Prologue

Location: -UNKNOWN-

Year: 2664 (Present)

A beach and the large canyon it was connected too was quiet, with almost nothing important happening. Nothing but the waves, wind, and trees above the canyon were the only thing heard for miles. However, one person was there, living at the at the beach. No one knew he was there and probably no one ever would. He was known as Viking, a spartan from the most recent Spartan X program. At this moment in time, he sat on the usual rock he always sat on to watch the ocean in front of him. After looking at the waves for a while, a portable A.I console lit up and a lavender hologram of a woman appeared and looked at Viking.

"Are you ever gonna stop watching the waves, and actually do something productive," asked the A.I. It was only a matter of time until she asked him this question, Viking thought.

"Hard to find something to do in this stranded canyon and beach," Viking responded as he turned towards the A.I, sliding off the rock and dropping onto the sand of the beach. Viking walked towards the UNSC labeled crate next to console and grabbed a clip for his BR85N Battle Rifle.

"Anything other than shooting at rocks or cones," the A.I said, sounding downed. Viking sighed and dropped the magazine where he stood onto the sand. After taking a moment to think, he started to walk back towards the rock again. As he started to climb back up the rock, The A.I sighed and then said, "You learn from your mistakes Viking. Stop,"

"My mistake was letting you die, Emma,” Viking said interrupting her. The only thing I cared more about than the mission was your safety." Silenced formed between them for a while. "If anything, I learned that I wasn't good enough to protect you."  Viking sat on his rock, and laid his back and head to it, were he can see the top of the other wall of the canyon. He sighed as he relaxed in his spot, not knowing what to do or think of for anything anymore.

"This war will be remembered, just like the Human-Covenant War. *You* will be remembered, you know that right," Emma tried to point out. "Like all noble soldiers, Valhalla awaits,"

"No" Interrupted Viking, looking at her now. "Only the true Vikings and soldiers do - normal warriors and soldiers. No one who went into training for a spartan program and become augmented humans will ever go to Valhalla. Not even the Spartan II’s, the III’s, or even 117."

"Well then Merrick, tell me, where do Spartans go, huh," mocked Emma. Emma hated the negativity he brought into the situation that was already bad for them, living wise.

Viking didn't hesitate to say it, "Hell." Viking laid his head back again, and tried to remember the time he wanted to join the Spartan X program. The decision that began his meaning in life. The choice that changed the galaxy once again.

Chapter 1

Location: Earth

Year: 2647 (Past)