THE STORY WRITER (“LA FIN”, or “FIN”)

“Life is nothing more than an elaborate story.”

“I’ll write one more story. I’ll write yours.”

“They come at you just wanting a better story. I tell them that there are no good or bad stories, and they never listen. But I do. How can a writer not listen to his readers? And so I kept writing.”

The Story Writer is a weak, frail man who is not augmented, not business savvy, not strong. He is known for his creativity and composition skills. He alone crafted some of the most captivating and addictive VR fantasies. And unlike other VR fantasies, his “stories” don’t rely on implant injections or some mild intoxication to be effective. They’re purely effective because of the raw beauty of the stories and tales that are portrayed and experienced.

He never wanted to write stories though. He wanted a normal life, to create a family and have a stable job and grow to an old age in safety and peace. It was his misfortune to be born in the City. And when he was struggling with income he began to write stories at the urging of some of his VR junkie friends. Even so, he kept the job a secret, and continued to try and succeed in the regular world and earn clean money.

However, as with any dealings with the Hacker gangs, things eventually became dicey. Once he achieved his goal of having a stable job and a happy family, he announced to the others in the gang that he was quitting and wanted to leave the underground world. And though they initially let him be, they started asking for him to come back eventually. After he refused time and time again they became desperate and so they kidnapped his daughter. However, during the operation another gang took her. They told him to serve them instead. They mistreated her and hurt her, and she ended up dying in their care.

They pressed him further, claiming that others would be harmed too unless he worked for them. And so he did, for a time, until he gained their trust. He gave them story after story, until one day when he gave them a carefully crafted story and wanted them to try it. And when they did, they died. The Story Writer found a way to craft a story so horrible and captivating that it actually caused the user’s body to experience the pain and eventual death that occurred in the story.

And so he circulated the deadly story to all his enemies and they fell, one by one. He went into hiding after that, swearing to never write a story again. He lost his family, his job, his identity.

However, when he meets the protagonist, he sees something interesting, something that sparks his creative side. And so after his first interaction with the protagonist, he decides that it might just be worthwhile to write one more story.

The Story Writer may not seem like a force to be reckoned with but he does have a powerful intellect. He sees life as a grand story, with each person’s tale being worth a listen. He is kind and open in that way. And though he is softspoken and does not speak too often, when he does talk, he talks sense and wisdom. He has learned that before telling a story, one has to hear it and listen to it.

“Can I write your story?”