

Second World #Chapter 2001: Chapter 2001. Rebuild - Read Second World Chapter 2001: Chapter 2001. Rebuild

Chapter 2001:. Rebuild

After the battle, Four Winds returned to Verremor. He easily reclaimed Verremor's throne. Mistress lost her right to the throne after she died a wilderness death. None of the orcish natives took advantage during the vacuum of power. They instead helped Four Winds reclaim the throne when he returned.

As for the players, Cipher Flight members wiped out the remnant of the World Ruler members roaming the capital of Magna Masat. Considering most of the top players from that guild were summoned to help Master at Sky Haven, the remaining players were mostly second-rate players. They were powerless against the Cipher Flight, especially when fighting Four Winds and Purple Mist, who possessed the pinnacle classes.

At Sangrod, Arlcard also led a rebellion to reclaim his throne once Jack sent him back. Motherboard was still alive and sitting on Sangrod's throne, but she was never a top combatant. She was more like a secretary for Master.

Although the Sangrod natives seemed to submit to Master, it was just a façade. They were lying low, waiting for the time to strike. With Arlcard bringing the news of Master's demise, Darius and Sangrod's relic marshalls immediately rallied under his banner. Saint Edge also came to answer the call.

Together, they marched into the capital. With the demon and zombie forces gone, Motherboard only had her guild members and the low-ranked soldiers to rely on. Despite their struggle, they couldn't match the combined might of natives and players. Arlcard himself was more than a match for them.

At Themisphere, the State of Galhana members fled the capital even before Jack returned. They were veteran mercenaries. They were more decisive than common players. Once they saw their leader drop to level 1 on their guild page. They immediately contacted their allies in the World Maker and World Ruler. Learning Master and Mistress suffered the same fate, they knew it was time to bolt before the executioner came.

The Themisphere throne never transferred hands. Jack remained the king. The native officers welcomed him when he returned. Linda was among them.

After settling the urgent matters at the palace, Jack issued a call to gather the players from all over the world. Jack led these players to the main underworld portal. Players could still teleport into the zone portal in Liguritutum settlements so long as the zone portal was not destroyed.

The player army marched to where the main underworld portal was. They expected a fierce fight. But contrary to expectation, only a handful of demons guarded the main underworld portal. After Master's demise, most demons fled back to the underworld out of their own accord. They no longer had the will to remain here.

When the battle started, the remaining demons around the main underworld portal also fled into the portal. The battle ended in less than an hour.

Without opposition, the player army easily destroyed the main underworld portal. As the gigantic crimson portal crumbled, the corrupted mana started to thin. Within time, the mana in the upperworld would be purified.

They weren't worried if some underworld demons still existed somewhere in the upperworld. Without the corrupted mana, those underworld demons would be forcefully sent back to the underworld. Or in rare cases, they turned into demon-type wilderness monsters.

A different and smaller portal appeared where the main underworld portal used to be. This was the gateway players could use to explore the underworld. Only players could use this portal, though. Natives couldn't, so there was no danger the demons could invade the upperworld again.

Everyone dispersed after that. Some chose to enter the underworld gateway to check out the underworld.

*

One week passed after the climactic battle at Sky Haven. Everyone focused on rebuilding. The masses that Master commanded to gather to rebuild the destroyed countries ended up doing the same job. The difference was they were now doing it out of their own free will. Everyone worked together to rebuild. The reconstruction of the destroyed countries was led by the former sovereigns of said countries.

Queen Aldryth led the reconstruction at Hydrurond, supported by the masses from Themisphere. President Thelgrun oversaw Palgrost with help from Sangrod. As for Aurebor, guild leader Nova was in charge. Four Winds sent help from Verremor to assist her.

Only Liguritudum was disregarded for now.

"A new sovereign in Liguritudum....?" Jack asked after hearing John's report. He was in the throne room. Thaergood, Grace, Jeanny, Paytowin, and Linda were also there.

"You are going to be surprised when you hear who the sovereign was," John said.

"Who?" Jack asked.

"Ronald," John answered.

"The phantom gunslinger? I thought he had died earlier since I didn't see him during that final battle with Master."

"It seems he purposefully hid himself after Master announced himself as God. I don't know why. That dude is hard to read."

"Dritzuut is not destroyed during the demon invasion?" Paytowin asked.

"Jack issued a mass evacuation after Master opened the main underworld portal," John answered. "Without a force to fight them, I guess the demons didn't cause much destruction in Liguritudum. Most of the settlements were still intact, including the palace in Dritzuut. I guess Ronald was hiding there all this time. When he received the news that Master was defeated, he probably decided it was time to play sovereign."

"There is no one in Liguritudum. What's the point of him claiming the throne there?" Grace asked.

"After the report of Ronald claiming the throne, a portion of the Liguritudum army left the reconstruction team and marched back to Liguritudum. Ronald must have issued a call using the monarch system, but most of the soldiers who left were low ranks. The high-ranked soldiers ignored the call. I bet they didn't consider that opportunist their real sovereign." "He can't seriously think he can keep the throne for long now, can he?" Paytowin said. "I am preparing our guild soldiers. We can go and strike him once we are ready," Jeanny announced. "David and his guild members had already moved toward Liguritudum once they got the news. He and Serpent Boss had a vendetta with Ronald, after all. They will scout the place before our force arrives."

Jeanny turned to Jack and asked, "When can you mobilize the Themisphere army?"

"I won't be mobilizing the army, but probably one of you will," Jack answered, which confused everyone.

Jack didn't explain further. Instead, he looked between Jeanny and John. This made the two

felt weird.

After a while, Jack's eyes finally stopped at John. He asked, "How do you like the title, King

John?"

His question made everyone there, except Grace, display a surprised expression.

"Your-Your majesty, what do you mean?" Thaergood asked panicky.

"This is no joking matter, Jack," Jeanny said.

"Yeah, I can imagine this country becoming a dictatorship with him on the throne. We might

have another battle for freedom if that happens," Paytowin said.

"Hehe, as enticing as that sounds, I'm afraid I have to decline," John chuckled. "I have a personal quest I need to take care of. As a matter of fact, I plan to submit my resignation as the royal advisor today. I won't be around for some time."

"Oh...", It was Jack who was surprised this time.

"What's the matter, Jack? You don't like being king anymore?" Jeanny asked, returning to the

topic.

"I never want to be king. You know that, right?" Jack said.

"But, Your Majesty, you are doing the job very well. All the officials think so," Thaergood said. "Our country will be in jeopardy without you leading us."

"Don't worry, Jeanny is a more capable leader than I am," Jack said.

"Oh. If it's her, it's okay then," Thaergood said.

John turned to Thaergood and said, "Screw you, man."

"I haven't agreed to it," Jeanny said.

"I must pass it to someone. I don't want to keep having to return here to settle political matters. It's too troublesome," Jack said. "You know me. I want to go adventuring in this new world. I think I earned that after defeating Master. There are still some minor menaces like Ronald in Liguritutum, but I'm sure you can deal with him without me. You all here are the ones I feel safe enough to entrust this kingdom to, except you, ma'am, no offense."

"None taken," Linda replied.

Jack returned his attention to Jeanny. "I did not doubt you will be a good queen unless you think Paytowin can do a better job than you?"

"Man, that hurts, but I don't disagree with you," Paytowin said. "Plus, I will be too busy helping Mihos rebuilding the Council of Virtus."

"Grace can be a good leader as well," Jeanny pointed at Grace.

"I will follow Jack in his adventure," Grace said.

Jeanny turned to the last person in the room aside from Linda. Thaergood said, "No. I am an

advisor. I prefer to stay that way."

Jeanny sighed. "Very well then," she said.

"Perfect!" Jack exclaimed. "Thaergood, prepare the coronation ceremony tomorrow. I will transfer my sovereign status to her during the ceremony."

"As you wish, Your Majesty. Before I lose the chance, I want to say I will miss you,"

Thaergood said.

"I will miss you too, good Thaergood," Jack returned. "I will try to come visit when I can." Thaergood nodded. He left to take care of the ceremony for tomorrow.

"By the way, what is this quest of yours?" Jack asked John. "Why do you need to resign? Can't

you use the kingdom's resources to help you complete it?"

"It's not a quest as in the game system's quest. It's a personal mission which I suspect will

take me away from this world."

"Huh...?" Everyone showed a puzzled expression.

"Well, it is a suspicion. One I want to clear up today. I'm heading to Chris' place to talk to him

about this. Do you people want to join?"

"After making us curious like that? You bet your ass we do!" Jack said.

"All right. I'm sending the request for Chris to teleport us all," John said.

A light covered them soon after. When the light vanished, they were no longer in the throne

room.

2002 Chapter 2002. Servers

Jack, John, Jeanny, Grace, Paytowin, and Linda appeared near the lakeside pavilion in Chris' secret garden.

"She can come as well?" Jack pointed at Linda.

"I asked Chris to let her come. What I'm going to discuss has something to do with her," John answered.

Chris and Wilted were inside the pavilion discussing something while looking at the projection. Chris shut down the projection when Jack and the others entered the pavilion.

"So, what is this urgent message you need to talk to me about?" Chris asked.

"I want to confirm something and at the same time, ask for your help," John answered.

"My help? I'm not a philanthropist, boy. I can't just help everyone who has a problem. I help you fight Apollyon because I consider him a part of my responsibilities, but that's it."

"Oh, no worry. The help I'm about to ask is also your responsibility, and only you can assist in this matter."

"Hm... What are you talking about?" Chris asked.

"Remember when Spring Crown asked you about the missing people?" John asked.

Chris' expression slightly changed upon the question. "What about it?" He asked in return.

"I think you perfectly know the answer to that question and have the means to find the missing people."

"What makes you say that?" Chris asked.

"I remember you offered Wilted to come here if we fail to take out Master," John said. He then asked Wilted, "Has he told you what that offer is about?"

Wilted shook his head. "No. I didn't ask since I have no intention of taking up the offer."

"Well, my mother and I are here to take up the offer," John said.

"John, what is this about?" Jeanny asked.

John's eyes were on Chris, gesturing if Chris wanted to answer that, but Chris remained silent. So, John turned to Jeanny and asked, "Before I answer that. Let me ask you all a question. What do you think is the world's population? I mean, our past world's population."

"Uh... I never keep track," Jack said.

"It's eight hundred million people," Paytowin answered.

"Do you people know how many players are in this new world?" John asked again.

Everyone shook their heads.

"We have around eleven million human players in Themisphere," John said.

"We have that many?" Jack asked.

"You don't know your own country's population?" Paytowin asked with contempt.

"Why would I bother with how many players in the country?" Jack asked back.

"Please shut up, you two," John said. He then resumed, "It is difficult to get a clear census at this stage considering players from other countries can easily come in now, but that is the estimated number for only the human-raced players counted by city officials. I assume the world system put in an average of around one million players in each metropolis after the tutorial period."

"We have twelve metropolises," Jack said.

"Themonium only became a metropolis later. Themisphere has eleven metropolises when we players enter this world," John corrected. "These metropolises where we players entered after the tutorial period are termed main cities. I have checked. All seven countries possess eleven main cities. If you put an average of one million players in those main cities, how many players do you get?"

Jack was still counting when Paytowin answered, "Seventy-seven million!"

"Damn it!" Jack cursed.

"Hehe," Paytowin displayed a prideful face.

"This is not a quiz, you two," Jeanny chided.

"So, we can assume that in this entire game world, we have seventy-seven million, or probably eighty million people. However, our past world has eight hundred million. If our census is correct, the players in this world only amounted to ten percent of our past world's population. Where is the other ninety percent?"

Everyone turned to Chris, who looked away as if he wanted to gaze at a nearby tree.

"I will answer for him," John said. "The answer is something that is pretty common in the gaming industry. In a multiplayer game, you can't have too many people inside a game. There is a limit. Too many people, the game will crash. How do the game providers solve this issue?"

"Different game servers!" Jack exclaimed.

"Correct," John said.

Jack turned to Paytowin and made a winning pose.

"Guys, not a quiz!" Jeanny chided again.

"During the promotion of Second World, the game was lauded as one that can become a true second world for all the people in the world," John said. "It is said it could hold so many people that everyone could play on the same server. This, of course, is just boastful. Even with modern technology, there is still a limit. Plus, not all the people in the world play games. I bet Trigitech developed a game server that could hold around eighty million people and had several backup servers to accommodate in case the first server was too crowded."

"Ten," Chris finally spoke. "There are ten such servers."

"So, what John says is true?" Jeanny asked.

Chris shrugged.

"When you asked me to come to you if things went South..."

"It is to flee to one of these other servers. Even with Master's Godly power, he can't move between worlds," John answered Wilted for Chris. "There are nine other worlds similar to this one. A parallel dimension, you might call them. The people missing from this world are in one of those worlds."

"You have a way to move to the other worlds?" Wilted asked Chris.

Chris sighed. "I do have one, but I will tell everyone here first. I'm not allowing frivolous travel between the servers. The rules that govern this world have become complicated

due to its merging with the real world. Opening a door through parallel dimensions might cause instability."

"But you are ready to do it when you plan to flee this world with Wilted," John said.

Chris shrugged again.

"Which means it is safe as long as you don't do it too often," Linda joined in.

"Theoretically...", Chris answered.

"Then, that's what you are going to do!" Linda exclaimed.

"Hey, lady. Don't think you can force me to do things I don—"

"My youngest son is in the other world! You will take me there! Or I swear to God...!"

"All right, all right. Mother, please, let me handle this," John said to Linda.

Linda turned away with a huff.

John turned back to Chris. He then said, "You heard what my mom said. My little brother, whom I never met, is in one of these other worlds. I'm going there to search for him. You are going to get me there because as I said earlier, it's your responsibility. You... will... take... me... there...! Or I swear to God! I'm going to make you regret you ever created this world...! Do... we... have... an... understanding?"

Chris gulped. He could see how these two are related.

"We will take you there," Wilted said in Chris' stead. When Chris gave her a look, she said, "We owe it to them. You would have to flee to the other world anyway if Apollyon won. Now, you don't have to. Whatever method you use to open the way, use it for them."

"You don't know about the other servers?" Jack asked Wilted.

"I don't. As he said, the original plan was only one server that held roughly ten percent of the world's population. I don't know that other servers exist."

"They are the work of Apollyon and Mia," Chris informed. "They don't want this new world to be too crowded even before they rule it, so they add the servers in secret. Considering Mia oversaw the corporation's finances, it was easy to pull it off."

Jack was trying to remember who Mia was. Grace reminded him it was Mistress' real name.

"Wow, ten game servers, eh?" Jack said. "I guess I am lucky my grandfather is in the same server as me. I can't imagine how clueless he would be if he was on a different server. The same goes for you and your mother... Though not so with your brother."

"Master must have intentionally hidden him away on a different server," Linda said. "This way, he could be sure to always keep me in line."

"That's right. Under normal circumstances, the world system will prioritize those with familial and social connections to be on the same server," Chris said. "But if you are familiar with the concept of six degrees of separation, you will know at one point, everyone is connected to everybody. The world system will have to cut the line at some point. In your case, I do believe Apollyon had a hand rather than your younger son getting the bad lottery."

"How do you open the way to another world?" John asked.

"How else? By using a special tool available only to me, of course," Chris answered.

"You can use it anywhere at any time?"

"I can. But as I mentioned, I prefer not doing it often."

"How about opening the way every two years?" John asked.

When Chris gave him a questioning look, he added, "Unless you know which world my brother is in. I doubt we will hit the jackpot in the first world you sent us to. We will use those two years to search around. If my brother is not there, we will move to another world."

"What if we sent more people to help you look?" Jeanny suggested.

"No! I won't accommodate more people!" Chris exclaimed.

"It's fine. The two of us will be okay. This is our family matters, after all," John said.

"I wish I could help," Jack said.

"You can if you join us," John returned.

"Hehe. Maybe one day. I want to enjoy adventuring this world first."

"So, do you want to leave immediately?" Chris asked.

"In a couple of days. There is still something I want to take care of," John replied.

Before you, fact checkers, point out that the world's population is 8 billion, I want to say the world where Jack came from is not ours (even if it shares a lot of the same cultures) :)

2003 Chapter 2003. Darnos

They left Chris' secret garden. Jack and Grace returned to Thereath. Jeanny and Paytowin returned to Heavenly Citadel. John and Linda went elsewhere.

Jack checked with Thaergood to check the preparation for tomorrow's coronation. A notification about the coronation had been broadcast throughout the country. Everyone was surprised by the news. The citizens thought there was some kind of political power struggle going on. They just went through the tension of the underworld invasion followed by the appearance of a tyrannical God. They couldn't handle any more country-scale trouble. The authorities had to assure the citizens repeatedly that this was the king's wish. There was no foul play.

Thaergood asked if Jack could postpone the coronation to next week. Many native nobles were not in the capital. Only a few could attend tomorrow's ceremony since the usage of the zone portal for natives was limited.

Jack told Thaergood to stick to tomorrow. He wished to put the kingdom matters behind him as soon as possible. Grace went with Thaergood to help with the preparation while Jack returned to his quarter to rest.

On his way, Jack heard the flaps of wings and sensed Eoranth's approach. He went to the balcony to greet the country guardian. Eoranth was whole again. He received the Reconstruct Potion from Tip a few days ago.

"I heard you are giving up your sovereignty," Eoranth said.

"That's true," Jack confirmed. "Do you want to quit being the country guardian? I won't stop you, but I will feel safer with you looking after this place after I leave."

"I will stay. This place isn't so bad," Eoranth replied.

"That's great! I'm happy to hear it," Jack said.

"Come with me. There is something I want to show you," Eoranth said.

Jack was intrigued by the invitation. Eoranth flew away without explaining more. Jack took to the sky, going after the dragon. They continued to rise until the summit of Mount Thenias behind the capital. Eoranth was leading Jack to his current lair, which used to be Broidrereg's.

Jack expected another convention of true dragons inside. Maybe the dragons were celebrating the end of the Calamity caused by Master and the underworld invasion. To his disappointment, the cavern was empty. Eoranth was the only true dragon inside.

Eoranth went to the island at the center of the small lake inside the cavern, where the dragons used to convene during Jack's previous visit. Jack followed him there.

Landing on the island, Jack looked around. Nothing was out of the ordinary.

"What do you wish to show me?" Jack asked.

"Give it time. He is shy to a stranger," Eoranth said.

"He...?"

"Come out now. He is a friend," Eoranth uttered. He was not looking in Jack's direction.

Jack followed Eoranth's gaze and saw a boulder there. He sensed something alive appearing behind the boulder. The mana he sensed from behind the boulder was weak but familiar. He couldn't really tell why it was familiar.

He continued to stare at the boulder without approaching. Not long after, a head peeked out. It was a dragon. A tiny dragon with blue scales.

"That..."

"He is Broidrireg's offspring," Eoranth introduced.

"Offspring?!" Jack was startled by the revelation. Peniel also came out of her hidden dimension to look at the tiny dragon.

"He is so cute...!" The fairy flew over and caused the tiny dragon to hide behind the boulder. Jack soon sensed the dragon's presence disappeared.

"He can also hide inside a hidden dimension?" Peniel said with surprise.

"That is his inherent ability," Eoranth explained. We are also surprised by it. That was a rare ability possessed only by a few. For a true dragon, he is probably the first one to have it."

"No wonder I can't sense him when I enter this cavern," Jack said. He ran to the boulder and didn't see the tiny dragon anywhere.

"You two should give him some space," Eoranth said.

"Sorry." Jack and Peniel moved away from the boulder.

The blue dragon materialized on top of the boulder. After having a good look, Jack did see a lot of Broidrireg's features on this small dragon. They both had sleek blue scales and elongated bodies like those of the eastern dragons.

"Who is his mother?" Jack asked.

"Mother?" Eoranth gave Jack a bewildered expression.

"Broidrireg is his father, right? What about his mother?"

"You must have mistaken the true dragons here with the ones you know from your world's lore," Peniel told Jack. "The true dragon in this world isn't born from the union of two dragons. Broidrireg is his only parent."

"Huh...?"

Peniel sighed at Jack's confused expression. She explained further, "A true dragon doesn't mate. They bear offspring when the mana within them accumulates to the peak state. This happens rarely. Out of a true dragon's long life, this probably happens only three times top, or never at all. That is why there are so few true dragons around."

"Broidrireg passed away without any regrets. He felt he had done all he could. He had high hopes that the ones he left behind, especially you, Jack, could take care of the world," Eoranth said. "Even with the underworld force looming, he didn't doubt you can deal with the calamity. During that peaceful passing, he must have drawn the mana into him. They coalesced into a new dragon egg, which hatched into this tiny one you see here."

"What is his name?" Jack asked while making gestures to invite the tiny dragon over.

"Broidrireg still had some breaths left when he birthed the egg. He told us to name his offspring Darmos."

Jack froze upon hearing the name. A well of emotion rose within him. Broidrireg gave his offspring the name of his disguise. This was as if telling everyone he lived on in this offspring dragon.

When Jack was still, Darmos finally gathered up his courage. He flew toward Jack and circled him. After a while, he perched on Jack's shoulders. His lengthy body wrapped around Jack's neck. It was as if Jack was wearing a living blue scarf.

"He likes you," Eoranth chuckled.

"He must have sensed your connection with his father," Peniel said.

"Hehe, Darmos. Let's get along, shall we," Jack patted the tiny dragon's head. It made a purring sound like a kitten.

They spent the night inside the cavern. Jack had several fish inside his inventory. He cooked them and gave them to Darmos. Like his father, Darmos enjoyed good meals and ate quite a lot. Jack and Peniel played with the little dragon the entire night while Eoranth watched from the side. They slept inside the cavern when they got tired.

Peniel woke Jack up the next morning. When Jack refused to wake up, she splashed him using the water from the lake.

"What the hell, lady! Can't you let me sleep a few more hours?" Jack complained.

"Sleep your head! The coronation, remember? Grace has been sending messages for half an hour now!"

"Oh, shit!" Jack jumped to his feet. "Got to go!" He told Eoranth and Darmos.

Darmos flew chasing after him in response. It clung onto his back as he flew toward the exit. Jack stopped. He looked at Darmos on his back before looking at Eoranth.

"Take care of him," Eoranth said. "Broidrireg would want that."

"Are you sure?" Jack asked.

"I can't tell him to stay even if I want to," Eoranth replied. "A true dragon is independent once they hatch. This stubbornness is one of the reasons why very few true dragons survive their early years. If he decides to follow you, I can't stop him. I just hope you can protect him."

"He can hide inside the hidden dimension. I'm sure he will be fine even if he follows us," Peniel said.

"Okay," Jack said. He patted Darmos again. "Just remember to hide whenever there is danger, okay?"

Darmos nodded, showing that he understood the request.

"Smart kid. All right, let's go. After today, we are free to go on adventuring!" Jack exclaimed. He waved at Eoranth before flying out of the cavern.

When he approached Thereath, he saw crowds had assembled around the palace. The courtyard was filled with people. When those people saw Jack above, they cheered and waved at him.

"You are one rather popular sovereign, aren't you? Are you sure you want to give this all up?" Peniel asked.

"I'm not built for this. I only rule because of necessity. If I continue to do this, I will become unhappy. If I'm unhappy, I might make wrong decisions in my rule. Better leave it to a more qualified person," Jack replied.

Jack waved back at the crowds before entering the palace from the balcony.

Grace had been waiting there. She scolded Jack when he entered, "Where the hell have you— Who is this...?"

Grace stopped her reproach when she noticed Darnos on Jack's shoulder.

"This is Darnos. Darnos, this is Grace," Jack introduced the two.

"Darnos...?"

"He is Broidrireg's offspring."

"Really?!" Grace couldn't hide her surprise.

"We can talk about it later. Is the ceremony ready?" Jack asked.

"Right! We are just waiting for you. Hurry up!" Grace remembered the situation and quickly urged Jack to follow her.

2004 Chapter 2004. The Fate of the World

Jack was brought to a chamber where Thaergood was waiting. Thaergood quickly briefed Jack about the ceremony. Jack's role was pretty short but critical. He simply had to wait beside the throne while Jeanny walked the path marked by the red carpet. After that, he would transfer his sovereignty to Jeanny, and Thaergood would announce the new queen.

Jack went to the throne room with Thaergood after the briefing. There, he saw many familiar faces, both natives and outworlders. The sovereigns of other countries except for Liguritutum were present. They didn't bring many followers except for Four Winds and Nova. The cost of using the zone portal for natives was too expensive, after all.

Most of the comrades who trained with Jack at Chris' secret garden were there. Even David, who was running reconnaissance in Liguritutum, came back for Jeanny. The only ones missing were John, Wilted, Red Death, and Leavemealone. Jack already knew Wilted did not attend this coronation, but he expected to see John there. He sent a message asking for John's whereabouts. John replied by saying he would be late.

Before long, Jeanny came out wearing the heavy armor version of the regal outfit. Though she had better legendary-grade armor, this set of regal outfits still made her look dazzling.

The ceremony proceeded the way Jack remembered when he was coronated, except no Goddess Serenity in this coronation. He thought it was fine. It was good to have the divines to lean on, but it was better if they solved their own matters.

When Thaergood gave the signal, Jack accessed the monarch system and transferred his sovereignty to Jeanny. Thaergood then crowned and announced Jeanny as the fourteenth sovereign and the first queen of Themisphere. Everyone applauded. Thaergood started calling the attending nobles and Themisphere's guild leaders to come forward and swear fealty.

After long hours, the ceremony was finally over. Jack heaved a sigh of relief. He was now a free man.

A feast was held after the coronation. Jeanny and Jack mingled with the crowd at the feast. Everyone congratulated Jeanny. Some familiar with Jack congratulated him for his freedom. They also never stopped asking about the tiny blue dragon perching on Jack's shoulders. Many tried to pat Damos, so much so that Damos decided to hide inside his hidden Dimension.

"Where is Haon?" Jack asked Domon.

"He went with Wong," Domon answered.

"Really? That is a surprise, and you are not jealous about it?" Jack teased.

Domon chuckled while shaking his head.

"They returned to level 30 a few days ago using the Growth Aid Agency's service under the Valley of Tempus. They told me they would travel the world together. Cleo joined them. I propose Haon join them as well."

"I'm surprised he accepted," Jack uttered.

"To be honest, me too," Domon said. "But this is good as well. He should go out and see the world. I have taught him all I could."

Jet came and joined their chat. Not long after, Nova and Jeanny came. Jet remarked, "Wow, mother and daughter each ruling one country. Maybe a dynasty is in the works?"

Domon knocked Jet's head for his remark. "Don't mind him. I believe you two will work your best to secure the prosperity of your nations."

"That is my intention," Jeanny said.

"After this is over, we need to talk about what to do with Liguritutum," Nova said. "With that viper sitting on the throne of a neighboring country, I don't feel safe."

"I agree. We should send force as soon as possible," Four Winds added.

"I can't. You must understand. I have almost no force," Thelgrun said.

"Me as well. I'm sorry," Aldryth said.

They turned to Arlcard, who was silent throughout the conversation. Responding to the gaze, Arlcard said, "I suppose I can lend a hand."

"Hello, everyone!" A voice drew their attention. It was John.

"You are finally here. Everything is over already!" Paytowin scolded.

"It's just a ceremony. There is no need for me to be here," John returned. "On the contrary, I have something I need to show you. Please come with me, everyone. And by everyone, I mean our group from Chris' secret garden. Well, Domon, you can come as well. We are going to use the teleportation chamber."

"Where are we going? We are in the middle of a feast," Steve complained.

"It's just a feast. Jeanny will throw it again for you tomorrow if you want."

"No, I won't," Jeanny said.

"Everyone just shut up and come with me!" John walked out of the hall after saying that.

Everyone looked at each other in confusion. Jack shrugged and went after John. The others followed. Jeanny told Thaergood to take care of the guests before she went out as well.

At the teleportation chamber, John had set the coordinates. Everyone entered the portal and found themselves coming out inside a ruined settlement in Liguritutum.

"What the hell, man? Why do you bring us into the middle of the enemy's territory?" Badass complained.

"Don't worry. Ronald's hold on this country is tenuous at best. Most of his force gathered at Dritzuut. We won't find opposition here," John explained.

"He is right," David confirmed. His guild members had roamed this country for a few days. The situation was indeed as John described.

"Why are we here?" Four Winds asked.

"Follow me," John said and summoned his steed. He rode the kelpie without explaining further. The others had no choice but to follow him.

After riding for some time, John stopped. There was nothing around the place but desolate land with rocks and hills.

"This place is close to where the World Throne used to be," David stated.

"There is a reason for that. That reason is why we are here," John unsummoned his kelpie and walked to a cliff wall. He touched a spot in the wall, and a large rune diagram appeared. The rune diagram flared before the wall split and revealed a cave.

Everyone threw John a questioning glance, but he simply gestured for them to follow him into the cave. The group entered. As they ventured deeper, they were surprised to find the interior of the cave changed drastically. The uneven and rocky wall made way for flat plaster walls. They even saw air duct installation, lighting, and electrical wires. The last time they saw such modern apparatuses was in the past world.

"What the hell...?" Jet remarked at the sight.

"Hey! I didn't bring you people here for sightseeing!" John called from ahead. The others slowed down due to the view.

After walking a few more minutes, the man-made tunnel opened to a cavern. At the center of this cavern was a large but strange machine. The machine seemed inactive. Chris, Wilted, and Linda were standing near this machine. The three turned to the group and greeted them with a nod.

John went over and stood next to the machine.

"This is what you bring us here to see?" Jack asked.

"This can't be what I think it is, right...?" Jeanny asked.

"Can you guess what this is?" John asked in return.

"Master's world-changing machine?" Spring Crown guessed.

John nodded.

"How do you find out where Master hides this thing?" Four Winds asked.

"He told me himself," John answered with a shrug followed by a mischievous smile. "I went and asked Honuren to let me spend some time with Master. Master spelled everything out after I used the Interrogate ability from my Staff of Mind Breaker."

"You truly like that staff, huh," Paytowin remarked.

"You bet I do!" John replied. "Anyway, he told me this thing has the juice to work one more time. All one needs to do is input the passcode and push this button."

John pointed at a large red button on one side of the machine.

"I have already inputted the passcode. If you want this machine to work, you only need to press this button."

"What will happen if we push the button?" Jet asked.

"What do you think, genius?" John asked back with a mocking tone.

"If you activate this machine, it will revert everything," Wilted answered. "It will undo the world's transformation. We will return to our past world."

"Master probably keeps this machine as a last fail-safe," Linda said. "If everything is lost or if he doesn't find this world suitable for his purpose, maybe he plans to turn everything back and look for other options."

"Well, thank goodness we didn't let him free after he was beaten back to level 1," Joe said. "He would surely come here and activate this machine if that was the case."

"So, what are we doing here exactly?" Steve asked. "Why are we not destroying this machine yet?"

"That is exactly why we are here. To decide what we are going to do with this machine," John replied. "Are we to destroy this machine, keep it just in case we need it, or do we push the red button?"

"You can't be seriously thinking about returning to the old world, can you?" Steve asked.

"If you go out and talk to the players in the capital, especially those who choose not to venture out into the wilderness, you will learn that a lot of them yearn to return to our past world. They are not used to the game system. For them to freely roam the wilderness, they must learn to slay monsters. They have a problem adapting to this lifestyle. If it is left to me, I will destroy this machine without hesitation, but this concerns the fate of the entire world. It is too heavy for me to make the choice."

"I'm surprised to hear that coming out of your mouth," Paytowin said.

"All right. I'll come clean. It's my mother who talked me out of destroying this machine the minute I laid eyes on it," John said. "We called Chris and Wilted and told them about this machine. After a discussion, we decided to call you here. The four of us agree that only one person has the most right to decide what to do with this machine."

"Jack, we will abide by your decision," Wilted said. "You will decide the fate of the world."

2005 Final Chapter. New Adventure

"Huh...? What? Why me?" Jack asked.

"I'm confident everyone here agrees that if it's not for you, we will now be living under Master's tyranny," John answered. "This button is designed to be pushed by a single person. So, only one person is needed to decide the fate of this world. You, my friend, are the one with the most justification to bear that privilege."

"It's more of a burden than a privilege if you ask me," Jack protested. "We defeated Master by working together. It's not my own merit."

"But you pulled the most weight," Four Winds put his hand on Jack's shoulder. "If it is you, I won't resent whichever option you take. Destroy the machine or bring us back to the old world. I will accept your decision."

The others nodded, expressing that they agreed with Four Winds' sentiment.

"This is your world. You decide about it," Domon told Jack. "We old geezers only have a few years left. It doesn't matter which world we spent the rest of our days."

"Speak for yourself. I still have at least a hundred years left in me," Jet said.

Grace came to Jack's side and squeezed his hand, encouraging him.

Jack turned to Chris and asked, "What about you? You are a native of this world. If I press the red button, you will cease to exist."

Chris shrugged. "I've died. What I now have is a second chance. Even if it is only a short two years, I'm already happy with this extra time and the chance to experience this world I designed."

Jack looked around. Everyone showed an expression that they believed in him and would follow whatever decision he made.

He sighed. "All right."

He turned to face the machine. He closed his eyes. All the memories of his life in the past world flashed before him, followed by the two years in this new world.

He couldn't deny that although he preferred this new world, the old world had its charms. He had many good memories of the old world. He bet a lot of people, as John mentioned, wished they could return to how it was. If he destroyed this machine, he would also destroy that opportunity.

Not to mention, if he pressed the red button, John and Linda didn't need to go around the worlds looking for Jonn. That search might go on for years for all he knew. There was even a chance they might never find him. If he returned everything to the old world, they didn't need to go through that trouble. It was the same with many people who were still missing the people they loved. These people didn't know the ones they were looking for were in another world. If he pressed the red button, he would reunite these people.

It was a heavy choice to make. For an instant, he felt it was unfair everyone pushed this responsibility onto him, but then he remembered when he was a king. He made a lot of decisions that concerned a lot of people. He never liked that feeling. That's why he chose to resign from being a sovereign. Yet, he was also not a person who shirked when such a responsibility was placed on him.

He opened his eyes. He turned to his right and saw Peniel looking back at him. Like the others, the fairy trusted his decision. She didn't try to persuade him to make one decision over another. He turned to the left and saw Damos silently gazing at him.

He looked back at the machine and chuckled. He was no longer a sovereign. The time of heavily thinking about something had passed. He was back to a simple adventurer who enjoyed freedom. There was no need to overthink this!

Storm Breaker appeared in his hand. With one quick slash, a thin black light sliced through the machine. He was performing the Void-tearing Slash with form manipulation. The machine let out a banging sound and a hiss. A thin gap was visible in the middle of the machine, splitting it in two. Smoke and Sparks came out of this gap. The machine was broken.

No one was surprised about Jack's decision. Neither did they comment about it. Everyone simply started walking toward the exit.

"So, you and your mother will be leaving today?" Jack asked John.

"Yes, and we got extra baggage with us," John answered.

"It's not cool referring to someone as extra baggage," Spring Crown protested.

"You are going with them?" Jack asked Spring Crown.

"Of course! Didn't I mention I have a friend I can't find in this world?"

"How did you find out that John will be traveling between worlds?"

"I told him," Jeanny said.

"As any good friend will. Shame on you, Jack! Shame on you!" Spring Crown said.

"What is this about traveling between worlds?" Four Winds asked.

Before Jack could say anything, Chris yelled, "I will only let three people go. No more extra! I mean it!"

Jack told Four Winds and everyone there about the existence of the server worlds.

"Interesting...", Four Winds muttered.

"You can be interested in it all you want. I'm not opening the pathway for more people!" Chris stressed it again.

"There are still a lot of matters that need my attention," Four Winds said. "Maybe once Verremor is more stable, I will give these other worlds a look."

"Hey! Did you hear what I said?" Chris yelled.

Four Winds didn't respond. Chris shook his head and forgot about the orc. He turned to Jack, "Wilted said you plan to adventure around this world."

"That's the plan," Jack confirmed. "I had only ever done true adventuring in Themisphere. Even that was only partial. As for the other countries, I went from one place to another most of the time due to necessity. I never had the chance to roam around. I can finally do that now."

"With your level and ability, I doubt anything in this continent is a challenge to you, but I have a place where you might still feel the thrill of danger."

"Really?"

"Yes. If you venture out to the outer sea and go NorthEast, you will chance upon another continent. Not as big as the one we are in right now. It's around one-third in size, but the monsters roaming that place are all top notches."

"There is another continent?" Wilted turned to Chris. "I thought we only designed one continent for this world."

"I developed another in secret. I plan to have it as the first DLC. Then, Apollyon happened. So, I just rushed it and secretly implemented it into the system. I even added another main race in that continent."

"Another main race?" Jack's ears perked up hearing that.

"Yes. The new continent is not just filled with monsters. You will find a city there. But I must warn you, the race living inside that city is not so friendly to outsiders. You will have a hard time convincing them to let you enter. Not impossible, but it will be a chore."

"What race is there?" Wilted asked.

"True angel," Chris replied.

"Like our guild hero, Thanael?" Jeanny asked.

"You have a guild hero with the angel race? Impressive," Chris remarked. "Well, then you know what the race looks like. The theme I designed for the DLC is paradise. The entire continent is floating above the sea. So, if you are going by ship, you must leave the ship behind. Not to mention crossing the outer sea by ship is next to impossible."

"I see, that's why you build that thing. You want to give it to Jack," Wilted said.

"Give what to me?" Jack asked.

"You will see it once we are out of this cave," Wilted answered.

"See wha—Holy crap...," Jack uttered. They were already close to the exit. When they came out, a large structure was floating above the cave entrance.

"This... It's the mobile fortress!" Jack exclaimed. "But... floating."

"I didn't see this when we entered the cave," Jet said.

"It was hidden above the clouds," Chris said. "I sent the command for it to descend when we are walking out."

08:48

"This... This is for me?" Jack said as he flew up to check the floating mobile fortress. "It looks exactly like my old... Hey! It is my old mobile fortress! There is a rune tree inside there!"

Everyone flew after him and entered the mobile fortress' courtyard.

"It is indeed your mobile fortress," Chris confirmed. "I came to the wreckage after everyone left the battlefield. I used a tool to reconstruct the destroyed fortress. The same goes for the rune tree. I also upgraded it to its final form, the sky fortress."

"How many God-defying tools do you have with you?" Jet asked, to which Chris answered with a chuckle.

"This sky fortress is no longer linked to the Themisphere system," Chris informed. "It becomes my property after I reconstruct it. I now transfer that property to you."

A holographic box appeared in front of Jack, asking him if he would accept the ownership of this sky fortress.

"Thank you!" Jack told Chris as he clicked the Accept option.

"You can use your status window to input destination coordinates. The sky fortress will automatically move in that direction. I have also messaged you the coordinates of the True Angel's city. You just follow those coordinates, and you will reach the second continent."

"Excellent. Thank you very much!" Jack exclaimed.

"No, I should be thanking you. This world might be the creation of Wilted and me... And Apollyon too, I guess, but you are its savior. Take it as my thank-you-gift."

They chatted for a while longer while touring around the sky fortress. It was similar to the old mobile fortress except for a few upgrades. Jack again placed the Chalice of Blood inside the keep. This artifact magically returned to his inventory when the mobile fortress was destroyed. He used it again to bind the past Themisphere kings.

His archmage disguise was still wearing the regal outfits. Even though he was no longer a sovereign, he was registered as the thirteenth Themisphere King. If Jeanny didn't demand the regal outfit back, his disguise could continue to wear them.

"Wow! You told us you are free to see the world after you resign. I never expect you to bring us with you," Thebalder said after getting summoned.

"Thank you for remembering us, Young King," Theridan said.

"Hehe, I don't want this huge fortress to feel so empty," Jack said. He offered the others to join his adventure, but everyone had their own things to do. Only Grace came with him.

Everyone was ready to leave. They hovered outside the fortress' battlement.

"So, I guess this is a goodbye. I will miss you all," Jack said.

"We will miss you too," Jeanny returned.

"Good luck," Paytowin said.

"Afei, stay safe and be good to Grace," Domon said.

"When you return, Domon and I want to see a few little ones," Jet uttered. Grace's cheek turned red hearing that. Domon slapped Jet's arm for his remark while Paytowin performed a low-five with Jet.

"I hope you find your brother," Jack said to John.

"I will, don't worry. You take care of yourself," John returned.

Everyone said their farewell. After they were done, Jack input the coordinates into the status window. The sky fortress started moving.

Jack pointed his finger into the horizon.

"Let's go! It's time for a new adventure...!!!"

~ FIN ~

Thank you, everyone!

It has been a long three years... Well, four years for me. I started writing Second World around a year before I started publishing the first chapter. There was a sense of surrealism when I wrote the last word in this last chapter. I will miss Jack and the others. But then again, this book is always meant to end this way. Perhaps one day, I might revisit this world. Maybe. I don't know. I have a lot of ideas for other stories, but I don't think I will ever put them all down in writing in my lifetime. For now, I'm going to focus on my second book.

About Second World, I need your help. If you've read it until this point, I'm pretty sure you enjoy it, right? I mean, there is no way someone goes through hundreds of thousands of words if they don't enjoy the story, is there? If you don't, and you still torture yourself to read through it all. I hate to tell you, but there is something seriously wrong with you. You should probably get a thorough medical check-up. But, of course, I don't believe there is. For you to reach this final chapter, I'm pretty sure it's because you enjoy the story. For that, I thank you again! Both for the time you spent reading this story and for your *ahem* resources.

Now, if you don't mind helping me further, please leave a review with five stars. Yes, that's right, five stars! Goddmanit! God knows I need it. And, if it is not too much trouble, please let your friends know about this book on your social media, so it can get more readers. It will be much appreciated!

If you enjoy my work, I invite you to read my second book, Rise of the Demon General. This book is very different from Second World, considering the MC is a villain, and the story is rather dark. But if you enjoy the pace and action of Second World, I'm confident this book will entertain you as well.

However, I will take a one-month break first. I will resume publishing Rise of the Demon General in September. I hope you can lend me your support again.

As ever, thank you for reading...!!!

UnrivaledArcaner