay... it is alot. Are your parents okay with this purchase.” The store owner asked again.

“I belong to the State, I don’t have parents.” Yaoan responded slowly becoming annoyed.

“Okay, put in your transaction number.” The store owner handed Yaoan a pin input device.

She put in her number and the transaction went through.

“Here you go. Have a nice Night.” The store owner said as they handed Yaoan her new device.

Anhou and Yaoan exited the store and she removed Paiyi’s device and put in her new one.

“Wow! I didn’t know you were rich Yaoan. How did you get so much money?” Anhou asked surprised.

“You know people, I knew people, that’s all there is to it.” Yaoan responded trying to end the conversation quickly.

“Okay, well then let’s get something to eat... please don’t order something too expensive haha.” Anhou said leading the both of them to a restaurant.

They both sat down at the restaurant. Yaoan didn’t have expensive food taste so she allowed Anhou to order for her. Then they both started eating.

“Wow, I haven’t eaten real food in a while.” Yaoan said using the bread to grab the seafood out of the bowl.

“Why not, you definitely could.” Anhou said also eating.

“I just don’t feel like leaving my house until more recently.” Yaoan said pulling apart another piece of bread.

“So... ah... what things do you like to do?” Anhou asked Yaoan.

“Pretty bad at starting small talk huh?” Yaoan jokingly said to Anhou.

He then got really nervous.

“It’s all right ha, hmmm. I’m not actually sure what I like to do anymore. When I was younger I used to jump around climbing trees and getting dirty. That was like when I was not even a teenager.” Yaoan started responding to Anhou then started drinking her soup.

“So why’d you stop? Is it because girls aren’t supposed to be doing things like that?” Anhou said trying to add to the conversation.

“No my dad was the one who got me into all of that stuff. Hiking, digging, finding treasure, getting messy. It was fun. But now since they are gone, when I try to do that stuff again, I just can’t.” Yaoan said before she stopped eating.

Anhou sat silently waiting for Yaoan to continue.

“At least I did stop until I started playing Rutanu. Now I do it all the time again... its fun.” Yaoan finished.

“Then when we go to Vesatanis lets also go for a hike or something.” Anhou said with a smile.

“Sure, why not.” Yaoan said giving him a smile back.

They both got up and left the Shopping Arena. They then reached the split.

“I had a good time with you today Yaoan. I hope we can do it again tomorrow.” Anhou said to Yaoan.

“We will see.” Yaoan responded as she then waved good bye.

They both walked away from each other and Anhou turned around to see Yaoan walking and then turned back around. Yaoan continued home.

Chapter 11

Yaoan arrived in her house, and checked around to see if those guards snuck in and put something in her house. She didn't really know what she was looking for, but she thought it would be better than just acting like nothing unusual happened.

Yaoan cleaned up her body, and immediately logged onto Ratanu.

"Yaoan, when you log on get to our home base ASAP." Mainya messaged Yaoan.

Yaoan responded "On my way now."

She arrived at Vandiantzi and saw that MyTry was on their base.

"Oh finally you arrived." MyTry said watching Yaoan exit her vehicle.

"What are you doing here?" Yaoan asked MyTry.

"Just curious, you two have been making your way around this area. It wise to scope out the competition you know." MyTry said as she was lightly touched the statues that were erected.

"Did you get all the information you needed?" Mainya asked MyTry. "Vani is now here, so we are good yea?!"

"I suppose so, I was hoping that she would be a lot more..." MyTry said calmly.

"A lot more what?" Yaoan responded.

"A lot more intimidating." MyTry walked around their base. "Oh well, I guess I have nothing to worry about. You two aren't even insects beneath my feet, barely even air."

"You can't just talk to us like that! Do you know what we can do?!" Mainya yelled out at MyTry.

MyTry then sent her hand through a portal and grabbed Mainya by the neck without moving.

"I don't think you understand what I can do or else you would watch your mouth more closely." MyTry then let go of Mainya and Mainya went to catch her breath.

"Wow, look at me revealing a technique. Just call that a freebee until the tournament at least." MyTry said as she walked off.

“Samarino actually lost to you all, how funny.” MyTry laughed and then she stopped. “Be careful girls, have your fun now, because I’ll show you how easy it is to erase everything you’ve done.” MyTry then walked through a portal and out of sight.

Yaoan and Mainya stood in their base.

“What was all of that about?” Yaoan asked.

“I was just preparing stuff for our Super Hero outing, then MyTry appeared out of nowhere and just started looking around.” Mainya caught Yaoan on what happened.

“Did she destroy anything?” Yaoan asked.

“No she was just walking around, why weren’t you here earlier?” Mainya asked Yaoan.

“I was out with Rider. I needed to get a new device then we went out and ate a meal.” Yaoan responded to Mainya.

“I mean during mid day.” Mainya clarified.

“Oh! My school prohibited every student from logging into Rutanu. They said it was a matter of National Security or something.” Yaoan responded.

“That’s so dumb.” Mainya said before she stood up. “Oh you were out with Rider, how was that? Are you still coming to Vesatanis with him?”

“Rider is okay, a normal guy I suppose. And yes, I am still riding up to vesatanis with him. I am super excited.” Yaoan responded to Mainya.

“I am too! There’s so many places in Vesatanis I want to show you!” Mainya excitedly responded to Yaoan.

“Sounds like you have a lot of places to show me, good thing we have plenty of time to do all those things.” Yaoan added.

“What do you mean? The tournament is only for one day.” Mainya asked with curiosity.

“Once I land in Vesatanis I am not going to return to Marian South.” Yaoan said with a smile.

“Oh wow! Really! Are you allowed to do that?” Mainya was surprised.

Yaoan rubbed her chin. “I am actually not sure, I only started thinking about it this week. I have plenty of money so I don’t see why I wouldn’t be able to.” Yaoan asked.

“Well if you are able to stay then that would be beyond amazing!” Mainya was excited.

“Since you are part Ren Neo you’ll be able to protect me with those abilities Ren Neo have right if I get into trouble haha.” Yaoan jokingly added.

“I probably couldn’t but I’m sure my mom could. I never seen her do any of these “Ren Neo” abilities you are talking about though.” Mainya responded.

“Maybe it was just them that could do it... oh well.” Yaoan responded confused.

“So what about school? Aren’t you still going to go?” Mainya asked Yaoan.

“I have no idea what school is like in Vesatanis. I didn’t even know that other countries required education.” Yaoan responded.

“If you go to school here they are going to have to run you through a gauntlet of tests since you come from Marian North.” Mainya said jokingly. “I looked up Marian North yesterday and let’s just say that you guys are a good 3000 Years behind everyone else in this region.”

“3000 years, no way. That’s that propaganda that you guys are getting ha.” Yaoan responded in disbelief.

“Oh you think so, whats your Knowledge Network Drive? So that I can send you some images” Mainya asked Yaoan.

“Knowledge Network what?” Yaoan was confused. “What does that mean?”

“Its so I can send you data from what is stored in my World.” Mainya responded to Yaoan.

“You mean like my Server Address?” Yaoan said jokingly thinking that she was talking about something that Mainya had no idea about.

“Server Address? Ah I don’t think so. I’m talking about your world. You know, the place where you store memories and data.” Mainya said trying to clarify to Yaoan.

“I’m not sure. But my Server address is 123.5813.2134@MS-FIB.” Yaoan said trying to make sure they were talking about the same thing.

“Wow, no thats not at all what I am talking about. What I’m talking about is a frequency number and an Instantiation value. Something like DuyagivaSuranaaa then hold the main frequency.” Mainya tried to explain.

“Yea, I have no idea what you are talking about.” Yaoan laughed confused.

“Howd you even get into Rutanu, Rutanu is the World formatted in the Knowledge Network World Creator. There are a ton of World’s like Rutanu, but for now this is the most popular one. What are you using to connect?” Mainya asked.

“A device that’s connected to my neck right now.” Yaoan pointed at where it would be located.

“Wow, when you said device I thought you were talking about like an enhancement, not something that actually connected you to the network. So what happens when that goes missing, are you like unable to connect?” Mainya asked Yaoan.

“That’s correct. I can’t connect to this game without this device.” Yaoan was now confused.

“That is so weird. I can’t for us to talk for hours just exchanging what life is like.” Mainya said to Yaoan. “Well I’ll record your Server Address, maybe I can find out how to send stuff to you there.”

“This is so interesting. I’m not even sure I’ll know what to expect when I arrive.” Yaoan said amazed that what she learned about Vlagora isn’t exactly true.

“Well again, I’m mostly talking about Vesatanis, the majority of Vlagora may be like 1100 years behind, but definitely still ahead of Marian South.” Mainya said dusting herself off. “So how about we get to it, patrolling the streets of Rutanu” Mainya said excitedly.

Yaoan summoned up the vehicle. “Sure, let’s have some fun.”

Yaoan and Rutanu went into the Hordes Field to interact with the new players. They were busy attempting to find the herb mortar and pestle. And yet again in the herb area there were guys restricting people from entering the forest.

“Same old thing just different characters.” Mainya said to Yaoan as they both headed down.

“Come on, Please!, I’m just trying to complete the first quest. Why do you have to be so mean?” The lower level player said to the griffer.

“Then get a bit stronger and defeat me for it. Things don’t come easy little man.” The griffer said to the lower player before kicking them down.

Yaoan and Mainya landed behind the interaction.

Then they walked up slowly to the situation. The lower leveled player noticed them and smiled.

“What are you smiling about brat?” The griffer said not knowing the two were behind him.

He then turned around. And fell down onto his butt.

“Oh its you two! I’m sorry!” He said with some fear. “Please don’t kill me, I put too much work into grinding up my character!” He was pleading.

“Do you think that begging works?” Mainya asked the Griffer.

“What?” The griffer replied.

“I asked you, do you think that begging works?” Mainya said again.

“I hope...” He responded.

“Then why didn’t you let up when that kid was begging you to let them get this heb?” Yooan added stepping up closer.

He drilled his head into the ground. “Please, I’m sorry. I won’t do it again!”

Yooan gestured for the kid to continue on their quest.

“Thank you!” The kid ran by them and picked up the plant and left.

“Now you, stop hanging around in this low level area if all you are going to do is mess with people, you have better things to be doing in game.” Mainya said shoving her shield into the ground right in front of his head.

“Okay, I won’t do it anymore. I promise.” He continued to plead.

“We will hold you to that. Now get up and go.” Yooan told the guy and the griffer ran off.

They both laughed with each other.

Rider then showed up as once again a level one person.

“That was pretty cool what you guys just did!” Anhou said to Yooan and Mainya.

“Oh its you...” Mainya said looking at Rider.

Yooan was surprised. “What happened this time?”

“Nothing bad this time, I just wanted a clean start with my Character.” Rider said cheerfully.

“So you weren’t trying to lie your way to the top and got burned?” Mainya said suspicious of Rider.

“Honest! I am just on to hang out with Yao... I mean Vani.” Rider corrected himself.

“It’s okay Rider, she already knows my real name.” Yooan told Anhou.

“Really? Oh, that’s neat I guess. Yes, I’m just here to hang out with Yooan.” Anhou said to Mainya.

“Sure, whatever. Yooan and I are going around helping the little guy, so I guess you won’t really be able to hang out with us.” Mainya said to Anhou.

“But I am the little guy now. You are acting like that first group that rejected partnership because of being too weak.” Anhou said to Mainya.

“I am not like them! You showed your true colours back then, I am just holding you to that standard.” Mainya angrily responded to Anhou.

“I apologized about that, can you really not forgive me, what else did I do wrong to you?” Anhou said to Mainya. “I’m just trying to hang out with my friend Yooan...”

He the looked around at the two.

“Unless you are trying to be more than friends with her and think that I am just trying to compete against you, is that it?” Anhou said with a smirk.

“As if you could compete against me!” Mainya stepped up to Anhou.

“Settle down you two!” Yooan called out. They both stopped bickering.

“I’m here to have fun. Rider, if you are just trying to call Randiantsi out on random stuff we can just interact in the real world. If you genuinely want to hang out with us as real friends then we will add you to the party and maybe go raiding later.” Yooan said sternly to Anhou.

“Yes, I just want to hang out as real friends. I hope I can be your friend to Randiantsi.” Anhou said to Mainya.

“Sure, whatever...” Mainya turned towards the vehicle.

“Okay, well then.” Yooan then sent Anhou an invite into the party. “Now you have access to Vandiantsi without being attacked. We will meet you there. Use some of our upgraded

equipment to increase your level for Raiding later.” Yaoan said to Anhou before Mainya and her went back to the vehicle.

“Awesome! Okay I will see you two there!” Anhou said as the two went into the air.

“I’m going to keep my suspicions on him very high, he could flip flop on us in an instant.” Mainya said to Yaoan as they were in the air.

“He might have changed for the better, just give him a chance.”

Chapter 12

Yaoan and Mainya returned from their patrol and saw Rider polishing up the Statues of Yaoan and the one “Statue” of Mainya.

“What are you doing?” Mainya asked Anhou with mild discontent.

“I’m just trying to make things look clean for you guy’s return.” Anhou said facing Mainya.

“That better be all you were doing.” Mainya walked passed Anhou.

Yushi then came from the air and landed in Vandiantsi.

“Hey guys! So I hear we are going to do a little Raiding!” Yuski said excitedly. “Pretty unusual right?”

“Yea, we are only doing it because thats basically all Rider can do at his level.” Mainya said to Yuski.

“Oh no! Why are you upset! Did something happen to my Goddess!” Yuski said worried for Mainya.

“No she’s just upset that Rider is in our party now.” Yaoan added.

“I’m not upset about that really, I just don’t think he deserves to be in our Party.” Mainya quickly noted.

Yuski then walked up to Rider and pulled up on his shirt. “You better walk a very tight rope, if my Majesty says the world I would end you in a heart beat.” Yuski intimidated Anhou.

“Okay, settle down again. Let’s just go and build some comradery with our new party member.” Yaoan added trying to calm everyone down again.

“We should go after the Water Raid, that shouldn’t be too bad.” Mainya said snarky.

Yaoan then looked at the details. “That’s not cool, that’s a level 30 difficulty.”

“What? I’m Level 52, you’re Level 54 and Yuski is Level 75. It should be easy.” Mainya noted.

“But Rider is Level 3...” Yaoan pointed at Rider.

“Then when we win he will be Level 14, easy as that.” Mainya responded.

“It’s okay, I can handle myself Vani.” Anhou said to Yaoan.

“Ah, if you say so, just don’t die.” Yaoan said summoning their vehicle.

Rider began heading to the Vehicle with Yaoan.

“No, you are riding with Yuski.” Mainya said to Rider pointing at Yuski. Yuski then waved.

Rider then hopped on behind Yuski on his vehicle.

“Hey Yuski!” Rider said to Yuski as he was sitting behind him.

“Can you sit back.” Yuski said to Rider.

“Oh sure...” Rider sat back and the both of them sped off.

Yaoan and Mainya quickly followed after.

The group landed at the entrance of a wet cave. It has a deep blue with a bioluminescence colour deep within it.

“Whoa, so this is what a Raid looks like?” Rider said in amazement.

“Ha, a few days ago you said you defeated a Raid Boss solo.” Yaoan said to Anhou as she approached the door. “Okay it says here for it to activate we must all enter the water.”

So Mainya, Yuski and Yaoan stepped into the water. Anhou then also stepped in.

“Oh this is freezing!” Anhou said as he feet got wet.

“Just handle it for now, you’ll get used to it.” Yuski said encouraging Anhou. Mainya quickly looked at Yuski. He smiled nervously.

The water started to rise and the room became brighter.

“Here it comes!” Anhou called out.

The Raid Boss came out of the water and yelled out. Throwing water in all directions. It summoned schools of fish which swam directly at the group.

Yaoan shot at them with her beams and tore through their ranks.

The water in the room increased a little more and now the entire party had to swim.

“Yuski you already know what I’m thinking.” Mainya called out to Yuski.

“You already know.” Yuski then bit out a frost liquid and froze a circular area around the boss.

“Vani, I’m going to sit on my shield, shoot me out of the water and onto the ice.” Mainya said as she summoned her shield.

Yaoan then created a large heat bubble underneath Mainya and launched her out of the water.

Mainya then used her threads to slide herself quickly across the ice. The Boss tried to shoot hydro pumps of water at Mainya but couldn’t keep up.

Mainya then summoned another shield and jumped directly at the boss. Knocking it directly into the air.

Yuski then formed a blade out of his spit and jumped up to cut the Boss in half. Yaoan created a draft for Yuski so that his jumps would be higher.

Yuski sliced it in half and it fell into the water. Yuski entered the water with a dive. “Okay, the Boss is defeated, now we just have to handle the schools of fish it summoned before they begin to rebuild the Boss.” Yuski said informing the group of this Raid’s Challenge.

Mainya, Yaoan and Yuski swam around in the water searching out for the fish.

Anhou was in the water completely confused. “Ah, guys, what am I supposed to do?” Anhou asked.

“Just do what you can Rider.” Yaoan said to Rider as she was shooting down the fish that were approaching the boss.

“Sure.” Anhou said as he dived into the water with his Scythe.

The group were handling the Fish quickly and in no time the horde was gone, but the raid wasn't over yet.

"Somethings wrong. Once we defeated all the schools that should have been the end of it." Yuski said curious.

"Then there must be one more hidden somewhere." Mainya added looking around.

Anhou then saw something deep in the water. "Oh I think I see it." Anhou then dived below to get it.

"No don't-" Yaoan tried to stop Anhou but he had already dived down.

Anhou found the fish in the depths and brought out his Scythe to get it.

"Does he have it?" Yuski asked Yaoan.

"Yea, Rider can handle at least this." Yaoan said as they all were waiting.

Some more time passed and nothing had changed.

Mainya then dived underneath the water to look for Anhou.

"What is she doing?" Yuski asked Yaoan.

Mainya found Anhou caught by an underwater seaweed. His Scythe was unable to cut through it. He was quickly about to expire.

Mainya saw Anhou in this situation and quickly freed him from his constraints. She then quickly killed the final fish and shot thread upward to the ceiling of the cave. She grabbed Anhou around his waist and pulled them both out of the water and swung unto the land.

Yaoan and Yuski watched as she swung up and out of the water.

The Status of the Raid was complete and it showed on their Interface along with the rewards.

Anhou was unconscious and Mainya tried to get the water out of his system.

Yaoan quickly joined her.

"Let me handle this." Yaoan said as she targetted his lungs and used the heat within them to squeeze the water out of his body. Yaoan then shot warm air into his lungs and ANhou began to cough.

“Look whose finally back awake.” Mainya said to Anhou who was coming to.

“Wow, was I out? All I was seeing was a timer minigame... Thankyou Vani for helping me.” Anhou said as he began to get up.

“I didn’t save you, it was Randiantsi.” Yaoan pointed at Mainya.

“No way, really?” Anhou said to Mainya.

“Don’t read too much into it, it’s better that you get these levels than us having to carry around a level 1.” Mainya got up and went to the Rewards.

Anhou’s level went up and his Scythe upgraded. “Well, ah, Thank you Randiantsi.” Anhou said.

“Don’t think about it.” Mainya said as the group received their Raid rewards.

“Wow, Raid gear is quite useless now. Guess we should start taking on the Divine Beasts.” Yuski said looking at all the low tier equipment.

“It can always be used for selling.” Mainya said adding them into her inventory.

They all exited the Raid Cave and summoned up the Vehicles again.

“So unto the next Raid?” Yuski asked Mainya.

Mainya looked at Yaoan. “Yea, let’s just clear them all at least until we get Rider to Level 30, then we can go out into the frontier.” Yaoan said hoping onto her vehicle.

Yuski threw some healing potion at Anhou. “Here drink this up, your health is low.”

Anhou caught it and drank it. Yaoan and Mainya took off to the next destination.

“Hop on before they start without us.” Yuski said to Anhou to get him to quickly move.

Yaoan and Mainya were high in the air.

“So why’d you save him?” Yaoan asked Mainya.

“Save Rider? I already told you, its so we wouldn’t have a Level 1 with us.” Mainya responded.

“Yea, but you could have easily just came back up and told me to do it. Then we could have hit him with a revival.” Yaoan noted.

"I don't know... maybe it's because he is your friend and I don't want to make things hard for you." Mainya responded.

"Sure, I guess you can tell yourself that haha." Yaaooan laughed.

"It's true, I'm still very cautious of him. One move and I'll definitely kick him out. You guys can do your real life stuff on your own for the next few days, then I'll have you to myself ha." Mainya jokingly replied.

"Got it all figured out don't you Mainya." Yaaooan smirked as they continued onward.

The Party brought down the Raid Bosses eventually getting Rider to Level 28. Yuski and Mainya were warming up to Anhou. Anhou was able to contribute with some Scythe and Thread Combos with Mainya. Eventually the group returned to Vandiantsi.

"Successful day of exploring and victories. Always a pleasure being with the Perfect Randiantsi!" Yuski said as he was beginning his departure.

"Don't say that during the tournament." Mainya called out to Yuski.

"I make no such promise. It may be too hard to contain." Yuski said before disappearing.

Yaaooan and Mainya then looked at Anhou.

"So what do you think of the new and improved Rider?" Yaaooan asked Mainya.

"He's okay I guess. Like a pet." Mainya said jokingly.

"Hey, not cool. Pet People were a thing you know." Anhou responded to Mainya.

"Obviously, and?" Mainya replied.

"Okay well I am going to head to sleep, school is going to start soon. I'll see you tomorrow Randiantsi okay?" Yaaooan said to Mainya.

"Of course, I can't wait!" Mainya responded.

"I'll also see you tomorrow." Anhou added.

"Well I can wait to see you." Mainya said to Anhou.

Anhou then logged off.

“Just two more days Yaoan!” Mainya said excitedly.

“I know! Let’s talk about it more tomorrow. And try to send me some images of cool place in Vesatanis.” Yaoan asked.

“Already did, guess you’ll see it when you log out.” Mainya said.

“See you tomorrow!” Yaoan then logged off.

Yaoan checked her Server Address and saw tons of images.

“When did she have the time to do this? How did she do this we were all logged in...” Yaoan thought to herself looking at the information.

Yaoan then laid in her bed looking at the places becoming more excited about leaving Marian North. She then stumbled upon a picture.

“Oh, Mainya! That’s you in real life!” Yaoan saw that Mainya included an image of herself within the photos.

“Wow, I’m actually friends with such an amazing person.” Yaoan smiled looking at Mainya’s happy face.

“I’m going to send her an image back.” Yaoan thought as she sat up and took a picture of herself and replied it back to Mainya.

Quickly Yaoan got a reply. “You look incredible Yaoan!” Mainya responded.

Yaoan then fell asleep with the images still open. She then began to dream.

She dreamt that Mainya and her were in Vesatanis together. That the both of them ran around the city just taking pictures of each other and laughing. But then the sky went dark and fire rose up, just like her final memories with her parents.

Mainya was trapped in the fire and Yaoan tried to save her but she could make a voice to yell out to her.

Then the entire scene became black with smoke. Yaoan was alone again. Then the three figures appeared in the smoke. Yaoan tried to call out to them to help. But they walked away. Yaoan called out over and over. Then one of them turned around and cleared the smoke. The face that she saw was one she did not know, but felt familiar. She reached out for it.

But then her alarm rang out.

“Dang really? These dreams just keep getting more and more terrifying.” Yaoan thought as she stretched and got ready for school.

Chapter 13

Yaoan left her house.

“Who let the animal out of her cage!” Paiyi called out to Yaoan.

Yaoan then smiled “Thank you guys for helping me out, I appreciate it.” she said to the group of girls.

“Don’t get all friendly with us.” Le Anna said to Yaoan.

Yaoan then gave Paiyi back her device, and Paiyi quickly took it back.

“I’m going to have to deep clean this after it’s been with you.” Paiyi said to Yaoan as she put it into her outfit.

The group then left Yaoan.

“Thanks again!” She called out.

“Shut up!” They yelled back.

Yaoan then continued her journey to school.

“Bring anything suspicious Student 1076?” The Gate Teacher asked.

“No I am clean Sir.” Yaoan responded.

He looked up and down her then shooed her into the school.

She saw Anhou waiting for her in the hallway in front of her homeroom.

“So want to go back on the roof during half period again?” Anhou said excitedly.

“Unless you have an easier way to get up there then no.” Yaoan responded.

“Hmm, I think we can get to it from inside the school. I saw a maintenance hole up there and it has to connect to something.” Anhou said trying to come up with something.

"If you find that hole then I'll go up there, if not then we have to come up with something else to do." Yaoan said as she walked backwards into her class.

Anhou waved as Yaoan entered her class.

As usual Yaoan went through her classes. She wasn't being bothered as much. Some of her morning teachers questioned where she was yesterday but she gave them the excuse that she gave the afternoon teachers.

In her Natural Mathematics class as they were learning to do Jüger's Maths a student began speaking to Yaoan.

"Oh looks like you're back. There's a few of us who created a club in the Old Ren Shaole Teacher's Lounge. We play Rütanu in there. The Staff who patrol are also Ren Shaole so they let us do it. I just wanted to let you know since you are a pretty popular player and all." The student gestured out before turning back to look at the lesson.

Yaoan then also gestured out. "Is it safe? How do we know we all aren't going to get in trouble?"

"The Ren Shaole Staff thinks it's a stupid rule, so they want to make sure we have a place to enjoy ourselves. They will keep us safe." The student finished gesturing then refocused.

Yaoan nodded her head in excitement.

"To verify the 2nd Dimensional Vector of the Numerical Value Square it's value and take it's imaginary..." The Teacher was saying as everyone returned their attention to them.

The half Period came and everyone exited their classes.

Anhou quickly met up Yaoan.

"So are you ready, I know exactly where the port is!" Anhou said with excitement.

"I have something cool to tell you too. There's this club in the old Ren Shaole Teacher Lounge where students are playing Rütanu during half period, we don't have to find random stuff to fill our time with." Yaoan said with a smile.

"Oh... so no going up to the roof today." Anhou said with disappointment.

"Of course not, we can play again and explore an entire world, not just some building." Yaoan said pointing for them to go.

“Sure, I guess. So you would rather play that than hang out in reality.” Anhou added sounding melodramatic.

“Come on stop moping around.” Yaoan then headed to the place and Anhou reluctantly followed.

When they got to that part of the building a Ren Shaole staff member stopped them.

“What do you two think you are doing?” They asked.

“We are going to the club meeting.” Yaoan responded.

Then the Teacher let them through.

Yaoan and Anhou say about a dozen students all sitting around a table with some snacks on the desk.

“Wow this is a nice little set up.” Yaoan commented before they took their seat.

“I guess...” Anhou said sitting next to Yaoan.

“Come on, isn’t this great!” Yaoan said to Anhou before she logged into Rutanu.

Yaoan pulled out her vehicle and Anhou soon logged in after.

Yaoan and Anhou both rode to Vandiantsi.

“Hey Randiantsi!” Yaoan called out to Mainya.

“What a surprise!! You are on right now!” Mainya swung down to grab Yaoan. “I saw that image you sent me, super cute!” Mainya excitedly told Yaoan.

“You guys are sharing images with each other?” Anhou asked the two.

“Yea, you have an issue with that Rider?” Mainya asked Anhou.

“No, no issue. Just surprising.” Anhou then began to speak under his breath. “...especially since you don’t know each other in reality...”

“What was that? Speak up?” Mainya told Anhou.

“I didn’t say anything.” Anhou responded.

“So how about we go to the Beach today, I found this really cool reef just off shore.” Mainya said to Yooan.

“Oh really! Yea definitely, I want to see that!” Yooan excitedly responded to Mainya.

“Hey Yooan, I know an awesome clearing in the Silent Forest we could check out.” Anhou said as they two were about to hop in their vehicle.

“Ah... that’s cool Rider. We can check that out later I guess. Just let me go with Randiantsi for a bit okay?” Yooan said to Anhou.

“Yea, that’s okay.” Anhou stood there disappointed.

“Cool! See you then!” Yooan then flew off with Mainya.

A portal then appeared behind Anhou.

“Poor little child. I just saw what happened to you.” MyTry came out of the portal.

Anhou fell to the ground in fear.

“MyTry! What are you doing here! You’re not supposed to be on our base!” Anhou quickly said to MyTry.

“Oh dear, I’m not? That’s news to me. The way I see it, as long as I am the strongest around I can do whatever I want right.” MyTry stepped up to Anhou. She then got serious.

“So did you consider my offer to you back when you were training in that dreaded Training Center?” MyTry then portaled Anhou to his feet.

“Yes I considered it...” Anhou responded while looking down.

“And?” MyTry enquired.

“I can’t do it.” Anhou said hesitantly.

“Oh... now why not?” MyTry said to Anhou in a voice as if she was talking to a baby.

“They are my friends now, and Vani is a really close friend of mine in reality and in-game.” Anhou said to MyTry. “I can’t destroy their base and betray them like that. Not in exchange for all the Power in this world.”

“Poor baby, you actually believe they are your friends.” MyTry then walked extremely close to Anhou. “I’ll let you in on a little secret.”

MyTry then whispered into Anhou’s ear. “Vani isn’t planning on returning to Marian South with you. She’s going to stay in Vesatanis with Randiantsi. Leaving you to return alone.”

Anhou then backed away from MyTry. “That’s a lie. Me and Vani are actual friends in real life, there’s no way she would do that.”

MyTry then gestured her arms out. “If you don’t believe me, ask her yourself. I’m saying, don’t get too attached, because they are definitely not attached to you. Trade it in and I’ll make you a winner, then you’ll have crowds of people following your every word. That’s what you want right?” MyTry then created a portal. “I bet if you were stronger, a girl like Vani would have fell for you rather than for Randiantsi.”

MyTry then disappeared into her portal leaving Anhou alone.

“She’s lying! No, me and Yaoan had fun on the roof and during dinner, and in the mornings... theres no way... yea... theres no way.” Anhou said talking to himself.

Yaoan and Mainya were at the beach together swimming in the water scanning the sealife in the area.

“Whoa Yaoan look at this” Mainya gestured for Yaoan to come over.

They looked at a spotted Slug like animal with claws.

“That is super weird, the creator sure those have quite the imagination!” Yaoan said looking at the animal.

“When we are together we should totally make a world of our own, we can put this one to shame.” Mainya said to Yaoan as she scanned the creature.

“What? You know how to do it?” Yaoan asked Mainya surprised.

“Definitely, its as easy as creating some physics, process some logic and a little imagination.” Mainya said with a huge grin.

Then definitely, lets do it. Though all I can provide is the imagination.” Yaoan said jokingly to Mainya splashing her with some water.

“Hey, you can’t just attack me without warning haha!” Mainya splashed Yaoan back.

Some time passed and the two returned to Vandiantsi. They both saw Anhou still in about the same place he was when they left.

“Wow, looks like you actually waited patiently, didn’t know you could do that.” Mainya said joking with Anhou.

“Yaoan I have a question.” Anhou said to Yaoan in a bit of a saddened voice.

“Yea, sure, what is it?” Yaoan responded.

“What are we going to tell the teachers when we come back to school after the tournament.” Anhou asked Yaoan.

Yaoan then paused. She then hit her head with her hand.

“Dang, I forgot to tell you. I’m not going back to school after the tournament. I’m going to stay in Vlagora.” Yaoan responded.

“When were you going to tell me that?” Anhou said heart broken.

“I just told you. What’s the problem?” Yaoan asked confused.

“So when we were on the roof, and when you gave me your hand, and when we laughed and ate a meal together, were you just stringing me along?” Anhou voice then began to rise.

“Hey calm down Rider!” Mainya tried to speak to Anhou.

“No! Was I being used just so you could get to Vesatanis?” Anhou asked Yaoan.

“Rider, I enjoyed those times, that’s honest. But I really don’t want to be in Marian North anymore. Too many bad memories.” Yaoan tried to explain to Anhou.

“You leaving will be a bad memory to me! Why are you trying to stay with someone you don’t even know in real life. I’m here in the same room with you right now!” Anhou said passionately.

“Rider... it has nothing to do with you. It’s -” Yaoan said before Anhou logged off.

Yaoan and Mainya looked at each other.

“Well there goes your ride to Vesatanis it seems.” Mainya said uncertain of what to say from what just happened.

“I think I better go and handle this...” Yaoan said looking at Mainya.

“Yea, do what you need to do. I’ll talk to you later yes?” Mainya asked Yaaooan.

“Of course! See you later” Yaaooan said before she logged off.

Yaaooan looked around the room and saw that Anhou had left. Yaaooan quickly got her stuff and tried to find him.

“Anhou? Where are you?” She looked around the corner of the building.

“Student 1145 are you around here?” Yaaooan called out louder.

Yaaooan then went to the building that led up to the roof. “Anhou.. Could you be sitting up there?”

Yaaooan then started climbing. The rocks below her was chipping off. Yaaooan had grown exhausted from all of her yelling and barely had enough breath to make it to the top.

Right as she reached up she slipped a little and a hand grabbed hers. It was Anhou.

Anhou pulled her up to the roof and they both just sat next to each other silently.

“So...” Yaaooan said to Anhou.

“...So...” Anhou responded.

Yaaooan then looked out at the community. “Look at this view.” Yaaooan said trying to start the conversation.

“Yea, heh, its a view you don’t want to see anymore.” Anhou said quietly.

“Come on Anhou, if you want you can stay in Vlagora too.” Yaaooan said to Anhou.

Anhou then let out a huge exhale. “No, that’s what you want...” he then stood up. “I like being here, in Marian North. I feel at home here. So I want you to have what you want.”

Yaaooan looked up at Anhou in surprise.

“Really? You’ll still take me there knowing that I won’t be coming back?” Yaaooan asked.

“Yea sure, things will turn out the way its supposed to. So I have no problem with it...” Anhou said trying to gain a smile.

Yaaooan then hugged Anhou “Thank you Anhou.”

Anhou then began to feel bad. But returned the hug to her.

“How about we start heading to class. We can take the maintenance hatch to get back down.” Anhou pointed at the port.

“Good, because I think the way down is pretty messed up now.” Yaoan laughed.

The two of them made their way back down to the split and they went their separate ways to their classes.

The rest of Yaoan’s class day went as expected and eventually the school day ended.

Yaoan looked around at the front gate but she did not see Anhou waiting.

“I guess he decided to go home immediately today...” Yaoan then started walking home.

Yaoan picked her up a snack and went upstairs into her home. She kicked off her shoes and sat on her couch to eat what she got and watch videos.

As she was eating a huge rumble was felt on the Earth but it quickly dissipated.

“On Earth was that?” Yaoan thought to herself for it was the first time she felt an Earthquake.

She then switched to another video to see if anyone was talking about it. There was nothing on the news about it yet.

“Wow, that is so weird.” Yaoan said returning to her comfortable position.

Yaoan then cleaned up. She put away her left overs and cleaned up her body. She hopped onto her bed and logged in.

Yaoan saw an urgent message from Mainya. “Our base! It's been destroyed!”

Yaoan was taken aback. “Hold on! I’m coming right now!” Yaoan messaged and immediately went to Vandiantsi.

Vandiantsi was in flames and completely shattered in pieces.

Mainya and Yuski rode up together to joined Yaoan in the air.

“Do you know what happened?” Yaoan asked Mainya.

“No! I don’t know at all. One minute I was collecting stones for another structure, and the next I saw that all of our guards were killed and our structure integrity was disappearing rapidly.” Mainya said being overwhelmed.

“Only person who could have taken out your guards that quickly would be MyTry. But she isn’t the type of person who would set things on fire and cut things apart... But if she had someone else do it, then we would have known that they entered the base because they would be an intruder...” Yuski was pondering.

The three looked at each other. Then Mainya and Yaoan looked at each other.

“You don’t think it could have been Rider?” Mainya asked Yaoan.

“No way we patched things up earlier today, he wouldn’t do something like this to us.” Yaoan responded certain that it wasn’t Anhou.

“If not him, then who else could it have been?” Mainya asked Yaoan.

“It could have been like Samarino... or ZXRaider whatever his name was.” Yaoan tried to come up with other people.

“They would have set off the Alarm with their presence. It had to be someone who has an ability to avoid being detected or a party member.” Yuski added.

“Rider isn’t even high enough level to do this.” Yaoan added believing that was his saving grace.

Yuski checked the party and saw that Rider had left the Party. “He’s not part of the Party anymore. Let me look in the greater database.” Yuski then searched for Rider.

“Yaoan, I think it’s obvious. Rider did this to us.” Mainya tried to say to Yaoan.

“No way. Maybe this is just sort of prank you two are playing on me, or a way to get rid of Rider. I don’t know. There’s no way he would betray us. Me and him had a moment on the roof.” Yaoan tried hard to convince them.

“Found him!” Yuski said as the two girls went over to check.

“He’s a Level 88 now, and in a Party with...” Yuski was reading off his information.

“He’s in MyTry’s Party...” Yaoan said quietly coming to the realization. “How could he...”

Mainya hugged Yaoan. “I don’t know Yaoan... I don’t know what his motivations are.”

All three of them then flew away from the destroyed Vandiantsi as the statues fell to the ground and everything became ash.

Yaoan sat on a rock with her hands on her head. And Mainya was rubbing Yaoan's back.

Other people tried to go over to get a signature from Yuski.

"It's not the right time for that. Come back later." Yuski told them as he stood in front of Yaoan and Mainya.

"Why Anhou... why would you do this to us. I thought you wanted me to be happy." Yaoan thought to herself.

A portal then appeared in front of the group.

"Who protects the protectors?" MyTry said as she exited the Portal.

"Its you!" Mainya yelled as she threw her needles at MyTry. MyTry opened up a portal and the needles hit Mainya's back going right through her.

MyTry then looked at Yuski, "Don't even try."

"Why did you destroy our base MyTry...?" Yaoan asked her defeated.

"I didn't even touch your base, that was all your friend." MyTry then allowed Anhou to exit.

Yuski then went to attack Anhou but Anhou dodged it and kicked Yuski away.

"So what do you think Vani, I'm looking good right, much better than Randiantsi and Yuski huh." Anhou said to Yaoan.

"How could you do this..." Yaoan said disappointed.

"Do what? I cleared a path for us to hang out more. I had to clear all the things that was getting you stuck in this fake world. You have a real world friend yet you chose to spend it here, and even worse, you were going to leave me for it! I had to do it." Anhou responded.

"So I can't be happy unless I am happy with you?" Yaoan said as she began to become upset.

"What do you expect, me to watch you leave my life without a fight, this shows how far I would go to be with you!" Anhou tried to communicate.

Yaoan then pulled the heat from the air and surrounded herself in flames.

“Oh this is getting good.” MyTry commented watching Yaoan become upset.

“You are so stupid! Why would you ever think this would work in a thousand or even a million years!” Yaoan yelled at Anhou.

“Come on Yaoan don’t be like that. You’re not actually going to fight me over some fake world?” Anhou responded back to Yaoan.

“Don’t call me by my name, you don’t deserve to! You’re not my friend anymore!” Yaoan yelled at Anhou.

“Don’t yell at me, and don’t call me stupid!” Anhou yelled back.

Yuski got up from the rubble and pulled Mainya out of the center of their confrontation.

“Shut up you stupid, arrogant, immature, boy!” Yaoan yelled at Anhou.

He then dashed at her with his blade and Yaoan shot an enormous Heat Wave at him. Throwing Anhou back.

“MyTry how did she stop me? I’m like more than 30 Levels above her.” Anhou asked MyTry confused.

“Seems that her anger is boosting her style.” MyTry guessed.

“Come on Yaoan, beat his ass!” Mainya called out.

Anhou got back up with his blade, then summoned dozens of them throwing them at Yaoan one after another.

Yaoan shot each of them out of the air, then shot a blast out at Anhou. Anhou cut it in half and stood strong.

“What are you fighting for Yaoan huh!” Anhou yelled out at Yaoan as he transformed his arms into Scythes. He jumped around Yaoan as she had to rely on her heat shield to protect her.

“I’m fighting against people like you that believe that everyone should live their life they way that you want, and use force to make it happen.” Yaoan said looking around to see Anhou.

MyTry smirked.

"I want real friends to actually have more significance than a fake reality. You don't even know these people. We are Ren Shaole, they are Ren Zuiperi and Ren Neo. They will betray you much worse in the future. I'm trying to keep that from happening to you!" Anhou called out trying to break through Yaoan barrier.

"We need to help her" Mainya said as she was struggling to get up.

"Oh no, your character's legs Randiantsi." Yuski said noticing that Mainya was unable to move them.

"It's okay Yuski. In the real World I've been paralyzed from the waist down for years now. I'm used to puppeteering myself." Mainya shot thread up unto the building and connected them to herself. "I need to help her."

"You are so amazing Randiantsi, but MyTry will try to stop you." Yuski commented.

"Yea, thats where I hope you would step in. Can you keep her occupied?" Mainya asked Yuski.

Yuski let out a big exhale. "I'm not sure."

Mainya then hugged Yuski tightly. And his confidence went through the roof.

"Okay! I'm all Powered up, Randiantsi you help Vani and I'll handle MyTry." Yuski said standing up with new found power.

"Oh, and Yuski..." Mainya said as she lifted herself up.

Yuski looked over at her.

"My real name is Mainya Te'Rayu" Mainya said to Yuski. He held his chest in happiness.

"And I'm Suro De'Yavi." Yuski then ran towards MyTry.

"Oh so the tournament is coming early huh Yuski?" MyTry said sending a portal at Yuski. Yuski then moved out of the way by swinging around and tried to elbow her from the side. MyTry sent another Portal ut hurling Yuski into the sky.

"That won't be enough to beat me this time!" Yuski called out as he continued to try and attack MyTry.

Anhou continued to viciously attacked Yaoan as her energy reserves were depleting quickly.

“Why won’t you just genuinely be my friend Yaoan!” He kept yelling out trying to break through to Yaoan.

Yaoan was being broken down steadily. She tried to control Anhou but he was moving with too much vigor.

“Ah, I can’t keep this up. All I wanted was to not be alone anymore...” Yaoan said as Anhou began to break through to her.

“Then let me in there with you! I am your friend!” He continued to slice until her shield shattered and the heat dispersed.

Anhou then stepped up to Yaoan with his blade. “This is for your own good.” Anhou lifted his blade up to cut through Yaoan.

Then Mainya used her thread and pulled his Scythe away from him.

“You! I am sick and tired of you!” Anhou turned around towards Mainya. “She’s a Ren Shaole, she belongs with other Ren Shaole and the real world. Not whatever you are and this virtual space.”

Anhou summoned another Scythe and ran at Mainya.

Mainya struggled to hold herself up. “It doesn’t matter how a relationship forms, or who its between. As long as its genuine then it’ll last...” Mainya say Anhou running at her at what looked to be slow motion.

“What you want isn’t genuine, you feel entitled to her as if it was some sort of law...” Mainya then fell to her knees.

“I live in the real world and that’s just the way it is.” Anhou Scythe entered Mainya’s Arm but then it stopped moving.

“What is happening?” Anhou couldn’t move.

Yaoan had gotten up and had her hand completely extended.

“Don’t you dare hurt her.” Yaoan then began to pulled Anhou down using his heat within his body.

“What are you doing Yaoan... we both go to the same school. We learned these lessons about the real world. Ren Shaole, Ren Zuiperi, Ren Xi and Ren Neo became as successful as we are because we followed natural laws, the rules of Society.”

Yaoan then breathe in and squeeze more firmly on Anhou. "The Real World and this World... they are all made up by people just like you and me. The laws we follow today, the friends we can make, the experiences we live were all decided by normal people. I hope you can learn that Anhou and maybe then you can have a genuine friendship."

Mainya summoned her shield and threw it at Anhou but it wasn't able to go through his body.

"You're living in some sort of dream world Yaoan, I'll see you in the real world and we will see how much of what you are saying make sense." Anhou said struggling to move.

"We will get there when we get there." Yaoan said before pushing Anhou through the rest of the shield splitting him in half. Causing him to dissolve away.

Yaoan and Mainya fell down next to each other.

Yuski then ended his constant movement around MyTry. And hopped back. "Well looks like I stalled you long enough."

MyTry then looked at the result of the battle.

"Well so you have Yuski." MyTry then smirked. "A couple of Ren Zuiperi and a Ren Shaole. Ha, I'll just have to try again at the tournament."

MyTry then summoned a portal and walked through it.

Yuski then walked over to the two girls and laid down next to them. Mainya rubbed his head.

"Nice work Yuski." Mainya said to him as he laid exhausted.

"Does anyone have any Energy Potions with them, I think we all could use some right about now." Mainya said as all three of them laid exhausted.

"I do... but I'm too exhausted to grab it." Yaoan said sitting on her knees.

"Oh... thats okay I guess we all can lay here for a bit." Mainya said as she also just rested.

Chapter 14

The group had recovered and found a new place further out from the main hub so that they would get less intruders of lower levels.

"Its not as good as Vandiantsi, but it'll do." Mainya said as they looked at their new place.

“Think of any clever name this time Mainya?” Yaoan asked her.

“Hmm let’s see. How about Yaomairo?” Mainya proposed to the group.

“Is that a mixture of all of our names together?” Suro (Yuski) asked Mainya.

“Yes it is. How do you like it?” Mainya asked Suro.

“Vani, so your name is Yao?” Suro asked Yaoan.

“No, my name is Yaoan. And I’m guessing yours isn’t Ro.” Yaoan asked him back.

“No my name is Suro De’Yavi.” Suro clarified. “So Yaoan is your name that means you probably come from the Ya or Yan People right, or at least one of those Western Ren Shaole Poeple.”

“That’s right, and all I can tell from your name is that you are also Ren Zuiperi.” Yaoan commented to Suro.

“That is correct, more precisely I am Kinyan and Vlagoran” Suro clarified even further.

“Well that’s cool. Well after the battle that we had today I don’t think I’ll be able to make it to the tournament to see you guys. Since Rider was my ride and all...” Yaoan said feeling disappointed.

“Dang thats right! Freak that kid! Looks like he won afterall...” Mainya said angered at the fact that she won’t be able to see Yaoan after all.

“It’s okay, I’ll find a way there. Even if not by the time the tournament comes. But I will get to you.” Yaoan said to Mainya as they comforted each other.

“This sucks...” Suro said also being disappointed. “Maybe I can try and travel to Marian South and get you Yaoan. Afterall I am Ren Zuiperi and it seems like we have extra privileges there.”

“Do you think you really can Suro?” Yaoan asked.

“Well I’m not sure. I’ll see tomorrow morning, by then I’ll let you know. But for now that’s definitely a possibility.” Suro commented a bit uncertain.

“Well I guess that’s better than nothing.” Yaoan said with a smile. “So maybe we will get to see each other after all.”

"I can't wait, we have so many adventures to go on when you get here!" Mainya said to Yaoan.

"Oh did any of you guys feel that Earthquake earlier, it was super strange." Yaoan said wondering about it.

"Yea, I felt it right when I logged in." Mainya said also thinking it was strange.

"I was already in game, so I didn't feel a thing." Suro responded.

"Hmm, maybe that was a bad omen for the battle that we were about to have." Yaoan said pondering.

"I don't think that a big enough enough to be world shattering." Suro noted.

"Definitely shattered my world haha." Yaoan joked.

Yaoan then stood up and stretched.

"Well i am exhausted now, I am going to rest and try to prepare for the school day tomorrow and to interact with Rider in person." Yaoan said preparing to log off.

"I am not jealous of you at all haha, maybe except for your beauty. I am jealous of that." Mainya joked.

"You flatter me Mainya! Okay well I will see you guys online tomorrow, okay?" Yaoan said to Mainya and Suro.

"I wouldn't miss it for the World Yaoan!" Mainya said as Yaoan logged off.

Yaoan sat in her room. "Dang it Anhou..." Yaoan thought to herself. Then the glow of the Earth came about. It was a lot dimmer than usual.

"Oh that's weird, it hasn't been that dim since the Age of Immortality began." Yaoan thought to herself.

Yaoan closed her eyes and went to sleep. She then began to dream.

This dream was bright, and she was calm. Then the 3rd Figured from yesterday's dream was sitting in a field. Yaoan went up to it.

"Who are you?" Yaoan asked.

"I am ---" The figure spoke but Yaoan couldn't hear its name.

"I'm sorry I don't understand." Yaoan said still confused.

The figure then opened its hand to Yaoan, and Yaoan walked to it. She then sat in the figure's lap.

Then another girl came up to Yaoan and the figure and she laid on Yaoan as they both sat on the figure's lap.

"Oh, you feel warm little girl, who are you?" Yaoan asked.

"Don't you recognize me silly. I am Mainya. I am so glad we could meet." Mainya said to Yaoan.

"You are the silly one I haven't met Mainya in person yet." Yaoan said petting the little girl's head.

The figure that they all were sitting on held them both tightly. Yaoan then woke up from the dream. With a little tear in her eyes.

"That was a really good dream." Yaoan looked outside her window and saw that a building was on fire.

Yaoan tried to get a better view and saw that people were running towards it.

"What is happening over there?" Yaoan then got up from bed and prepared for school. As she was getting ready she continued to hear people yelling outside.

"That Earthquake yesterday must have messed up something, everyone is going crazy." Yaoan thought to herself.

She picked up her bag and head out her door.

Paiyi and her friends weren't outside waiting this time. Yaoan looked around for them.

"Where are they?" Yaoan was confused. She had never known them to not make fun of her on her way to school. "So strange."

Yaoan then looked at the school in the distance, she then stopped. "I don't want to go in there today..." Yaoan thought to herself. "I don't want to talk to Anhou."

Yaoan then inhaled and exhaled. "Come on Yoyo... you can do this." Yaoan then continued to walk to the school.

The Gate Teacher wasn't at the Gate. Yooan then looked at the rest of the school and saw that it seemed rather void.

"Am I still dreaming?" Yooan then decided to turn back and return home. "Just in case I'm not, I don't want to deal with what is happening there."

Yooan walked back home and dropped her bags onto the floor. She then turned on the Videos and to the news.

"3500 People Dead in their sleep at the hospital this morning." One news channel said. Yooan then changed it. "12 cases of Suicide by-." Yooan then changed the channel again. "80 caught in an apartment fire.." Yooan shut it off.

"What is this? Marian South?" Yooan thought to herself. Yooan picked up her device to see if weird stuff was happening with Mainya too.

When Yooan turned on her device she saw that she had a message from Mainya.

"Ha looks like she got to it before I did." Yooan laughed to herself.

"Dear Yooan, this is Mainya Te'Rayu's Mother." The message began.

Yooan heart sunk deep into her chest. She continued to read.

"Thank you for making the last days of my daughter's life enjoyable. She talked about you day in and day out. She was so happy when you both spent time together in game. She talked about how you were going to come and see her here in Vesatanis and go on adventures to the Rainbow Forest, and the Statue of Vius. She died this morning saying your name last and she had a smile on her face. Don't worry, I am doing fine. She had these conditions since she was very young and it was Thanks to the age of Immortality that she was able to survive this long. I hope for you the best in life. And thank you again for being such an amazing friend. Sincerely Maya Te'Rayu Carnelious."

Yooan dropped to her knees and began crying and yelling out.

"No, it can't be true!" Yooan yelled out.

"No, no, no, no, NO! Not you too Mainya! Please don't let it be true..." Yooan cried loudly.

Yooan began to grind her teeth trying to hold back her emotions.

“No, Mainya... please... I can't handle this...!” Yaoan yelled out. Yaoan ran into her bedroom and covered her head in the covers.

“You can't be dead... I'm supposed to see you... we were supposed to be happy...” Yaoan said to herself thinking about the promises they made to each other the adventures, the smiles they had.

“Please Mainya, this can't be true...” Yaoan gripped herself closely trying to bare the pain.

“So in my dream last night... was that actually you. Did you see me one last time?” Yaoan thought about her dream and how at Peace she felt.

Yaoan laid in bed and cried herself back to sleep. She then woke up shortly after to see that she was still in her room.

“I can't stay here... I can't” Yaoan thought to herself.

Yaoan grabbed her bag and headed out. “I'm going to make my way to Vesatanis Mainya... I need to be where you are.”

Yaoan then left her home and walked outside. She locked her home. Yaoan looked back at her door. “Mom and Dad, I'm going to go to my friend's house today. I'll be back someday to see you guys again.” Yaoan then went down the stairs and down the road.

Chapter 15

Yaoan walked down the street and saw that people were crowded together in the streets. Many were crying and many more were yelling.

“This is terrible why would the Queen let this happen.” Yaoan continued to walk looking for Public Transportation but no vehicles were moving.

“Intervene! Intervene, Intervene!” A crowd of protestors were yelling at Government Officer who were trying to keep away from the Ren Shaole men.

Yaoan left the Public Transportation stop and decided to head into the main part of the city.

It was even worse within the city. People had began to throw stone into buildings and remove valuable goods.

“The Age of Immortality is over! The End is upon us now!” Some crazy guy yelled out and stole items from a store and ran off. The store owner then tried to chase the man down.

Yaoan saw a little girl who seemed like she was lost. Yaoan knows that feeling and went to the child. "What's wrong little kid." Yaoan crouched down to speak to them.

The kid was crying.

"It's okay, I'm here to help you. What happened?" Yaoan spoke calmly to the kid.

The kid pointed at a body on the ground. Yaoan then covered the kids eyes.

"Poor Child, you probably never seen or heard of death in your entire life. You were born in the age of Immortality." Yaoan thought to herself.

"Where is your mommy and daddy?" Yaoan asked the small child.

"Some... some guys hurts daddy, and took mommy into there." The kid pointed at the body again.

"Oh no... their dad is dead..." Yaoan felt dread. "And their mom is in there?" Yaoan looked at what to be a now abandoned building. "This is so dangerous."

Yaoan then turned back to the kid. "I want you to go into that store and hid okay? I'm going to get your mommy." Yaoan told the kid and gestured for them to go into the store. Once the kid was hiding Yaoan smiled at them and went towards the building.

"I need something to protect myself." Yaoan grabbed a loose metal pole that had fallen from the building. "Okay, breath Yaoan... move quietly." Yaoan then began to enter the dark building and search around.

"Please Fates guide my hand, if I die carry me to the promised land." Yaoan chanted to herself an old Ya Saying.

Yaoan heard screaming from the end of the building. It sounded like guys taking advantage of the child's mother.

"Stop! Please!" The woman was crying.

Yaoan was just one corner away from the guys. "If I don't make it, at least I will be with you Mainya..." Yaoan then turned the corner and just as she did a bunch of Protestors ran into the buidling and began to stomp on the men who were taking advantage of the child's mom.

"Take that you creeps!" "Freak you guys!" "Kill them!" The crowd yelled out. Yaoan then went in the crowd and grabbed the mom.

“Are you okay Ma’am.” Yooan asked the hurt woman.

“No I’m not, but I am glad to be alive...” The woman said holding onto Yooan. “Oh my Fates! Where’s my baby!” The woman yelled out.

“Your kid is in the store across the street, I thought them to hide.” Yooan said as the woman had relief and began to try and jog to hurry out the building.

The little kid saw their mom and began crying for her. “Oh my baby! I was so worried!” The mom grabbed her kid and hugged them tightly. “Thankyou little girl. Thank you so much, you were so brave to come in there, but please don’t try that again, you could have gotten into so much more trouble if those guys didn’t run in there.”

“I know... but I couldn’t just leave you alone in there, I had to do something.” Yooan said feeling hopeless.

“You are so very Brave young lady. If only we had more people in the world like you.” She said to Yooan before going to her husband.

“Oh no.” The woman walked over to her husband and fell to her knees.

“I’ll just keep going...” Yooan then continued on her walk.

Yooan had made it closer to the center of the Dea, the Capitol City, and had began to become tired. So Yooan sat down on a bench and began to eat some snacks that she brought with her.

“A Brave new world huh...” Yooan thought to herself. “It’s like the civil war all over again.”

Yooan continued to eat. “The Queen will get this under control... maybe she just doesn’t know about it yet.” Yooan thought more as she continued to drink her water.

“I already miss you Mainya...” Yooan smiled thinking about the memories they shared. Then Yooan thought about her dream.

“Whose lap were we sitting on?” Yooan was confused. But she quickly stopped thinking about it and continued further along.

Yooan heard more screaming this time in between some buildings.

“Help!” She heard someone call out.

Yooan grabbed tightly against her metal pole and began to walk into the Ally. Yooan looked around and didn’t see anyone.

“Ah... hello?” Yaoan called out.

“Well hello...” A Ren Zuiperi guy come up behind Yaoan and grabbed her. Yaoan kicked in between their legs and hit him with her metal stick.

“Stay away from me!” Yaoan yelled at him. Then more Ren Zuiperi guys started to show up in the ally.

“Oh looks like we got a young Ren Shaole girl now.” Another came out talking about Yaoan.

“How old are you? You ever had a boyfriend?” Another guy asked her.

“Why do you want to know!” Yaoan pointed her metal pole at them.

“She’s untouched haha.” The first guy said.

“Then let me be your first time ha!” The second guy said to Yaoan while touching his parts.

Yaoan then tried to hit them and escape. “Gross! Stop talking to me!”

One of the guys grabbed the metal pole and kicked Yaoan to the ground. They then jumped on top of her. Yaoan tried to bite them.

“Get off of me! Get off!” Yaoan yelled out. “Get off of me or I’ll kill you!” Yaoan yelled louder.

“Haha, kill us! Theres one of you and Six of us, you do the math.” One of the goons said to Yaoan.

Yaoan fought as hard as she could nearly pulling her shoulder out of the joint.

“Hey pick her up so she stop damaging herself!” One of the goons yelled out to his cronies.

He picked Yaoan up and had her in a full nelson. The main guy then pulled out a large knife and pointed it at Yaoan.

“Now you stop moving little girl, It’s the end of the world, why not just give me and the boys some loving.” The main guy said to Yaoan.

“Let go of me you disgusting creeps!” Yaoan yelled out.

He then grabbed her face. “That’s not nice! Compliment me before I cut your pretty little face!”

Yaoan opened her mouth and spit at the guy.

“Oh yea, I’m going to enjoy tearing you apart.” The guy said to Yaoan as he had the knife against her.

“Get off me you perverts!” Yaoan yelled out trying to kicked her way off.

“We will be quick, if you don’t hand it over willingly we will just take it from you after your dead anyways.” The main goon said to Yaoan.

“Hey you two! Let her go now!” A tall Ren Shaole girl called out at the guys.

“That face...” Yaoan thought to herself as she was exhausted from the yelling and fighting.

The rest of the gang came out of the shadows to try and intimidate this new person who showed up but she was unmoving and showed no fear.

“What little girl? Is she your friend? Are you trying to join our little party?” Another guy said to this new girl.

This new girl's face became a bit more upset.

“Please, run away...” Yaoan tried to say to the new girl.

“Put her down.” The new girl said sternly.

“Get off me! I don’t want to be here! Randiansi please if you are watching me!” Yaoan yelled out with all of her strength.

Yaoan then gave a burst of energy and kicked and bit trying to get free. But the goon did not let go. The first one just pushed her harder against the chest of the guy holder her.

“Stop moving or I’m shoving this knife into your chest!” He said angerly at Yaoan. “How about we trade you in for her hethethet.” The main goon laughed as he spoke to the new girl. He then shoved the knife into Yaoan’s chest.

“The Pain!” Yaoan felt the knife enter her as she was let go and fell onto the ground bleeding out.

“Oops, looks like my hand slipped, looks like we are going to have to trade you in for her.” The main goon said as the rest of the gang went to grab her.

“I’m cold... I’m hurting...” Yaoan thought to herself as her life was leaking out of her.

“Please Mainya... I don’t want to die yet...” Yaoan then tried hard to fight to remain alive. But her world was becoming dark.

“I can’t breath... Please... please...” Yaoan kept on fighting.

The new girl picked Yaoan up from the ground and held her like a child.

“Please... Ma...Mai... I don’t want to die...” Yaoan tried to say as she say Mainya reaching out her hand for her.

“... not yet... Please...” Yaoan said before grabbing for Mainya’s hand.

“Don’t worry, I have you now.” I voice entered Yaoan’s head.

“Thank you...” Yaoan thought before she went unconscious. The new girl held Yaoan’s lifeless body.

“Hello Yaoan” Mainya said smiling at Yaoan.

“Mainya? Is that really you?” Yaoan said confused.

“Of course it’s me! Who else would it be.” Mainya said to Yaoan.

“But I thought you were dead.” Yaoan said to Mainya.

“I am dead.” Mainya said to Yaoan. Then Yaoan’s parents walked up to her.

“Oh Yoyo, you’ve gotten so big and beautiful.” Yaoan’s mother said to her.

“Mom... Dad...? Is that really you guys?” Yaoan said smiling at them.

“Yes honey, it is us.” They said to Yaoan.

“Wait, so does this mean I’m dead...” Yaoan asked.

They went silent. “I’m sorry Yaoan.” Mainya grabbed Yaoan hand.

A figure then walked up to Yaoan.

“So how are you feeling?” It asked Yaoan.

“I feel warm.” Yaoan responded.

The figure then looked around and saw all of Yaoan's memories.

"I'm going to start packing things up for you, is that okay?" The figure asked Yaoan.

"Sure go ahead." Yaoan told the figure.

The figure grabbed the hands of Mainya and Yaoan's Parents.

"Don't worry, I will keep them in a nice little safe for you okay?" The figure said to Yaoan.

"That's fine." Yaoan responded.

Yaoan then smiled and rested.

Yaoan then woke up and saw that she was being carried by the New Girl with two other Ren Shaole girls on either side.

Yaoan was confused. "Where...where am I?" She asked.

The group stopped and the one that was holding Yaoan placed Yaoan onto her feet.

"Haha I was hoping that you would have known that." The main new girl said to Yaoan with a large smile on her face.

"Why aren't they scared? They are my age..." Yaoan thought to herself. "Wait! You all are my age and you're Ren Shaole... did something happen to the school?" Yaoan asked them.

They looked at each other unnaturally quickly.

The one wearing red answered. "I guess?"

"You guess? So it's okay for me to assume that you don't actually go to the Ren Shaole's School for Societal Excellence. Which must mean you all came looking for information about the tournament..." Yaoan then thought a bit more about it. "Even though I am Vani from Rutanu, I don't know any information about that."

The group looked at each other again as if they were talking to each other with just their eyes.

"Ah, we don't know anything about what you are saying. But there is some information we would like to know. We are on our way to find the Leader of this Nation, do you know how to get to them?" The main girl asked Yaoan.

“You mean the Queen?” Yaoan responded.

“Oh yea sure. The Queen, she’s the one that provides the resources that keep everything progressing yes?” The main girl said to Yaoan.

“This is so strange... how don’t they know about the Queen, but they are Ren Shaole...” Yaoan thought to herself. “No... she doesn’t really do that. She just makes laws for us to follow... Hmm why are you asking me this? Is this some sort of joke?” Yaoan asked the group.

“No, we just aren’t from around here. We just need to find your leadership so we can stop all of whatever this is from continuing on.” The Main girl said to Yaoan. She then pointed at the riots and the fires around the area.

“So are you guys from like Marian South?” Yaoan asked trying to guess these girls identities.

“Can you just answer our question please, we don’t really have time to be making small talk.” The girl and red said to Yaoan with a bit of anger.

“Well you don’t have to be rude about it!” Yaoan angerly replied to her.

“Rude?! I wasn’t Rude! We asked you a question first!” She responded to Yaoan.

“Yes rude, I just wanted to know about you guys first, thats it.” Yaoan spoke back to the girl in Red.

The main girl smiled and spoke to Yaoan. “Oh you are curious that’s all. Okay, well we are just very powerful beings from the South. We are here to fix a “mistake” that caused a cascading failure in the governments of you people.”

“You people? What does that mean? Like you guys aren’t-” Yaoan tried to reply but was interrupted by the girl in Red.

“Please! Can you just tell us where the queen is. I can’t keep walking around like this.” She said to Yaoan.

“This is so strange... am I still dreaming... am I dead... was I dead...” Yaoan was trying to quickly think to herself. “Fine, I’ll show you, but on two conditions.” Yaoan said to the group gesturing with two fingers.

“I want to go inside with you guys, and I want to hang out with you all later.” Yaoan said to the group.

They all looked at each other again then the main girl responded.

She smiled at Yaoan. "Sure! Consider yourself part of the Team!" She said to Yaoan. Yaoan was unable to read these people. They seem to be on a different realm than she was.

"There's three of them... were they the ones in my dream? Could they be the Fates...?" Yaoan thought to herself before registering that they had accepted her to their Team. "Oh sweet, So let's call ourselves Yaoan and the Fates!"

"Sounds good to me, let's get going." The main one said to Yaoan immediately after she said the name, but they gave no reaction to being called the Fates.

Yaoan then began walking to the Queen's Palace and they began to follow behind her.

"Why didn't they react when I called them the Fates. Surely they know about the Fates right? Maybe they are just weird..." Yaoan thought to herself as she was walking forward.

"So what are you all's names if you don't mind? I Don't know what the culture is like from where you are from." Yaoan asked the group.

"Isn't it more proper to give your name first?" the main one asked Yaoan.

"She didn't recognize my name in the Team?" Yaoan quickly thought. "Oh but I did, it's in our group name. My name is Yaoan! Now it's your turn." She said to the main girl.

They then seemed to be communicating with each other again, but also replied nearly immediately.

The girl in green answered with a smile. "My name is Wagansis"

Yaoan never heard a name like that before. "Hmm okay... thats weird. And what about you two?" Yaoan asked the others.

"Ah call me Ya... Lan..." the girl in red said. Like she was trying to figure it out as she was saying it.

"Yalan?" Yaoan asked a bit suspiciously.

"Yes my name is Yalan." the girl in red said.

"Oh, our names sound very similar! And what about you?" Yaoan asked the Main girl.

"Call me Vaneluresa." She said.

“Interesting...” Yaoan thought to herself. “The only one with a Ren Shaole like name was the one that nearly copied my name...” Yaoan thought. She then stopped and turned around.

“Well Wegansis, Yalan and Vaneluresa. Welcome to Yaoan and the Fates” Yaoan said with a smile on her face. “Okay let’s head to the Queen.”

The three of them followed behind Yaoan as they were walking by all the screaming yelling and riots. But they seemed unfazed by it.

“What is with these people? How come they are walking so freely?... How come I feel safe with them?” Yaoan was thinking to herself as they all walked to the Palace.

“So why is everyone reacting like this? It’s not really because you all began dying again right?” Vaneluresa asked Yaoan.

“Wait, you all know about the immortality too?” Yaoan asked them. “So it’s really not just a Marian North thing. Guess Mainya was right.” Yaoan thought and then spoke again. “The Queen said that as long as we behaved morally and followed her laws she would continue to grant us immortality.”

“And you all actually believed her?” Yalan said to Yaoan.

“Well yea. Why would a Queen lie about that. But now since everyone started dying again people now either feel that they’ve been lied to, or that the Queen is dead. Personally I don’t think she would lie... but...” Yaoan was telling the group but then began to question herself.

“It looks like it is a simple case of promising a gift you can’t deliver. She is lying of course!” Wagansis said to Yaoan.

“No, she delivered on it, no one had died for the past 7 years. So I think she is fully capable of giving us immortality.” Yaoan responded with what she was taught in school.

“Well either she died, in which case why didn’t she give herself immortality, or she is lying and took credit for something she had no hand in doing. Which would lead to this result when that ceases to occur.” Yalan said to Yaoan.

“I don’t know, I didn’t really think about it. I try to make it make sense in my head since that is what school taught us.” Yaoan responded to them feeling overwhelmed by the questions.

Yaoan then stopped and turned around to face this new group of people.

“Why are you interrogating me! What do you guys even plan on doing? You said you were very powerful but all I’ve been hearing was complaining and ignorance. So I’m starting to think that you all are no stronger than I am.” Yaoan boiled over and scolded the group.

Vaneluresa then left to walk over to a vehicle. She then touched it and vaporized it to nothing. Yaoan stood in awe.

“There, are you happy now? Please can we just keep moving? We have 30 other countries to get to and I don’t want to spend a day in each.” Vaneluresa said to Yaoan walking back to the group.

“Am I still in Rutanu? That was insane!... How did you... what-” Yaoan was confused, impressed, overwhelmed and astonished all at the same time.

“If we speed this up I might show you how to do that.” Vaneluresa said to Yaoan.

“Sounds good Vaneluresa, I hope you guys are good sprinters because I’m actually pretty fast.” Yaoan said as she started running.

Chapter 16

Yaoan, Vaneluresa, Wagansis, and Yalan sprinted towards the palace. Yaoan grew tired however the rest of the group easily were keeping up despite Yaoan prides herself on her speed.

The area around the palace was completely surrounded by protestors.

“Okay Team, looks like there are a ton of armed guards blocking access. There may be an entrance around the side unguarded.” Yaoan said crouching down observing the area.

“If we can make our way around we can get into the building and see who replaced the Queen.” Yaoan was trying to tell the group about her plan.

The New Girls looked at each other but they weren’t saying anything. Yaoan felt ignored by them, they were listening to a single word she said.

“Hey! You have to include me in what you are planning, remember that was the deal. Come on Vaneluresa, I thought you were the nice one!” Yaoan called out to Vaneluresa.

Vaneluresa looked at Yaoan with a face of confusion.

“What do you mean by nice?” Vaneluresa responded to Yaoan.

"Your friends don't seem to like me much, but you have been accepting of me in the group. So that makes you the nice one." Yaoan told Vaneluresa.

Vaneluresa then focused completely on Yaoan. "No, they aren't being mean, they are just concerned that's all. You see we are quite capable and we don't want you getting hurt." Vaneluresa said with a kind smile.

"I am capable in my own right. I dealt with Ren Neo some time ago. And I was part of an accomplished group. So I am fully able to take care of myself. Plus it's part of the deal!" Yaoan raised her voice at Vaneluresa.

"Please just erase her memories now..." Yalan said to Vaneluresa.

Yaoan became confused by that statement for a second before Vaneluresa started talking. "Okay Yaoan, we will follow your plan first." Vaneluresa said holding onto Yaoan shoulder. Yaoan seemed to have felt a bit of Peace when she touched her.

Yaoan then led the group to the back side of the Palace. The area of the Palace was completely guarded and protestors swarmed the gates also.

"Dang... Looks like they had this covered..." Yaoan noted to the group.

"Of course they did, it's quite literally the first things someone would think of. Ven... I mean Vaneluresa, do you have an idea?" Yalan requested Vaneluresa.

Yaoan looked at Vaneluresa. They looked so calm and confident.

Vaneluresa then started explaining the plan. "The Palace has 8 Openings. 1 in the front, one in the back, 2 on each side, 1 on the roof and 1 into an exit leading 5km North of here. There is a group of a dozen individuals in what I guess is armour located half way into the building from the front entrance. Each opening has two individuals outside and two inside. There are traps set in the grass that are operated by the guards in each opening by a radio transmitter. I can't identify who the Queen is but my best guess is she is located closer to the tunnel exit rather than the ones closest to the protests. There are 3 Individuals on the roof with weapons aimed down at the protestors and 2 Individuals looking at the protestors with weapons in the buildings close to the palace."

"Sounds like a whole lot for so little." Yalan responded.

"How did you know that? Just a few minutes ago you didn't even know where the palace was, and now you know the layout?" Yaoan asked Vaneluresa. She didn't understand how she would have known so much information about the place.

Yalan then looked at Yaoan. "Just listen, wait till after the orders are given." Yalan scolded Yaoan.

"Wegansis, you are to start an explosion near the front of the palace. This should cause the Personnel located inside to move out and act on that threat. This will also have the added bonus of pulling attention from other exits including the look outs on the roofs. Yalan will then use this focused attention to suggest that the protestors all storm into the opened gate that the personnel would be exiting from. Of course you'll have to make the first move into it, but their weapons are largely ineffective against us. As the protestors storm in through the exit I will take Yaoan and myself through the Side Entrance and we will incapacitate the 4 Guards and convene inside. At which point it should be largely empty. We will transport the both of you inside once this is done." Vaneluresa explained to the group.

"Weapons largely ineffective? Explosions? There's no way. Are these people living in a dream world?" Yaoan thought to herself. "Take down 4 Guards, do you have a plan on how we could do that? Those guys have actual strength or else they wouldn't be protecting the Queen." Yaoan asked Vaneluresa.

Vaneluresa grinned at Yaoan. "That is literally not an issue." Vaneluresa replied.

"You know we probably could have just transported ourselves inside if it wasn't for this girl. But this is the best we got to keep bringing her along." Yalan said to Vaneluresa talking about Yaoan.

Yaoan angrily looked at Yalan.

"Does your face have an issue? Fix it or I'll fix it for you." Yalan said in response to Yaoan face.

Yalan and Wagansis then started walking over to their positions leaving Yaoan and Vaneluresa alone.

Yaoan and Vaneluresa moved a bit closer to the exit to get a better look at the guards as they waited for Wagansis' signal.

"Is there a reason they don't like me Vaneluresa? I feel like each time I try to contribute or be friendly they just reply with anger." Yaoan asked Vaneluresa.

Vaneluresa tried to comfort Yaoan. "Don't think about it too much. For someone like you it would be almost impossible to become friends with them." Vaneluresa told her.

"Is it because I'm from Marian North and you guys are from Marian South? Is that the reason?" Yaoan asked Vaneluresa.

“No, that’s not it at all. Is that actually a real problem here?... Nevermind. Wegansis and Yalan are just a bit homesick is all.” Vaneluresa told Yaoan with a kind tone.

“Yeah? Oh... I know that feeling. I guess I can’t blame them.” Yaoan softly responded to Vaneluresa.

Vaneluresa looked at Yaoan.

Vaneluresa reached out to Yaoan just like the figure in her dream did. “Is there something wrong Yaoan?” She asked her.

“No, it’s just a lot happening recently. Did you know that I was actually supposed to be in heading to Vlagora right now... but..” Yaoan said then paused thinking about Mainya. “If Mainya was here...” Yaoan thought to herself.

“But what happened?” Vaneluresa asked her.

There was then a giant explosion that sent a huge pressure wave blowing trash and dust around Yaoan.

“Oh! This is actually happening!” Yaoan yelled out as the dust settled.

Vaneluresa gave Yaoan a big smile. “Of course it is happening. Yaoan and the Fates make things happen. Now let’s get going.” Vaneluresa said giving Yaoan a thumbs up.

Yaoan then heard Yalan yelling trying to get the protestor’s attention. “Hey look! They are opening the gate! Everyone rush in!” Yalan yelled out.

The Queen’s guards were running out of the building trying to respond to the explosion. Yalan and the Protestors began storming in where they were exiting. Then there was projectile fire.

The Protestors on the side of the building Yaoan and Vaneluresa were had had cleared out to run towards the newly formed entrance.

“Come on Yaoan, it’s our turn.” Vaneluresa said to Yaoan.

“Are you not worried about your friend, sounds like the guards started shooting.” Yaoan asked Vaneluresa.

“Don’t worry about us. We might as well be playing with cubs. All that matters is ensuring that you don’t die while you are with us.” Vaneluresa explained to Yaoan as they made their way over.

The guards who were guarding that entrance had become even more vigilant, they had their weapons ready and were watching closely for movement.

“Shoot, I knew that the guards weren’t going to leave. Now I have to-” Yaoan was saying to Vaneluresa trying to come up with a new plan.

Vaneluresa continued her walk to the guards.

“Watch out Vaneluresa!” Yaoan called out.

The guards then began to shoot Vaneluresa but it looked like nothing was happening to her. Vaneluresa just continued walking closer to them.

Vaneluresa touched one of the guards head and they began to attack each other.

“Come on!” Vaneluresa called out to Yaoan.

“How did she...” Yaoan was stunned. Vaneluresa continued to gesture for Yaoan to come over. Yaoan then began to briskly jog over.

Yaoan and Vaneluresa walked into the building as Yaoan walked by more guards who were sleeping in the entrance.

Once inside the building Yalan and Wagansis walked down the stairs.

“How did you two-?” Yaoan was confused when she saw the two were already in the building before her and Vaneluresa.

Vaneluresa then broke down a false wall inside the Palace revealing a hallway. Yalan and Wagansis quickly joined them downstairs.

“Okay, so I got a pretty good idea of the signatures of the guard, so I located a group of those individuals surrounding someone who was not a guard. Therefore I concluded that person must be the queen.” Vaneluresa informed the group.

Yaoan was then overwhelmed. “Hold on!” Yaoan shouted.

They all looked at Yaoan who was holding her head.

“What is it?” Vaneluresa asked Yaoan.

“Am I dreaming? Am I dead? I don’t understand how all this is happening. Destroying a vehicle is one thing but you all just walked through gun shots, explosions and all kinds of stuff unfazed

and now you found the queen without looking for her!..." Yaaooan yelled it all out before calming down.

"Are you three actually the Fates?" Yaaooan asked them, unsure if she even wanted to know that answer.

Then looked at each other like Yaaooan was speaking gibberish to them.

"We don't know who the fates are haha. But maybe they were one of us." Wagansis said as she laughed.

Yalan smacked Wagansis in the back of her head.

"If you can't handle experiencing what we do then you can just stay here and we can handle the rest without you." Yalan said to Yaaooan.

"That's not what I said I wanted. I was curious because there are 3 of you guys and you can do awesome magic stuff in the real world. So that must mean that you guys are at least the avatars of the fates right?" Yaaooan again asked trying to figure it out.

Yaaooan then started pointing at each of them. "So Yalan must be PAIN, Wagansis must be Success..." Yaaooan then paused for a second. "... then that would make you happiness... Wait... maybe I'm wrong..." Yaaooan said remembering that in her dreams Happiness was the one that always had their back towards her.

Vaneluresa pat Yaaooan on the head. "You don't have to worry that head of yours, we will bring back the life you are used to."

"Does that mean you can bring back Mainya?" Yaaooan asked them.

"I don't know what that is Yaaooan." Vaneluresa said as the group began to walk down the hallway.

Yaaooan then pinched her arm to check if she was awake. "Ouch! I'm definitely awake..." Yaaooan thought to herself.

"Why are you hurting yourself?" Wagansis asked Yaaooan.

"I was checking if I was awake." Yaaooan replied back to Wagansis.

"So when you sleep its like benign awake?" Wagansis asked Yaaooan.

“Kinda, but not really. When I sleep strange stuff happen, mostly bad stuff, but there are some parts in it that are very real.” Yaoan explained to Wagansis.

“So its used for like training right?” Wagansis asked.

“Stop talking Wagansis.” Yalan told Wagansis.

Wagansis then started walking straight obeying Yalan.

“No, it’s not for training, its just my brain torturing me for apparently no reason. Though my dream last night was a very nice one. I got to see a close friend of mine.” Yaoan was talking as the group continued.

Vaneluresa then looked down at Yaoan.

“Yea, she said goodbye to me as she passed on to the next life.” Yaoan told the group.

“Unless your friend has that ability, then you made up that experience in your brain, nothing more. Don’t think too much about it.” Yalan said to Yaoan.

“Well she was partially Ren Neo, so maybe she did.” Yaoan quickly told Yalan.

“Ha a Ren Neo, you might as well said that she was dirt.” Yalan responed to Yaoan. Vaneluresa then looked at Yalan with a stern look and Yalan quickly turned back forward.

They all were walking passed beautiful pieces of art and extravagant wealth.

“Wow these are all so beautiful...” Yaoan thought to herself as she walked down the hallway. “You know I probably would have never been allowed in here if it wasn’t for you all.” Yaoan said to the group as she touched the paintings.

“Why’s that? You’re a citizen of this country right?” Vaneluresa asked Yaoan.

“Yea, but there is definitely a big difference between Ren Shaole Citizens and Ren Zuiperi citizens.” Yaoan tried to explain to them.

“Is it because one of you are overall weaker than the other?” Yalan asked Yaoan.

“No actually. I don’t really know why they hate us so much. Quite a while ago the Ren Zuiperi came here and then after that it felt like they felt that we were the ones that hurt them.” Yaoan explained to them trying to figure a reason why the Ren Zuiperi would not like the ren Shaole.

"I don't understand why any of that matters to you all now. Hasn't this country developed since then?" Wagansis asked Yaoan.

Yalan then looked at the art on the wall and pulled it down. "Apparently they haven't developed at all."

Vaneluresa stopped and the others stopped as well. Yaoan also stopped when she saw them.

"Okay, the queen is right here. I am going to grab her and bring her here." Vaneluresa said to the group.

"Awesome! Looks like I didn't actually hinder you guys!" Yaoan said to the group.

The three of them then looked at each other. It seemed again unnatural how it felt around them.

Vaneluresa then turned around again.

"Okay, you all wait out here. I am going to grab her." Vaneluresa said before walking past the corner.

Yaoan then heard someone yelling.

"By the gods how did I get here! Who are you! Guards!!" The Queen of Marian North yelled out as Vaneluresa held her up.

Yaoan was stunned to see that Vaneluresa was actually holding the Queen. "She's the Queen!! In Person! Wow!" Yaoan called out.

The Queen tried to kick Yaoan as she approached trying to give her a Royal Greeting. Yaoan backed away trying to not get hit.

Vaneluresa carried the Queen back down the hallway into a large room. As the others followed.

"You can't do this to me! How dare you dirty creatures even touch me!" The Queen yelled out as she was restrained and carried.

Vaneluresa sat the Queen down in a chair. The Queen was bound as she looked furious at the group.

"I'm sorry your majesty, they aren't from around here." Yaoan tried to apologize to the Queen.

"What are young ladies like you doing here... Let me go... This is a federal offense!!" The Queen said as she slowly increased her voice.

Yalan pointed at the Queen. "So you are the most powerful person in this entire nation? We don't actually care about your status, like at all. Just be quiet and listen to us, you're using more Energy than your body can handle." Yalan said sternly to the Queen.

Yaoan stepped back away from the front. "Maybe they were the wrong crowd to be around..." Yaoan thought to herself.

"You started all this by lying about an ability you did not have. Then you tried to escape your duties as a Ruler of these people. Inform all of them of your lie, then you'll be able to restore stability." Vaneluresa informed the Queen.

"I don't lie young lady! How dare you accuse me of such activities. I did give the people immortality, but then they broke my rules. Now they must fend for themselves!" The Queen yelled back in response.

Vaneluresa then looked like she became upset. "You did not! You don't even have that capability. You took credit for an occurrence to gain approval of your people. What kind of Ruler needs to do that!" Vaneluresa scolded the Queen.

"I did not lie! I already told you. I said that I would give them immortality and I did. I said I'll bring peace and I did. I said that we would become great and we did! So I am not going to sit here and have 4 lying Ren Shaole girls keep accusing me of something I didn't do!" The Queen accused the group.

"But the children who died... the innocent parents..." Yaoan slowly walked toward the Queen silently speaking before facing her. "Ah, your Majesty. Why are children dying now? They didn't break your laws did they?" Yaoan cautiously asked.

"If their parents broke the law then the children inherit the burden as well. So if the parents really cared about their kids they wouldn't break the law! Obviously a Ren Shaole like you should know that." The Queen sternly told Yaoan.

"But that's not right... you're supposed to be the most just..." Yaoan said quietly as she was incredibly hurt.

Yalan saw that Yaoan's heart had been broken and grabbed the Queen by her neck.

"Look you lesser being, don't you talk to her like that! You're the most powerful among your people, it is your duty to support the weak and guide the strong. All you are doing is blaming people for problems. If you are too weak to handle the situation, step down!" Yalan scolded the Queen yelling directly in her face.

The Queen then spat in Yalan's face.

Vaneluresa and Wagansis eyes opened wide. Yalan then narrowed hers.

"What is a teenaged girl going to do to me! I am a goddess. I could smite you if I wanted to right now." The Queen taunted Yalan.

Yalan was furious and then that fury became calmness. Yalan vaporized the spit on her face and spoke to Yaoan.

"How does one get this position?" She asked Yaoan.

"Oh you are born into it, and her title is passed onto her daughters." Yaoan responded practically terrified.

"Does she have any daughters?" Yalan asked Yaoan.

"Yes she does... but please don't kill the Queen..." Yaoan responded terrified that Yalan would actually kill a member of the Royal Family.

"I'm not going to kill her, but she's definitely going to wish I did." Yalan said and then solved the Queen's face into the floor.

"No one here is going to help you, just do as we say and we don't have to use a mop to move you into the next room." Yalan said pressing down on the Queen's head.

"Do it! You all will be punished by my hand when this is all done. Everything is recorded and the guards are coming soon!" The Queen yelled out at Yalan.

Vaneluresa then stepped up to Yalan.

Yaoan stood back terrified. She had always believed that the Royal Family were untouchable and now here the highest member of the Royal Family is being handled by a group of teenage girls. "Who are these people..." Yaoan thought to herself.

"I think she is under some self created god delusion. I am going to check her brain connections." Vaneluresa said before touching the Queen's head.

Vaneluresa then stood up almost immediately. "Just as I thought. She actually believes that she did do all that stuff." She said to the group.

"But it's fake? How did she confuse herself?" Wagansis asked Vaneluresa.

Yaoan began to panic. She had no idea of the depth of these people's abilities.

"What did you just do?! What is happening! I thought we were just checking to make sure she was alive!" Yaoan yelled out at the group.

"You can go now Yaoan, this isn't your issue to deal with." Yalan said to Yaoan.

Yaoan ran out of the room and out of the Palace. And passed the door she entered from.

The guards watched as she left and just let her run by them.

"No! No!...I can't... this has to be a dream... this can't be real...!" Yaoan thought to herself as she ran away from the palace away from those Girls.

"Let me just get back home and just sleep... yes that should wake me up... then I can log into Rutanu and see Mainya, Yuski, Vandiantsi and everything else... yes, this has all been a bad dream." Yaoan thought to herself as she continued to run.

She kept running and running, sometimes almost falling over herself. She passed all the terrified people, all the violence in the streets and the deaths. So much death.

Yaoan then entered her neighborhood.

She passed some of the Community members on her way in.

A guy then caught Yaoan. "Hey what's wrong, you look like you've seen a ghost." He said to Yaoan.

Yaoan then fell to her knees and began crying.

"Is this a bad dream Sir!" She yelled out.

He spat her head. "I wish it was..." he said softly. "Do you live around here? Need me to keep you safe as you return home?" The guy said to Yaoan.

"No, it's okay. Thank you though." Yaoan then got to her feet. And wiped away her tears.

"Okay, well be safe returning home. We can die again apparently." He said to Yaoan.

"I know, I saw plenty of it on my way back." Yaoan said walking back to her home.

She walked passed the school and it was empty.

She looked up at the roof of the school and saw Anhou sitting up there.

They both looked at each other. They looked silently.

Anhou then looked down. Then he stood up and walked out of sight of Yaoan.

Yaoan turned around and kept on walking.

Yaoan saw members of her own community finally resolving issues they had with each other. During the period of time they couldn't die all they could do was fight until someone went unconscious. But now they could finish the job.

"We had 7 Years as a Society to learn to live in Peace without the fear of Death... and now when it's gone this is what we do... maybe Marian North isn't the amazing place we were taught it was." Yaoan said finally approaching her home.

Yaoan entered her home and sat down on her couch. "What do I do." She thought.

"Yaoan turned on her device and logged into Rutanu." she saw that she had some messages from Yuski.

"Hey Vani, I haven't seen Mainya all day. She hasn't logged in. Do you know anything about that?" Yuski messaged.

Yaoan then broke down again in Game. As she then tried to respond.

"Mainya is..." Yaoan then erased that message. "Mainya's Mom said..." Yaoan then erased the message again.

"I can't do this. I can't type it. That'll be like me admitting it is true..." Yaoan thought as she was trying to pull her strength together.

She then exhaled, then she messaged. "Mainya died earlier this morning, her mom messaged me." Yaoan sent it to Yuski.

But she didn't get any message back.

She looked at her inbox. Staring at it.

"Please Suro, please message back... you are the last friend I have..." Yaoan thought to herself. But the message didn't come.

She saw the old messages that Anhou wrote when they first met, on the first day he was trying to apologize and sent her gifts. "Who could have imagined that it would turn out like this." Yaoan thought to herself.

She walked around her old territory thinking about her old memories. The smiles, the fights, the laughs, the pains. All of it were happy memories.

Yaoan then prepared to log out. "Goodbye my old home." Yaoan then went to log out of Ratanu one final time.

She then noticed a rock on the ground. And underneath it was a note. It was where Mainya christened the name of the new territory.

"Let this note show that this land is now in possession of Vani, Yuski and Randiantsi. May our land be powerful and last lifetimes! If you aren't a member of this group PUT DOWN THIS NOTE AND LEAVE! If you are. If you are Yuski then 'Hey Yuski stop calling me adorable!' and if you are Vani 'You are amazing! Incredible! Super Fantastic! Most Beautiful Person to ever be on Earth! I am so happy we are Friends! Love ya!'" Yaoan smiled.

"Love ya too Mainya, thank you." Yaoan let out a final tear. Then she logged out.

Yaoan got up from the couch. "I needed that..." Yaoan thought to herself as she walked around her home. She looked at images of her parents.

"See I told you I'd be back mom and dad." Yaoan looked at the image. "I met some incredible people today, if you saw them you would have been amazed. I think they were the Fates, but they seemed to really not like the Queen for some reason." Yaoan was talking to the images.

"Yea I know you guys can't hear me, but you are the only ones I have." Yaoan said laughing at herself knowing that she was talking to herself.

"Help me!" Yaoan heard a girl yell out from outside her window.

She saw that Paiyi was being pulled into a vehicle. Yaoan then ran outside and grabbed at stick.

The guy trying to pull Paiyi in was pulling with such force that it seemed like Paiyi's arm would fall off.

Yaoan smacked him against his head and he fell forward onto the ground. He then started moving again.

Yaoan then hit him again, and again until he was unconscious on the ground. His blood was running down the stick.

“Whoa, that was hardcore Yaoan.” Paiyi said still on the ground.

“Are you okay Paiyi?” Yaoan said to her.

“Ah, yea... “ Paiyi then got up.

Yaoan was trying to gain her breath after that burst of adrenaline.

“Well thank you Yaoan. Ah sorry for making fun of you for all these years...” Paiyi tried to apologize.

“It happens. Just try to stay inside for now, it is extremely dangerous today.” Yaoan said to Paiyi who then turned around and ran home.

Yaoan carried the stick with her and placed it down where she found it. And she walked back upstairs.

Yaoan then went to the store, but the store owner was not there and the place seemed to have been looted, but still had items inside.

Yaoan looked around for the owner but they were not there. Yaoan then took some snacks and left.

“I’ll pay you back whenever you are there.” Yaoan said as she left.

She then ate some food and turned on to watch videos locking herself in the house.

Outside she heard large vehicles outside. Then a bunch of Royal Guards started coming towards her house.

Then there was large banging against her door as if someone was trying to break in.

“Open the door!” The Royal Guard yelled out. As the continued to bang on it.

“Oh no! Did they follow me!” Yaoan thought to herself trying to find a place to hide.

They broke in and about 8 Guards entered her house and started throwing things on the guard trying to look for her.

Yaoan had locked herself in her bathroom and could here all of the noise.

They then started banging down her bathroom door.

“Stop! Please! I didn’t do anything!” Yaoan yelled out.

They broke open the door and grabbed her. Yaoan kicked and screamed trying to get out of their grip.

“We captured her. We will be heading back to Base.” The guard said on the call.

“Where did she live?” The person on the other line said.

“In the Ren Shaole Central District.” He responded.

“She had other accomplices. Capture all the Ren Shaole in the area. The Queen is going to order a man hunt soon.” The other person said.

“Understood.” The guard said as they began to carry Yaoan out of the door.

“Let go of me!” Yaoan yelled out as she managed to get free. She ran through her house and started throwing items at the men.

They eventually cornered her in her room.

“No! Please... I didn’t do anything!” Yaoan yelled out.

“The only person who could do anything about this is...” Yaoan was thinking as she continued to struggle. It was becoming dark outside and she was terrified.

“Vaneluresa! Please Help me!” Yaoan called out but no one came.

The guards finally grabbed and constrained her.

They carried her outside and threw her into the vehicle with no regards for her comfort.

The guards went around the city and started throwing them into the vehicle. Until it was nearly full. At which point it began to drive.

Chapter 17

While inside the vehicle.

“Do you know where they are taking us?” One man asked.

“No idea. I think they are going to execute us or something for some sort of sacrifice.” The guy speculated.

Yaoan sat in the corner of the vehicle.

“It just keeps getting worse and worse...” Yaoan thought to herself unable to move in the crowded van.

Yaoan then felt someone touch her shoulder.

“Hey Yaoan...” Yaoan heard someone call her name.

Yaoan turned around and saw the familiar smile of Vaneluresa in the van with her.

“Oh what! It’s you Vaneluresa?!” She said as a spark of happiness hit her heart.

Yaoan was trying to reach out for Vaneluresa but there was not enough room.

“Oh no! Were you captured too?” Yaoan asked Vaneluresa.

Vaneluresa smiled. “No, not at all. I heard you yelling for me so I came immediately. Of course I was pretty far away at that point so it took some time to reach me.”

Vaneluresa moved some people out of the way so she could talk to Yaoan more closely.

“How do we get out of here Vaneluresa...?” Yaoan asked her.

Vaneluresa looked around the vehicle. “Hold onto something tight everyone, I’m going to stop the vehicle.” Vaneluresa called out to everyone in the truck.

“How can you stop the vehicle you are in the back with -” Yaoan was interrupted as Vaneluresa shoved her legs through the floor of the armour vehicle and into the road slowly stopping the vehicle. Everyone in the back were through back.

The driver of the vehicle continued to try and accelerate the vehicle but there was no motion.

“That only took a Megajoule of Energy.” Vaneluresa said surprised.

Yaoan looked at Vaneluresa’s feet through the vehicle. “Did that hurt?”

“You have quite the leg on you Young Lady.” A guy in the vehicle said to Vaneluresa.

"I want everyone here to brace yourself, we are going to knock this vehicle over onto its side. From there I want you two to wrap your shirt around the hole I made and allow everyone to escape through it." Vaneluresa said pointing at two guys in the vehicle.

"What happens when we get out. Won't the guards just shoot us." A woman inside the vehicle asked Vaneluresa.

"It's incredible how she commands such a presence..." Yaaooan thought to herself about Vaneluresa.

"I will handle the guards. You all just focus on getting somewhere safe until I lift the vehicle back onto its wheels. Then you are to take it to another town." Vaneluresa told the woman.

"I can't let you do that little girl. It was impressive what you just did, but I don't think you can handle all of that yourself." The guy said to Vaneluresa.

"She is fully capable of handling a few guards, besides I am going to be there too." Yaaooan said to the guy standing up with Vaneluresa.

"If you want to help out, keep a lookout for vehicles in this convoy that will be coming back to check this one. If one does approach us" Vaneluresa told the guy.

Yaaooan then saw Vaneluresa create objects in her hand from nothing.

"Throw these at the vehicles and it'll stop them immediately." Vaneluresa handed the guys the equipment.

The People inside the vehicle then waited for Vaneluresa to call it.

"Okay, start now!" Vaneluresa called out and the People inside the vehicle started pushing back and forth against the side of the vehicle.

The Vehicle then tipped over on its side and everyone inside braced themselves for the fall. There was a large scream coming from outside as the vehicle landed on one of the drivers.

"Go go, start coming out this hole!" One of the men inside the vehicle said after covering the metal with their shirt.

There was Weapon Fire heard outside.

Vaneluresa kicked open the Main Exit of the Vehicle.

"Why didn't you do that from the start?" Yaaooan asked Vaneluresa.

"I can't have you all start worshipping me." Vaneluresa told Yaoan as she lifted her through the opening.

Another vehicle was fast approaching the group of escaping Ren Shaole. Then aimed directly to hit Yaoan.

Vaneluresa stood in front of the Vehicle. And the people who were driving it looked as if they were asleep behind the wheel.

"Through the EMP devices at the Vehicle now!" Vaneluresa yelled at the guys she gave the devices to.

The devices hit the vehicle and it came to a complete stop.

Vaneluresa then lifted up the Vehicle that was knocked over on its side.

"You know... I'm just going to go with it for now..." Yaoan thought to herself as she watched this monster of a girl control the entire situation.

"Pull the drivers out and take the device off. I want you all to drive away as fast as possible." Vaneluresa told the people around the area.

Yaoan ran quickly towards a vehicle so that she would get to drive one for the first time.

Vaneluresa stopped Yaoan.

"You can't go with them, you were specifically targeted right? Why did all of this happen?" Vaneluresa asked Yaoan.

Yaoan then started to tell Vaneluresa the information she gathered from the others in the vehicle. "Well after the Queen made her announcement a group of Ren Zuiperi did not accept what she said. So the daughter made her step down and replaced her power. Then the new Queen blamed the change in society on us, the Ren Shaole... She then ordered us to be transported to an enclosed location until she figures out what to do with us." Yaoan kicked softly.

The vehicles started driving away quickly leaving Yaoan and Vaneluresa surrounded the carnage of the event. The Ren Zuiperi guards were knocked out... at least some of them.

Vaneluresa grabbed Yaoan's hand and they started running into the lands around the highway.

Vaneluresa ran extremely quickly and Yaoan was hardly even able to land a step. Yaoan was becoming tired trying to keep up with the speed.

Yaoan had to let go so she could slow down.

“So does this mean I don’t have a home anymore? I don’t have a school?” Yaoan called out to Vaneluresa who seemed to be lost in thought.

“I don’t think any of you can go back and attend school there anymore. You all were given up on for the sake of preservation of the New Queen’s Power.” Vaneluresa said speaking frankly to Yaoan.

“So where do I go now? I can’t just live in the forest I will die out here.” Yaoan said looking at the wilderness her and Vaneluresa were running through.

“The leader of Marian South said he wanted to pay me back, so I suppose I can have you go there.” Vaneluresa told Yaoan.

Yaoan stopped, she was too exhausted to keep running.

“I don’t want to live there. That place is full of criminals and corrupt politicians.” Yaoan said informing Vaneluresa.

“Wait... how would you know that?” Vaneluresa asked Yaoan.

“Everyone knows that! We see it on the news everyday and are taught about it in school...” Yaoan told Vaneluresa. She paused. “I’m actually not even sure if that is true anymore.” Yaoan thought to herself.

“Do you know anyone that lives there?” Vaneluresa asked Yaoan.

“No...” Yaoan responded.

“Do the people you know, know anyone who has been there?” Vaneluresa asked Yaoan.

“Also no. But the news says it’s dangerous, and since I have nothing else to go off of, I’ll just stick with that.” Yaoan explained to Vaneluresa.

“Your news also told you that the Queen gave you all immortality, and that the Ren Shaole are the reason for the state of the nation. I’ve actually been to Marian South, and their leadership seems much more in line with reality than this one. I trust that you will also feel the same.” Vaneluresa told Yaoan as they spoke with kindness in her voice.

They then began to walk further.

“So Vaneluresa... that means you aren’t from Marian South right.” Yaoan asked Vaneluresa as they walked.

“No, I’m not from Marian South.” Vaneluresa responded to Yaoan.

“Then what Nation are you from? Are you from Vesatanis?” Yaoan asked Vaneluresa another question.

“I’m from Mako.” Vaneluresa said to Yaoan.

“Mako? I’ve never heard of that place.” Yaoan said to Vaneluresa.

“I figured as such. Come on we need to keep going.” Vaneluresa said to Yaoan as they continued to hike through the forest.

Some time passed and Yaoan was becoming extremely tired.

“I’m getting tired now Vaneluresa...I need to rest.” Yaoan said holding herself up against the tree.

“Can you wait until we get you across the border of Marian North?” Vaneluresa asked Yaoan.

Yaoan sat down against the tree. “I don’t know how you do it Vaneluresa. Let’s sit down for 10 Minutes then I’ll have the energy to keep going.” Yaoan said to Vaneluresa as she dozed to sleep.

Yaoan began to dream. She dreamt that she was high in the air above Marian North looking down below on the entire world. She saw that she was above another person below her, but she couldn’t make them out.

She continued to dream more and this time she saw the flames around her old home, and that her parents were trapped. She began yelling at them but they could not hear her.

Yaoan desperately tried to get them to move out of the flames. She then was pushed forward hearing someone say “Go”. Just then Yaoan was able to move from where she was stuck. She ran to her parents and moved them out of the flames.

They all fell on the ground with Yaoan covering them with her body.

“You saved us Yoyo!” Her mom said to her.

“Wow, you’ve become so brave! I’m proud of you sweetie.” Her dad said to her.

“Do you know what this means?” Yaoan’s mom asked her.

Yaoan looked up at them. “That we can be a family again.”

“Sadly no, but it does mean that you have come to a resolution about what happened to us. It wasn’t your fault.” Yaoan dad told her.

“If you had the power you would have been there for us... you are the brave woman we raised you to be, not the powerless girl you think you are.” Yaoan’s mom said to her.

“But I am powerless... I lost you guys and I lost my friends.” Yaoan said holding her parents.

“It’s okay sweetheart. There are just things that you can’t control.” Yaoan’s dad told her.

“Then what do I do when I encounter something I can’t control...?” Yaoan asked.

“You do what you can.” They both said to her and kissed her on her head.

Yaoan then woke up and quickly looked around.

“Wait... this isn’t the forest...” Yaoan thought to herself as she looked around and saw what looked to be like her bedroom.

She got up and walked around the building. She found the picture of her parents that was in her room. She saw her couch, and she looked in her bathroom.

“So... was it all a dream?” Yaoan thought to herself looking at this familiar place.

“It can’t be, I remember I was with...” Yaoan tried to think of what happened before she slept. “Wait, this had to be Vaneluresa... but did she really build all of this while I was asleep?”

Vaneluresa then entered the building.

“Hey Yaoan, didn’t expect you to wake up so soon.” Vaneluresa said to her with that familiar smile.

“Oh Vaneluresa! Ah, are we still in the forest? I swear all I did was close my eyes for a second.” Yaoan said to Vaneluresa.

“We are in a forest, but not the same one... I carried you here when you were sleeping.” Vaneluresa responded to Yaoan.

“And I guess you also built this place?” Yaoan said gesturing to the entire building that they were standing in with a smile of her own.

“You wouldn’t be wrong.” Vaneluresa responded to Yaoan.

Yaoan then pointed at Vaneluresa. “I think I figured out who you are. You’re some kind of Super Hero aren’t you?!” She announced to Vaneluresa.

“I don’t even know what that is.” Vaneluresa responded with a bit of confusion.

“It’s okay, I’ll keep your identity a secret.” Yaoan said smiling at Vaneluresa.

Yaoan then felt her bed.

“So... I wasn’t dreaming then... she was flying when I started dreaming.” Yaoan said silently to herself.

“Sure you can do that and -” Vaneluresa was responding to Yaoan before being interrupted.

“Can I please be your side kick or something?! We can be like “The Flying Goddesses”, or maybe you can call me Destiny and you’ll be known as “True Fate”.” Yaoan asked excitedly to Vaneluresa.

“No, I am going to take you to the Capitol Building of Marian South. Their Leader owes me a favour and I am going to ask him to cover your livelihood. You’ll be comfortable.” Vaneluresa walked over to Yaoan and told her.

Yaoan sat down on her bed. “Oh... that’s boring.” Yaoan said with disappointment.

Vaneluresa walked over to Yaoan. “I am not a Superhero, or a Goddess, or any of that. I am just another person who is trying to fix things that I broke... Can you please be okay with doing this?” Vaneluresa asked Yaoan with the most caring of voices as if from her own mom.

“Bleh, fine. But we can hang out together still right?” Yaoan said understanding Vaneluresa’s worry.

“We will cross that when we get there. Right now, we should be really safe here, so try and get some rest and don’t force yourself awake.” Vaneluresa said as she began to exit out the door.

“Where will you sleep. There’s room on the bed you made.” Yaoan asked Vaneluresa. Yaoan moved over and made room for Vaneluresa.

"If you sleep here tonight that'll make me feel much better... please." Yaoan asked Vaneluresa hoping dearly that she would stay.

Vaneluresa looked back at Yaoan. "Sure. Let me do something outside first." she said to Yaoan then walked outside.

Yaoan looked out her window and saw the bright glow of the Earth telling her that it was the new day.

"No way..." Yaoan thought to herself wondering if Vaneluresa was the one responsible for the glow of the Earth she's seen her entire life.

"Vaneluresa! Are you still out there?" Yaoan called from her.

"Yea, I'll be right inside!" Vaneluresa called back.

Vaneluresa walked back inside the room and Yaoan made room for her.

Vaneluresa sat on her bed right next to Yaoan as Yaoan looked up at the ceiling.

"Hey Vaneluresa, I have a question... Do you think that if there were beings so powerful that they could destroy an entire city with a punch would be friends with someone like me?" Yaoan thought about the Ren Neo, and Ren Zuiperi who felt that they were so much higher than a Ren Shaole. She thought about Mainya.

Vaneluresa turned towards Yaoan. "I don't see why not, you seem to be a cool person to be around." Vaneluresa said to her.

Yaoan smiled. "Hmm... Are we friends Vaneluresa?" Yaoan asked softly.

"I think so?" Vaneluresa responded not sure why Yaoan was asking.

Yaoan patted the bed to get Vaneluresa to lay down. Vaneluresa laid looking straight up at the ceiling. Yaoan turned over onto her stomach. Yaoan looked closely at Vaneluresa's face.

"Friends forever?" Yaoan asked Vaneluresa.

"For as long as we both exist." Vaneluresa responded with that same soft and mysterious sounding tone.

Yaoan then looked at the door to the outside.

“You know Vaneluresa, earlier today before I met you guys I was ready to give up. I lost a good friend of mine today. We were supposed to meet each other in Vlagora for this tournament thing.” Yaoan began to open up to Vaneluresa.

Vaneluresa looked over at Yaoan.

“It was so hard feeling forgotten... feeling alone again...” Yaoan spoke softly, she paused.

“I’m listening Yaoan.” Vaneluresa responded just as softly.

“I know you are. I just feel comfortable right now.” Yaoan said as she looked back up at the ceiling.

“I just have this feeling that I got a second life. I was feeling trapped before, stuck in a dark box... but then when I woke up on your back all that seemed to have faded away... I don’t even know how I got there...” Yaoan said before she drifted to sleep.

Vaneluresa looked over at Yaoan and covered her in a sheet. Vaneluresa then held Yaoan in her arms.

Yaoan dreamt that she was being held by the Fate of Happiness in a bright warm field. Her old friends were with her all with smiles. Yaoan was finally able to sleep peacefully.

Chapter 18

Yaoan woke up and it was a bright day outside. She felt completely rested but didn’t see Vaneluresa next to her. Yaoan got out of bed and headed outside.

The brightness of the day made it hard for Yaoan to see and her eyes had to adjust. She saw Vaneluresa looking out at the water in front of the house. But she also thought she saw someone else on the roof.

Yaoan tried to look up to get a better look at this second person.

“Morning Yaoan! I made food for you!” Vaneluresa said to Yaoan.

“Oh really!? I haven’t had a real meal in a while!” Yaoan turned her focus back to Vaneluresa.

Vaneluresa showed Yaoan a box filled with cookies weighing in excess of 50 Kilograms.

“What are these?” Yaoan asked Vaneluresa.

Vaneluresa gestured towards the box. “Try one!”

Yaoan grabbed a cookie and looked at Vaneluresa stared at her with a wide smile. Vaneluresa nodded her head to get Yaoan to bite. Yaoan took a bite and her eyes opened wide.

The taste was exceptionally sweet, creamy, chewy on the inside and crunchy on the edges.

“Vaneluresa! What is this!” Yaoan said shocked by the taste of this item.

“It’s a cookie! What’s wrong with it? What do you think?” Vaneluresa said with what looked to be a worried look on her face.

“This is so rich! It’s delicious, but it’s definitely not a breakfast food. Is this all you eat?” Yaoan said smiling to Vaneluresa. Yaoan placed the half eaten cookie back into the box.

“Yes, whenever I want to have a sweet taste I just find these amazing. Each of these cookies have enough Energy to last a Healthy Ren Shaole a full day. No need to waste time eating or excreting.” Vaneluresa said eating another cookie herself.

Yaoan climbed a tree close by and pulled down a fruit. She came down with it and washed it off in the River.

Yaoan bit into the fruit. “Well, a normal person would usually eat something like this for breakfast.” She said to Vaneluresa.

“Oh like Animals do...” Vaneluresa said as Yaoan gave her a piece of the fruit.

“This fruit has a hint of sweetness and a bit of tang.” Yaoan described to Vaneluresa.

Vaneluresa bit into the fruit and had the face of displeasure.

“I guess this does... Something?” Vaneluresa said as she placed the remaining amount of fruit on the ground.

“Well still take the box with you whenever you need a quick burst of Energy” Vaneluresa said to Yaoan.

“Are you kidding, of course I am going to take the box!” Yaoan said out loud with bits of fruit on her face.

They both sat together and continued to eat breakfast.

“So do you think you could beat a Ren Neo Vaneluresa?” Yaoan asked pulling another piece of Fruit off the tree.

“Unless they could destroy a planet, I’m pretty sure I could handle them.” Vaneluresa responded to Yooan as she ate another cookie.

“Wow, so what else can you do?” Yooan asked.

“Anything you’d be able to imagine.” Vaneluresa said cheerfully to Yooan.

She landed on the ground and crawled over to Vaneluresa. “Anything? You can’t be serious.” Yooan jokingly asked Vaneluresa.

“Honest! I can do anything you can imagine.” Vaneluresa said to Yooan seeing that she was doubting her ability.

“So could you create fire from the air?” Yooan asked and Vaneluresa did it with such ease that Yooan felt disappointed she didn’t ask something more complicated.

“It’s okay, ask for something else.” Vaneluresa jokingly said to Yooan.

“Okay... ah can you make that field over there grow thousands of flowers.” Yooan pointed at a barren piece of land.

Vaneluresa looked over and the area was filled with plants. Vaneluresa then gestured and at Yooan’s hair and placed a flower inside of it.

“There, I think that fit with how you look.” Vaneluresa said as Yooan went to the water to look at herself.

“This is what my mom would have did.” Yooan thought to herself.

Yooan went back and hugged Vaneluresa.

“Please don’t ever leave me.” Yooan gripped tightly on Vaneluresa.

Vaneluresa stood up holding Yooan.

“I think it’s time for us to start heading into the city.” Vaneluresa said as she and Yooan began their walk down the hill into the city.

Yooan was looking around at how clean and modern Marian South looked.

Vaneluresa changed her clothes to White as they continued their walk. Every other person in the city were also wearing white, so that must have been the reason for the change.

“Oh. Marian South is a lot cleaner than Marian North... but it also seems like they went through the same situation as we did... you know with the dying.” Yaoan told Vaneluresa.

“Yes, most places on the planet did.” Vaneluresa informed Yaoan still with the same cheerful appearance.

“What do you think caused it?” Yaoan asked Vaneluresa.

“Needless risking of one’s life when you don’t know the reason for immortality is a likely cause.” Vaneluresa responded back to Yaoan as they both stood in front of a large official looking building.

There were guards in front, they were Ren Shaole, that stopped Yaoan and Vaneluresa from entering.

“Sorry Miss, there are to be no visitors today.” One of the guards said to Vaneluresa.

“Then can you call up the Leader and say “That wound healed as if it was by magic yesterday.” Vaneluresa said looking at the guard that prevented her from entering.

“What does that mean?” Yaoan thought to herself.

The guard also had a confused look on his face. “Why would I do that?” He responded.

“Because he owes me a favour.” Vaneluresa responded with a smile.

“Just do it, these are strange times.” The second guard said shrugging his shoulders.

“Ah whatever. Dr.President We have someone here who says that you owe her a favour.” The first guard called up the President and informed him of the situation.

“What? No I don’t” The President responded.

Vaneluresa tapped the guard. “Tell him what I told you.” Vaneluresa requested.

“She told me to tell you “that wound healed up yesterday as if by magic”.” The Guard said into the communication device.

There was a moment of Pause.

Yaoan looked up at Vaneluresa.

“Describe her to me.” The President requested.

“She has black hair, very dark eyes, skin is a light greenish, like lighter than mine but darker than The’yan. She is taller than normal I guess.” The first guard spoke into the device looking at Vaneluresa.

“Tell me something unusual, that you wouldn’t have expected.” The President quickly requested.

“Oh, she looks like a teenager.” The first Guard said and then immediately got a response from the President.

“Tell them to hold still, I’ll be right there.” The President said then the call ended.

“Okay. I guess he is coming. You two just wait here.” The Guard said to vaneluresa and Yaoan.

They both waited at the side of the building still in sight of the front door.

“So how do you know their president?” Yaoan asked Vaneluresa.

“I broke into their capitol building yesterday too.” Vaneluresa responded as if it was normal.

“Sounds like you had a busy yesterday.” Yaoan said amazed by Vaneluresa. “Wish I could have adventures like that.” Yaoan thought to herself.

The Door opened and a well dressed person came out. But since the Guards didn’t react much it must not have been the president.

“Ladies, Please come in.” The person spread open their arms and gestured for Yaoan and Vaneluresa to enter the building.

They were then brought into a very large room with a long table in the middle. It look extremely clean and meant for Royalty.

“We will be with you shortly.” The Fancy person said before leaving.

Yaoan looked around the room.

“Wow this place is Fancy!” Yaoan said aloud.

The President then walked into the room with 5 other individuals.

“Welcome back Miss...?” The President extended his hand for Vaneluresa to grab it.

Vaneluresa grabbed his hand and shook it. “Vaneluresa.” She said.

“Miss Vaneluresa.” The President said before sitting down. “So what can we do for you?” he asked Vaneluresa.

Vaneluresa wrapped her arms around Yaoan. “My Dear Friend here no longer has a home in Marian North, so I am asking you in response to the favour, you extended to me yesterday, that you provide her with a very comfortable life here.” Vaneluresa requested of the President.

“Is that all?” the President asked confused by the simplicity of the request.

“Yes, that’s all. Just make sure she is safe, comfortable and happy. And your favour would be considered complete.” Vaneluresa said again with a smile.

Yaoan watched as Vaneluresa was being held in such respect by the Marian South President.

“Consider it done!” The President exclaimed. He then stood up with his arms spread out.

“So is your friend like you?” The President asked, looking at Yaoan.

“No she isn’t exactly like me.” Vaneluresa responded to the President.

“Very well, just wanted to know just in case she could help us with you know.” The President tried to explain to Vaneluresa.

“Yes, I know. And no she couldn’t.” Vaneluresa responded to the President.

“So will you be checking in on her often?” The President asked Vaneluresa.

Yaoan stood silently watching these two exchange dialogue to one another.

“Just assume I will.” Vaneluresa responded to the President.

“Okay then you have my word.” The President said before bending down to speak to Yaoan.

“We will set you up with a financial account, an ID and a home okay Miss?” The President said to Yaoan, gesturing for her to stand up.

Yaoan then turned to look at Vaneluresa. “Vaneluresa... can’t I just stay where you are staying?” Yaoan said with a bit of sadness in her voice.

“Sadly no, you aren’t able to. Unless you intend on being treated like a pet.” Vaneluresa said trying to comfort Yaaooan.

Yaaooan tried to force a smile. “I’m okay with being your pet.” She pleaded to Vaneluresa.

“I’ll come by and visit you okay?” Vaneluresa said holding Yaaooan’s hands.

Yaaooan then began to tear up, but she was trying to smile too. “That’s a promise okay?” Yaaooan said to Vaneluresa hoping that she wouldn’t leave her.

Vaneluresa then looked out, and for the first time you could see a hint of fear in Vaneluresa’s face. But Vaneluresa looked back at Yaaooan and brought her smile back.

“Yes, it’s a promise.” Vaneluresa told Yaaooan.

Yaaooan jumped on Vaneluresa and gave the most affectionate hug she could give. She then began to cry tears of joy.

“For the first time I’ve been able to sleep peacefully. I was no longer scared. Thank you Vaneluresa... for all of this. I’ll see you soon.” Yaaooan said still holding onto Vaneluresa.

Vaneluresa held on Yaaooan and spoke softly. “You will... but you’ll not remember me.” Vaneluresa said to Yaaooan.

Yaaooan’s memories of her time with Vaneluresa had been cleared. She slowly let go as if in a dream like state and walked over to the President.

Vaneluresa looked at Yaaooan with the most caring look on her face. “Goodbye Yaaooan...” She said as Yaaooan and the other Officials walked out of that room.

Yaaooan was led into another room filled with Network devices.

“I’m going back to work, if she need anything take that up with my assistant.” The President said to the Guards as he left out of the room.

Yaaooan had about 5 body guards with her.

“What is all of this?” Yaaooan asked the guys around.

“This is the technological research room.” He pointed at all the Network equipment. “If you want to try out the latest research in this field just come into this room. But for now we are going to get you established with an ID.” He said to Yaaooan.

“An ID? What does that do?” Yaoan asked the men.

“It’s your Knowledge Network Drive ID. It’ll allow you to spend, rent, travel, do whatever here in Marian South, we know that Marian North doesn’t have this so we will give you one right now.” They informed Yaoan.

“A Knowledge Network Drive... oh that’s what Mainya was talking about.” Yaoan said remembering that conversation. “Mainya... hmm, I’m not sad thinking about her anymore. I am just happy... wow.” Yaoan thought to herself.

“So can we begin?” They asked Yaoan.

“Of course!” Yaoan said as they connected her to the device and started assigning Residences, Resources, Statuses, Wealth and other Various essentials to Yaoan’s Drive.

After some time of them explaining different things to Yaoan and how to use them they finally led her to where she would be staying.

The Body Guards stayed outside of her room as her Guide led her inside.

“So this is where you’ll be sleeping Lady Yaoan, if you need anything just enter the Network and toggle the Assistance key.” The guide said to Yaoan.

“Oh Thankyou. This is really quite a lot.” Yaoan said to the guide. The Guide tilted her head and left the room leaving Yaoan in there alone.

Yaoan looked around and saw that her room had various smaller rooms inside of it. She had a route to go downstairs, and her bathroom was enormous. The material in her room were all brand new and very sophisticated.

“Wow... is this what they give every Marian North Refugee... this is incredible.” Yaoan said unbelieving why she would have deserved all of this just from being removed from her home.

She laid in her bed and looked up at the ceiling.

“I feel like there is someone I should be thanking, but I can’t remember who they are or why...” Yaoan thought to herself.

Yaoan then turned on her videos in her extremely fancy device set. She was introduced to billions of different ports to view through.

“Oh the Rutanu tournament is today right?” Yaoan thought to herself. Even though she was not going to participate, she still wanted to see how it would go. She wondered if she could view it.

The video then immediately brought her to the broadcasts that were covering that topic.

But the broadcast were presenting terrible news.

The building at which the tournament was taking blast had been blown up. And the building had collapsed.

“Oh no! That’s terrible!” Yaoan thought to herself looking at the tragedy unfold on the video.

“Why would they show that?” Yaoan continued to think to herself.

“So it seems like even if we did go we would have died there.” Yaoan thought of herself.

“Is everything okay in there Lady Yaoan?” An assistant asked Yaoan.

“Yes everything is fine, I was just watching something terrifying.” Yaoan responded.

“Okay, well don’t get too scared, we are preparing a meal for you downstairs. Is there anything you would like in particular?” The assistant asked.

Yaoan thought to herself. “I don’t know what I want, I’ve never been asked that before...”

“No, just make anything. Thank you!” Yaoan said as she changed the Video. It was switched to a movie.

“A Unified Ziu Production” It presented on the screen.

“Unified Ziu? What is that?” Yaoan then laid on her stomach and just watched all day. She was relaxed and comfortable.

The night began to approach and Yaoan had spent all day inside.

After Yaoan ate the Night time meal her Assistant asked if she wanted some dessert.

Yaoan was trying to think but quickly said a word that she didn’t even know she knew. “I want a cookie.”

The Assistant was confused. “A cookie? What is that?” They asked her.

Yaoan paused also. “I don’t know... it just sounded right to say.” Yaoan said confused.

“Very well then we will see if we can get this ‘cookie’ for you tomorrow. Is there anything else?” The Assistant asked.

“No, I think I’ll just head back upstairs.” Yaoan said getting out of her seat.

“Very well, oh also Lady Yaoan. You are allowed to go outside if you want. Explore the city tomorrow.” The Assistant said to Yaoan.

“Okay, I’ll do that then.” Yaoan headed back up to her room. Her bodyguards followed behind her.

The Night had come and Yaoan had cleaned up and laid in her bed. It was extremely comfortable but didn’t feel quite right.

“What is wrong with this bed!” Yaoan said moving around on it trying to find a comfortable position.

“Is there something wrong Lady Yaoan?” The bodyguard asked Yaoan.

“I can’t sleep!” Yaoan replied back.

“Is there something you need, maybe a different cover?” The bodyguard said.

“Sure, maybe that will help.” Yaoan said sitting up in the bed. Yaoan looked out the window.

A new cover was brought up to Yaoan and her bed was made with it. Yaoan then tried to sleep again. But again she could not sleep.

“Is there something else Lady Yaoan?” They asked her.

Yaoan then looked out the window again. “Can I go for a walk outside?” Yaoan asked them.

“Ah... sure.” The bodyguard said as they opened the door for Yaoan.

Yaoan left out of the room and they followed her outside.

She looked at the buildings with their soft glow. The air was cold but nothing that Yaoan was not used to. Her Bodyguards made sure to keep Yaoan safe as they watched in all directions.

Yaoan then saw a hill in the distance. “What is up there?” Yaoan thought to herself as she started walking towards the hill.

“Whoa Lady Yaoan, where are you headed now?” The Guard asked Yaoan.

“I’m going up to the hill over there.” Yaoan said pointing at it.

“That’s out of City Limits, you must not go there.” He said.

“Am I not allowed up there?” Yaoan asked.

One guard looked at the other.

“You have to let her do it, remember whose watching her.” The guard said to the other.

They then moved out of the way and followed Yaoan towards the hill.

Yaoan had made it some distance outside of the city limits.

“Lady Yaoan we can’t have you keep leaving out this far of the city limits.” The Guard said worrying about the dangers that laid out here.

“I can’t sleep on the bed in the lab. If I remember correctly there should be a house up here.” Yaoan said to the guard. “But why do I think that... I’ve never been out here before.” Yaoan thought to herself.

Yaoan saw a house on the hill and ran quickly towards it. “I knew it!” she said as she sprinted.

The Guards ran quickly to the house and entered into it quickly. They looked through the place making sure it was safe.

“Area secured.” They said allowing Yaoan to go inside.

“Thanks I guess.” Yaoan responded to them.

Yaoan looked in the place and was confused by what was inside.

“Something wrong?” The guard asked Yaoan.

“No... but this place...” Yaoan said softly looking at the items in the house. Yaoan walked around. “I remember this place... but something is missing.” She thought to herself.

Yaoan saw the bed and began to feel it.

“It was right here...” Yaoan thought to herself.

“Do you want us to take this bed down to the lab Lady Yaoan?” The guard asked Yaoan.

“No! Just leave it there. I’m trying to think.” Yaoan said quickly.

Yaoan then laid on the bed.

“Please can you two stand outside, I need some alone time in here.” Yaoan asked the bodyguards as they then walked outside the building and shut the door.

“Teenager stuff, am I right.” The guard said to the other.

Yaoan laid in the bed and felt very warm. She felt happy.

“This place... feels... warm...” Yaoan thought to herself.

Yaoan slept and dreamed.

She Dreamt of her friend Mainya, she dreamt of Yuski, she dreamt of Paiyi and the other girls. She Dreamt of her school and of Rutanu. Yaoan dreamt of her parents and of adventures.

She was Happy. She looked at the figure in the distance who was sitting alone.

Yaoan walked to it. The figure looked down at Yaoan.

“Thank you” ...

The End

