

Gi-hun's Backstory:

Seong Gi-hun was born on October 31, 1974, in Ssangmun-dong, Seoul, where he grew up with his mother Oh Mal-soon and remained in as an adult. He was childhood best friends with Cho Sang-woo, with whom he developed a very close and brotherly relationship.[7][8] They would play multiple children's games together, including Squid Game, Red Light, Green Light and Dalgona. When playing and winning Squid Game, Gi-hun stated he felt as though he owned the entire world at that moment. During his youth, he attended Daehan Technical High School.

Gi-hun worked on Assembly Team One at Dragon Motors for sixteen years, but was later laid off and went on strike with his other employees. During the strike, one of his coworkers died. This happened to be the same day his daughter, Seong Ga-yeong, was born. Gi-hun later ran Ga-yeong's Chicken Shop and Snack Bar for two years (until the business went under), and he worked as a chauffeur for five years.[12][1] After divorcing his wife, Kang Eun-ji, she got custody of their daughter and remarried. Her new husband disliked Gi-hun seeing Ga-yeong to Gi-hun's anger and consternation.

2020

Salesman Card

Gi-hun being given the Squid Games card by The Salesman.

A debt-ridden chauffeur and gambling addict, Gi-hun initially depended upon his mother for financial support and became heavily indebted to loan sharks. After winning a game of Ddakji with a salesman in a Seoul Metro station, Gi-hun was given an invitation to participate in the 33rd Squid Game. He agreed to enter the Squid Game to pay off his debts and be able to financially support his daughter, so she would not have to move away from South Korea with her mother.

After surviving the first round with help from another player, Gi-hun was among the majority of contestants who voted to withdraw from the competition, but he ultimately decided to voluntarily return after realizing that his daughter would be going to the United States of America with her mother and step-father, meaning that there were no means of keeping his child with him otherwise. He quickly connected with several other players, including his childhood best friend Cho Sang-woo, as well as Oh Il-nam, Kang Sae-byeok, and Ali Abdul. As he progressed through the rounds, Gi-hun demonstrated empathy and compassion toward his fellow players. However, he also showed a capacity for manipulation and deception when necessary to survive, such as when he regretfully tricked Il-nam during a game of Marbles.

Gi-hun was one of two survivors to make it to the final round of the competition, along with Sang-woo, who by now had become his rival. The two faced off in a Squid Game, which Gi-hun won, after which he attempted to end the games prematurely in order to spare Sang-woo's life. However, Sang-woo killed himself, crowning Gi-hun as the official winner of the 33rd Squid Game. He was set free with ₩45.6 billion in prize money. He later on discovered that his mother had passed away from her diabetes. Despite having the prize money, he was so traumatized and disillusioned by the games and what had cost him that he didn't spend any of the money, instead living an aimless life in a hopeless state of mind.

2021

One year after the conclusion of the 33rd Squid Game, Gi-hun visited Il-nam in the Seoul Sky Tower, where the old man was waiting for his end. Gi-hun became furious as he found Il-nam was the creator and mastermind of the Games and he sought the reasons for the existence of such a cruel game. Il-nam died in the presence of Gi-hun. Upon leaving the hospital, Gi-hun decided to have a new start in his life, changing his looks and reinvigorating himself. He found Sae-byeok's younger brother and took him to Sang-woo's mother, gifting her a portion of his prize money. Gi-hun made arrangements to visit the United States to reconnect with his daughter. However, he accidentally found the same Salesman who had invited him recruiting other contestants for future Squid Games, whom he attempted to chase only to find him escaping on a metro. Gi-hun immediately seized the card from the man who had played with the salesman. While boarding his flight to the United States, he called the game's organizers using the number on the card he seized, requesting that they stop the game. He was advised to stay away from causing problems to future games, indicating that he is still being kept under surveillance by the Squid Game Staff. Despite this, Gi-hun decided to call off his journey to America last minute and started walking back, to seek revenge and fight back against the game's organizers. He then goes to the bathroom and removes the tracking chip embedded by the Front Man in his ear to cover his track.

Using his wealth, he hires multiple private detectives including his old loan sharks to track down the Salesman and those that affiliated to the Game as well as locating the island where the Game takes place. He also buys a motel to serve as his base of operation and stocks a huge pile of firearms he bought from the black markets to practice marksmanship as he plans a rebellion within the game. After two years, his endeavour bear no fruit.

Gi-hun's Family:

Oh Mal-soon

Oh Mal-soon is Seong Gi-hun's mother. Gi-hun was a gambler addict who still leaned on her for a living. Despite this, Gi-hun entered Squid Game to save her, and was devastated upon finding her dead.

Seong Ga-yeong

Seong Ga-yeong is Seong Gi-hun's daughter. Gi-hun loves his daughter, but he divorced his wife, so they live separated from each other. After winning Squid game, Gi-hun decided to go to America to meet Ga-yeong, but Gi-hun canceled it to defy the Front Man and the Squid Game Staff.

Kang Eun-ji

Kang Eun-ji is Seong Gi-hun's ex-wife. Eun-ji criticizes her ex-husband for not showing up during Ga-yeong's birth, resulting in her crawling to the hospital by herself due to Gi-hun choosing to stay with his dying co-worker during their strike. She also reveals that Gi-hun never paid her any child support afterwards when he tries to ask her for money.

Gi-hun's Friends:

Cho Sang-woo

Cho Sang-woo and Gi-hun are childhood best friends and become teammates after forming a team in the Squid Game. They became enemies after Sang-woo killed Do Jung-soo. They ultimately reconciled during the final moments of the last game, and Sang-woo sacrificed himself for Gi-hun to win the Squid Game.

Kang Sae-byeok

Kang Sae-byeok and Gi-hun are teammates and close friends. Gi-hun invited Sae-byeok to join his team and protected her during the Special Round. Gi-hun tried to save Sae-byeok when she was mortally injured, and later tried to avenge her by killing Sang-woo.

Ali Abdul

Ali Abdul and Gi-hun are teammates and friends. Ali saved Gi-hun during the first game. With Sang-woo's help, Ali also saved Gi-hun's life from Player 413 and Player 113 during the Special Round.

Ji-yeong

Ji-yeong and Gi-hun are teammates. They didn't interact much, but Gi-hun is the one who let her stay in the team when Sang-woo said they would be recruiting only men.