## **«Spirit King»**

## Chapter 21 - Choice

"Are you guys sure about this...?" Niko asked with a serious face. He was feeling extremely uneasy at this moment as the people he knew the most was deciding to join the protectors. If they joined, that meant he would need to get to know other people and partner up with them. At least Niko had slight trust towards these three, if he had to meet new people, a trust would be hard to create, as he knew the minds of humans.

"Yeah... You should join us too... We can leave when we reach level 15..." Louis said reluctantly. Niko was the first person he had met in this strange world and he was already comfortable near Niko, as he felt he could trust him.

"I can't... Getting to that level would take too long, I also don't want to be chained down to this place." Niko responded as he had made up his mind.

Although Niko was unhappy they are going, he didn't want to get too attached to people, especially at the earliest stages. It was similar to a weak person holding onto a huge sum of money in a dangerous world full of people that were much more powerful than him, he is bound to lose all of the money sooner or later. People will die and Niko didn't want to be affected by it, especially early on. Niko has always been the kind of person who kept to himself anyways, therefore, he wasn't too worried.

"Alright... If you need anything in the future we will try our best..." Simon said and then continued, "After we reach level 15 we should definitely explore this world together!"

Niko smiled and nodded as he thought skeptically, "If we all live that far..."

Life in this world was too dangerous, and there have been a number of deaths so far was just the tip of the iceberg. Niko was expecting much more deaths in the future, he wasn't being pessimistic but realistic.

"Time is up! Those who want to be protectors step up!" The blonde man said caressing his hair gently, and over half of the people in the room walked towards the blonde man. The three who were with Niko said their goodbyes as they also walked towards the blonde man. People who Niko had also seen before was also joining the protectors such as the bald man who displayed his abilities early on.

"Follow Pippa and he will take you where you need to go." The blonde man pointed at the short hooded man as the people began to follow him out of the room. After all of those people were cleared a good amount of people were left staring at the blonde man.

"You all have chosen a very dangerous choice, let's hope you have the power to back up the decision." The blonde man gave an evil grin and continued, "Those who wants to be mercenaries, follow me."

Niko stepped up as well as everyone else, "It doesn't seem like anyone was going to take normal citizen route..."

Everyone followed the blonde man out of the room through stone halls that let to another room. On the way to this room, many people stared at the orb that surrounded Niko, however, no contact was made. The new room looked strange as the walls were full of keys. These keys had numbers from 100 to 200 with some numbers missing in between.

"To be able to have this much organization and structure in a brand new world, these people sure know what they are doing!" Niko stated in his mind.

Niko and the others were told to pick a key and if they were in a group with people they knew, you could pick a key that was in the same group. Keys were in a group of four and most of the people who had already met each other in this batch were picking the keys in the same group. Niko saw a group of keys with only three keys and chose one. This was the only key group with three keys, and since Niko didn't have a group so he just picked one of the three keys.

"Would you mind?" A voice sounded next to Niko as he turned towards it.

An Asian man about Niko's height stood there. The Asian man's skin was pale and his facial features average, his face was oval shaped and his long black hair was tied back. His white dress shirt which was so dirty that the color was barely any white was ripped on the sleeves and the man's arms were lacking hair.

Niko simply smiled and the Asian man reached out to grab one of the keys. As the Asian man reached out for one of the keys, Niko noticed the extremely dirty hands of the man. His fingernails were much worse as it was pitch black with dirt. Niko used his skill on the man and his name was Zheng and his skill called, [Nails of the

Corrupted Dire Wolf].

After grabbing one of the keys, the man turned to Niko with a smiled and said, "I am Gao Zheng from China, but people just called me Zheng, may I know your name?"

"Niko..." Niko replied with a smile as he thought, "Is there a point in naming countries? I doubt it affects anything..."

Zheng smiled back and looked at the orb that floated around Niko and asked, "That's a neat skill you got there, Did you guys have to fight weird dragonflies as well?"

Niko shook his head and replied, "Nope, we fought giant beetles."

As Niko and Zheng talked another man walked towards them. The man wore a huge beard on his face giving him an extremely masculine look, however, the thing that made him even more masculine was the fact that his shirtless upper body was full of hair. HIs chest was a jungle of hair. His arms were full of hair as well and if he wasn't wearing long dirty jeans people would be able to see his hairy legs.

As the man got closer his face was much clearer. His brows were thick and his eyes small. His nose was slightly long and wide and his hair slightly curly and short. The man gave a huge smile showing his yellow teeth as he said, "My friends! I am Candreva from Italy... Hm... It doesn't exist in this world but you might have heard of it, yes.... I will take this key and be with you both, let's look out for each other, Yes?"

Niko was interested in these types of skills as he wanted to know more about them. If these guys were going to live in the same place as him and probably take the same missions, learning more about each other's skills is a must.

A loud deep voice came from the blond man as he said, "Alright everyone! Let's get ready to move ou!"