











Uhen I Was a Newb

I remember the first time I logged into "The World R:2" several months back.

I put on my M2D video headset and opened my eyes. A vast city opened before my eyes full of players bustling about running to and from talking amongst each other laughing shouting buying selling discussing their latest accomplishments debating the latest rumors and gathering together for adventure fame and fortune. It was overwhelming.

I spent some time looking around and taking in the sights, no doubt looking like a tourist with my wide-eyed expressions and gaping mouth. My friend who introduced me to "The World R:2", a fellow who called himself Kuhn in the game, sent me a short mail message:

"Come to the Chaos Gate! We're waiting. :)"

His guild was called Canarda a guild devoted to helping beginners in the game like myself. At the time, he was the guild masteral although apparently he has since left the guild to pursue other things. After arriving at the Chaos Gate (but not before getting lost in town a few times), he introduced me to fellow guild membera Gaspard. We spent some time talking about the wonders and marvels of "The World R:2" before the three of us embarked on my very first adventure.

My first adventure was exciting and intoxicating. I remember beating my very first monster. I learned basic fighting techniques as Gaspard and Kuhn gave me advice while I fought, healing me along the way. When we reached the Beast Temple, Gaspard and Kuhn urged me to open the treasure box that sat before it, a token of my achievement. Although the item in it wasn't terribly strong, to me it was a mark of honor. I still have the item to this very day. I will never forget how, as I held up the item, grinning stupidly, Kuhn patted me on the shoulder and smiled as he said:

"Welcome to 'The World'."