

— *One night in 1905* —

Little Aigis sat in Johanna's lap in the dead of night, a lone flickering candle sitting on the table next to the living room chair. Everyone else had gone off to bed. Johanna looked at her five-year-old daughter's giant blue eyes, innocence as abundant as the vast ocean.

"Mama, where do people go when they die?" She asked innocently.

"What brought this on?" Johanna questioned, chuckling slightly at the random question. Aigis twiddled her tiny sausage fingers.

"When papa and I went to the store today, we saw Gisela and her mom. She looked sad. She told us her grandma died last night. I want to cheer her up, but I don't know how."

The mother readjusted her sitting position, "They go to the Promised Land." She answered sweetly. Aigis raised one eyebrow.

"But I thought that's where the psychokinetic people went?"

Johanna looked up at the ceiling. She took one deep breath, a steady inhale and a steady exhale. She then looked back down at Aigis.

"Think of it this way. The Lifestream created all living beings in the world. The trees, the birds, the fish..."

"Even humans and Psychokinetics?"

Johanna shook her head gently. "One thing to keep in mind, Aigis. We all came from the Lifestream. Humans and Psychokinetics are cut from the same cloth. Sure, we live longer, age slower, are healthier and have our psychokinesis abilities, but..."

Johanna gently grabbed onto Aigis' arm and placed it over her heart. "In here, we all have the same hearts, the same blood, and the same emotions. All the same thoughts and feelings. Humans, and even some of the most powerful Psychokinetics tend to forget this fact."

Aigis tilted her head, still confused.

“The Promised Land is the Lifestream’s gift to both man and Psychokinetics. As stewards to the Stream, they reward us with a piece of the Earth. If we can find that land, we can dance and frolic around in eternal peace. For humans, it means the end of pain, hardship, and sorrow. Their life, if they choose to be good and honest, will be rewarded with that same peace.”

Aigis slowly nodded, understanding her mother just a bit. She felt a soft hand brush her cheek, and looked up into the warm blue eyes of her mother.

“All I ask is that you continue to have a good heart. Be kind to everyone, even enemies. It’s okay to be angry, and it’s okay to fail sometimes. But you mustn’t let emotions control you or your actions.”

Aigis nodded with her whole body, nearly falling off her mother’s knee. “I will, mama.”

“Good. Remember, I will always love you and be proud of you.”