

# Seyah

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*An ancient evil once again threatens the land...*

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# 1 - Prologue: The Beginning of the New Continent

Seyah

Prologue: The Beginning of the New Continent

In the year 531, on a newly discovered continent, in the South Division of the ocean Infarus, a city was built by a wealthy man named Astra Seyah. He named the city Seyah, after himself, and even gave the title of the ruler of the city "the Masterseyah." Soon, his city grew in population, and within the span of ninety-six years, became just as prosperous as the cities of the Old Continents. Many new cities have formed, and the New Continent (now officially named Astra after the man who discovered it) is widely populated with many cities that give home to many of the different civilizations.

It was not long, however, before an evil force known as the Juu-Go-Hodo made an attempt to take over the continent. With the aid of many of the most wicked creatures on the planet, the Juu-Go-Hodo enslaved the people of the continent, forcing them into poverty and distress. However, just as the evil had seemed to appear suddenly, so a hero also arose from seemingly nowhere to combat this malicious force. The Hero succeeded in defeating the Juu-Go-Hodo, and it was banished to the Realm of Darkness...

## 2 - Chapter 1: Calling and Lunch

### Chapter 1: Calling and Lunch

Another dragon soared through the dark, cloud covered sky. No one bothered paying attention to the dragons, or the dark sky anymore. It had been dark for so long, people were just used to it. As for the dragons, seeing them flying over Seyah was nothing new anymore either. Ever since the Masterseyah, named Joonasu, married Dragonlady (the Seyan name for the princess of the Dragons), peace was between Dragons and man. However, lately, the dragons had been flying to and from the palace several times a day. Some said they were relaying messages from the palace to some other city. Where they were headed, no one knew, though. The Continent of the Dragons was located to the north of Seyah, while the dragons often flew in a more easterly direction (to the citizens there were no known civilizations in the near east).

Another, odd change was the way Joonasu ruled the city. At first, he was very outgoing, often taking walks to meet with the people and speak with them. Everyone loved him, that is until the skies grew dark. After that day, he had never left the palace, and many restricting laws were passed. Soldiers patrolled the streets, and anyone who so much as breathed a foul thought against the soldiers or the regime were imprisoned.

There was one group of young, rebellious teenagers who often got together to pull off risky feats such as plastering crude messages onto walls, and bombarding the guardsmen with various objects. Eeron, one of the group was the one who most often put together these schemes of defiance. He was tall, smart, and often did or said whatever he felt like, regardless of the risk. His brother, Joshu, was much like Eeron in personality, but other than that, no one could tell they were related. Hanna and Hezaa were twin sisters, both relatively short in comparison to others, and both also had long black hair. The only difference was their personalities. Hanna was more quiet and "laid back" while Hezaa was much more hyper and talkative. Riiana also contributed much to the rebelliousness of the gang. Many found her to be naturally defiant to most authority, which was why she fit in so well with the gang. Andoryuu, was the youngest and quietest of the lot, often questioning the morality of their actions, but never backing down for fear of being left behind.

One day, they were hanging out in a small alley when a man mounted on a red dragon landed before them. He was clad in fine garments, and had the appearance of a general. When he spoke to them, his voice echoed with great authority, "I have been assigned to the task of escorting you lot to the palace to speak with the Great Masterseyah and Dragonlady. If you will, follow me to the palace." The others looked at each other in surprise. "Have we finally been caught?" Hanna questioned herself quietly. The rider apparently sensed their confusion and reassured them that they were not in any kind of trouble. They finally agreed to go with him, and he took off on his dragon, flying just low enough for them to keep him in their sights and follow. When they reached the palace, the doors seemed to open automatically. "This is where I depart. You will be led to the throne room by one of the servants. Farewell." With that, he turned, and flew off into the distance. A servant greeted them upon entrance, and quickly guided them to the throne room. "Holy crap, this place is huge!" Joshu gawked as they stared around the room. It was an enormous rectangular room with red and gold colored carpets and drapes. At the far end of the room sat Joonasu and Dragonlady. Standing beside them was a tall, stern man holding a large staff with a long, curved blade at the end. Dragonlady got up from her seat and greeted them. "Welcome to our palace. We have a very important matter to discuss, but first, I believe it is time for lunch."

Masterseyah raised from his seat, and joined Dragonlady as they strolled down the hall. "Please, follow us," Dragonlady turned and said. The gang were now more confused then ever, but decided they could not refuse a free meal.

### 3 - Chapter 2: Reasons

#### Chapter 2: Reasons

As they walked through the enourmas palace halls, they each wondered to themselves what the reason was for their being there. They were lead into another large rectangular room, simalarly decorated as the throneroom. However, going down the center of it was an extensive table covered with just about every type of food one could imagine. Meats, vegetables, fruits, it was all there on the table. The Masterseyah and Dragonlady occupied the ornate chairs at the end of the table. The stern man, whom the gang figured was a body guard, took the seat next them, while the kids sat down in the less fancy chairs down one side of the table. Since Joonasu and Dragonlady began eating quietly, so did the gang. They didn't speak a word, except maybe to ask for something out of reach.

Although still quite confused, they dared not ask why they were brought here yet, but continued to enjoy the "feast" while it lasted. Andoryuu, notorious for spacing out, started staring at his clear glass of water. Before he could delve too deep into his thoughts, however, he noticed the water rippling slightly. He wondered what could be causing it to do so, because there was no stirring in the air. Just then, a shrill roar filled the hall, and a mighty red dragon burst through the great wooden doors. All, except the Masterseyah, Dragonlady, and bodyguard, jumped out of their seats in great shock. The dragon lunged at them, but they scattered and it crashed into the table. Joshu quickly grabbed a pie that just barely managed to stay in one piece. He threw it at the dragon's eye as hard as he could, and it splattered across it's face. The dragon became distracted, and in a blind rage began randomly spewing fire from it's mouth. Eeron saw this moment as an opportunity; leaped onto the dragon's lower back, and made his way onto the dragons shoulders. The dragon didn't have horns, but instead glittering white feathers. He decided to wonder about this later, and gripped his hands tightly around the dragon's feathers. He yanked hard on them and the dragon gave a roar of pain. Finally, after riding the dragon as if it were a bucking bronco, Eeron succeded in calming it. The dragon relaxed and fell silent as Dragonlady stood clapping. Masterseyah also stood and congratulated them, "You have done well. You are all still alive, and have thus passed this test." Riiana glared at him, "'This test?' You mean this was only a test? But for what?" Various servants entered the room to clean up the mess, while Joonasu motioned for them to follow him. They were again lead to another room full of comfortable seats in which they sat. Joonasu spoke to them, and told them the story of the Juu-Go-Hodo. He told them of how it had once threatened the land, but a mysterious hero had sealed it away.

"Lemme guess," Hezza spoke up, "This 'Juu-Go-Hodo' is back, and is ready wreak some vengance?" "That is correct," replied Dragonlady, "And we have chosen you to stop it." They all looked at eachother for a moment, and Hanna exclaimed, "Why us?! We're just a bunch of kids!" The rest of the group nodded in agreement. "I understand you aren't adults yet, but we have been watching you all, and we admire your stealth, and you each have potential to become great warriors." He rose from his seat, as did the bodygaurd. Joonasu pointed to him and said, "This is Ryoushi Deivisu. You may call him Mentor. He will be training you to further your skills. You'll need them if you are to overcome the feirce trials that lay ahead." Mentor nodded and added, "It is late. You must all go to your rooms and rest, for tommorow, you will begin a month long training program led by me. Laziness will not be tolerated, so you better be up bright and early. With that, I bid you all goodnight." He made a slight bow, and headed out the door. Various servants showed the others to their rooms as well. Anxious though they were, getting a good

night's sleep was not difficult. The beds were softer than feathers, and the sounds of the crickets through the windows was as a sweet lullaby. They needed this sleep too, for the next day would begin a tiresome cycle of training that would soon wear them all to no end.

## 4 - Chapter 3: Catch

### Chapter 3: Catch

As the dawn approached, they were all suddenly awakened by none other than Mentor himself. He barged into each of their rooms and shook them till they finally woke up. The gang got dressed and made their way lazily to the dining room for breakfast. Surprisingly, it had been cleaned to point that it looked as if it were brand new. They enjoyed their eggs and toast thoroughly, but had little time to get seconds. Mentor was eager to get them to start their training early. Pretty soon, he had them marching out to the court yard, standing next to each other in a straight line, and introducing themselves. After each had said their name, Mentor got right down to business.

"Today is the first test out of four that you all will be facing. This test relies mainly on speed, and agility." Andoryuu suddenly felt uncomfortable. Out of the gang, he was probably the least athletic. He hoped no one would be sent away if they weren't the one to pass the test. Riiana was curious as to what they were going to be doing there in there in the court yard, for there were no obstacles of any kind. "What exactly are we going to be doing? Running around in circles?" she questioned. Mentor laughed and replied, "Of course not! What good is that going to do for you? You're going to be catching one of the fastest animals in the land," he paused and counted them, "And with so many of you, I'm sure you will have no problem." he added sarcastically.

He clapped his hands, and out came a servant with a small cage, covered with a red veil. They all crowded around the cage pondering what creature could be in it. Mentor placed his hand on the veil, ready to remove it. "What you are about to see is considered one of the fastest creatures alive. It is small, and very hard to spot in it's natural habitat in the southern icelands." He finally removed the cover, and much to the group's surprise, the animal simply looked like a white rabbit.

Eeron laughed, "That's it? I've seen things ten times quicker than a rabbit!" Mentor grinned, "Oh, don't be deceived by it's appearances. This is no ordinary rabbit. The white ice rabbit can reach speeds much greater than other rabbits. I assure you, if you underestimate it, you won't be even close to touching it for awhile." He opened up the cage, and the creature slowly crawled out, as if to make sure everything was safe. Hanna bent down to pet it. "Aww, it's so cute, and adorable!" She said. But before she could touch it, it sped off like nothing they'd ever seen.

Again, Mentor laughed, "I told you not to underestimate it. You could've had it right then and there, and we all could've spent the rest of the day relaxing!" Joshu looked frustrated, "You mean all we had to do was grab it as soon as it came out of the cage, and that was it?!"

"Yup."

"Dangit! Well, now we lost it." moaned Joshu. Yet again, Mentor laughed. He seemed very amused by the bunch. "Don't worry, it has no way of escaping the courtyard. It's around here somewhere," he yawned, "While you guys are out here, I'm going to be inside enjoying the performance of the minstrels." With that, he walked away into the palace.

The gang looked at each other, wondering how to catch it. "We could just flush it out, and have a couple of us grab when it comes out from behind one of the bushes." was Hezza's solution. They saw no better way, and proceeded to finding just which bush it was hiding in. After a good deal of searching, they finally came a to a small bush they had yet to check, and were positive it was there. They began to whisper so as not to scare the creature into running away again, "Ok, so here's how we're gonna do this," said Riiana, "One of us will scare the rabbit out, while the rest of us will crowd around the bush and

make sure it doesn't get away." Eeron volunteered to flush it out, so the others gathered in a circle around the bit of shrubbery. He grabbed a stick and promptly began poking at the shrub. Just as planned, the rabbit darted out of its hiding spot and right into Andoryuu. It toppled him over, but he managed to grab just before it could get any further. Grass stained, and somewhat weary, they presented the white ice rabbit to Mentor. He congratulated them, and permitted them all to a nice hot bath, and delicious supper. After they had all bathed, they gathered round the dining table. They noticed the the Masterseyah, and Dragonlady were absent. "Where did they go?" inquired Riiana. Mentor said that sometimes the two would leave on short trips. He himself wasn't quite sure where it was they went, but he did assure the gang that they always returned soon after their leaving. At the end of the day, they bid each other good night and went to their beds. They each fell asleep dreaming of what ridiculous task would be their second test in the morning...



## 5 - Chapter 4: Chocobo

### Chapter 4: Chocobo

Everyone was startled when they woke up, not because anything in their rooms was different than before, but because Mentor hadn't burst in to wake them at the crack of dawn. Eventually they were all gathered in the dining room. There was breakfast set out on the table, but neither the rulers, nor Mentor were there. There weren't plates for them either. Confused, the group sat down to eat while discussing what was going on.

"So where do you think they all went?" Andoryuu asked.

"I dunno, but it must've been important for all three of them to leave without telling us. There aren't even any servants around." Hanna responded after swallowing some toast. They decided to look around the palace to see if they could find any hint of what might've happened. Eventually, they came across a room that looked different from the others. Rather than ornate furniture, there was just a small orb on a pedestal in the center of the room. Something about this orb intrigued them. Slowly, they moved closer to it. As they did, a dark force seemed to fill the air. They felt strange, but good at the same time. They felt as if they possessed great, immeasurable power, while an even mightier force emanated from the black crystal ball. They wanted this energy. They would kill each other over this power. Suddenly, a familiar voice broke them from their dark trance.

It was Joonasu. He walked into the room and put a thick cloth over the orb, "You lot aren't supposed to be in here. This door was supposed to be locked." He hurried them out and warned them, "That ball is a dark relic. You are never to speak of it, or even think of it again. Do you understand?" A hint of anger was in his voice, but he tried to keep his calm. The group nodded in obedience, but Eeron asked, "If it's so evil, why do you have it here in the first place? And where was everybody this morning?" Joonasu responded, "We have it so as to keep it from falling into the wrong hands. As for your other question, me and Dragonlady were," he hesitated for a moment, "taking a walk. Mentor was getting ready for your next test. I suggest you go see him out in the courtyard." They immediately headed for the courtyard, glad for their chance to escape the presence of the Masterseyah.

They found Mentor strapping on some gloves in the courtyard. Next to him were a few large bird-like creatures. "These are called chocobos. They are fast, agile creatures found only in Lanif Ysatnaf. Sometime during your journey, you may have to ride one of these, so it's important that you know how." He hopped on a cream colored one, and said, "If any of you have ever ridden horses, you'll know how to mount these things. Go ahead and do so." They each mounted a chocobo and grabbed the reigns. He then instructed them in how to get their chocobos to move, and how to steer and stop them. After that, he led them to a mini-obstacle course where they rode their chocobos around and over various objects such as logs or pits. The group managed to pass through the course fairly easily, however, Riiana's bird tripped over a rather large stone she had overlooked. The bird fell to the ground with a loud squawk and started madly flapping its wings, while Riiana hit the ground face first. Despite her mildly bleeding nose, she determinedly helped her panicking chocobo up and finished the course.

Mentor congratulated them, especially Riiana for her determination, and wished them a good night, saying they will need all the rest they can get for the next day's test. As they headed back to their rooms, they discussed how boring the chocobo riding seemed to be compared to what they had imagined. "I sure hope tomorrow is a lot more interesting, because today was a waste. I mean, come on, riding

chocobos?! When do we get our weapons?" Joshu complained.

"Perhaps that will be tomorrow? That is our third test out of four after all." said Hezza.

"Yeah, and he was giving us something easy today, so we wouldn't be exhausted tomorrow!" Andoryuu concurred.

"That better be the case, because anymore of this boring stuff, and I'm outta here." Eeron said. With that, they bid each other goodnight, and headed for their beds, hopeful tomorrow would bring more excitement.