**Human Settlement Vitran**

The southwestern continent is divided into four regions. The eastern coast, from the beach to the towering mountains, is Dundyr. Past the mountains is Nevoria, a land of forests in the south, plains further north, and a large desert stretching to the northern coast, near the equator. Gunudyr sits to the northwest, claiming swampy, dark land. The Great Mountain, going by many names by each tribe of humans, pierces the center of the continent. Rocky lands to the west of it separate Gunudyr from its southern neighbor, Rutyr. This is a pleasant land, a large valley with mountainous lands to its north and south. Forests patchwork the plains, with a dense cloud forest coating the southern hills.

In the western fields, flat and low, an aged escape pod rots. A tribe of humans splits at the site, some staying while others continue to migrate. Rudimentary wooden walls are constructed, and farms and shelters are built within. The escape pod is deconstructed slowly, and the metal and technology are used for weapons and armor. Elemental attacks begin to increase in frequency as the population grows. The walls are rebuffed with stone. A shelter with several layers of stone is constructed on the escape pod’s ruins. The villagers hide there during especially violent attacks, the guards fending off the assailants. Life is difficult, but the settlement survives long enough to gain a name: Vitran.

Nith and Ruku are born in Vitran. They are not brothers by blood, but grow close from a young age. They are inspired by practicing Aura usage, and show proficiency from a young age. By the time they turn 10, they are defending the village from Elementals, working as support. This constant battle increases their proficiency further, and soon they are the two most powerful guards of the village. Nith has grown to be bullheaded and fiery, while Ruku is a bit more reserved. The latter finds himself getting caught up in Nith’s passion, however, and the two work together perfectly.

One day, instead of an Elemental, a malformed Demon appears on the village outskirts. Battling the strange beast is a task far different than an Elemental, and Nith almost meets his end. The thing is humanoid but has grotesquely long arms, with too many joints. Its elongated head shows exposed black bone, and it roars and whimpers madly. The beast is eventually defeated, but the people of Vitran are disturbed by its attack.

Nith ventures north, to a land called the Scraplands, to find where the creature came from. The Scraplands are filled with wreckage, unusable scrap, and unidentifiable technology. On one of the jagged hills, under an overhanging sheet of metal plating, he finds the Demon Tablet. Immediately, he is assailed by the Demon Child, Wren. The son of Jun Menov survived the ejection during the Mothership crash, and briefly contends with Nith. The warrior is able to fend off the Demon, but cannot catch up to him in the difficult landscape. Nith examines the Tablet, but can’t make much of it. Confused, he returns to Vitran.

The next day, another Demon attacks, this time less malformed. It also shows higher intelligence, making the fight much more dangerous. It crashes through one of the village walls and kills a few villagers before being dispatched. With this blatant emergency on their hands, the village sends all available guards to the Scraplands. They hope to catch the Demon child and destroy the Tablet. Upon arriving, the child is nowhere to be seen. The Tablet thrums to life, however, and begins generating a Demon. The guards ready themselves.

The Demon formed is not like the other, red-skinned ones. It possesses a black, chitinous exterior shaped like armor, and its hands shift into blades of different shapes. To the humans’ shock, it speaks. It declares itself Wren, reformed, and attacks. The guardforce is nearly wiped out, only a handful able to retreat to the village. Wren sadistically massacres the rest. Nith and Ruku receive quick healing, but Wren has arrived before nightfall. The remaining guards hold Wren back as the villagers escape to the shelter, but they are slaughtered quickly.

Ruku clashes with Wren one-on-one as Nith attempts to hold back a swarm of better formed, but still monstrous Demons attacking the other side of the village. Wren eventually defeats Ruku, tearing through his rapidly growing vines and shields of bark. The Demon holds the human up by the head, and in a show of strength, throws him eastward with all his might. Nith finally arrives, seeing Wren turn with shreds of green clothes on his claws. In a flash, Wren charges forward, knocking Nith backwards into the shelter. The shelter collapses from the impact, screams from within quickly silenced. Wren stares for a moment at the destruction, stoic.

A flash of blue fire erupts from the wreckage. Nith emerges, burning brightly. His body is being transformed into pure Aura, held together with will alone. His head takes on the look of an Elemental, intense blue flames with two searing white eyes. Wren takes a step back at the intense pressure. Instantly, Nith is before Wren, landing a hit that cracks the Demon’s chest deeply. Wren digs his feet in and holds the raging human back. Nith turns his head upward to look Wren in the eye, and the Demon’s vision is overtaken with light.

From afar, Ruku struggles to his feet. His arm is broken, but he was able to break his fall with it along with a mass of leaves and vines growing quickly from the ground. Looking westward, he sees a circle of violet-blue light expanding. As it becomes larger, Ruku can see dust being kicked up along its path. Assuming an attack from Wren, he sprints further east. Kicking down the forest path, up along the hill he runs. The shockwave of Aura gains, and gains, and just as Ruku hears the thundering of it growing unbearable, it stops. Wind blasts Ruku a few feet as the wall of Aura ceases. As the dust clears, Ruku finds it shimmers and pulses with a familiar feeling. He sees treetops swaying in the wind, a few branches passing into the barrier and becoming stuck. The branches break off, and are unable to pass back out of the barrier.

Ruku journeys further eastward, hoping to find aid before he dies.