



Prologue

(I)

The Fundamentals in Shinayu

From a distance, the clash of blades could be heard. The sound became louder each time and rang out faster and faster with increasing intensity. A relentless battle was obviously taking place. Judging by the speed of the swinging swords and the focused, battle-hardened look in their eyes, this relentless battle had to be a matter of life and death. A human and a Lewa swung their swords as if they had nothing to lose. Their races were, since the beginning of the great battle of all five dimensions, the greatest enemies.

For decades, all races from all dimensions fought for the domination of all dimensions with the primary goal to seize the essential energy source sustainably. The energy sources produced energy points that all characters in Shinayu needed to survive. Along with food and oxygen, it was an indispensable means of survival. The energy sources existed for centuries in all five dimensions and produced energy points, which the characters regularly absorbed by going to the energy source and touching the crystal-shaped, brightly radiating energy source with your open palm. The palm was the preferred method for the human race, though each character race has its own methods of receiving energy points. All dimensions had exactly one energy source in the form of a crystal. It looks the same in all dimensions except that it emits a different color in each dimension. The impetus for the great battle in Shinayu was the scarcity of resources that

existed in the Wasteland, Mountain and Plain dimensions. The character races had noticed that only limited energy points were being produced. No character race in the three dimensions was able to produce energy points directly themselves or have the energy source continue to produce energy points. They did not know how to solve the problem for a long time when each of the three dimensions discovered the Shinayu portal in different ways.

The fight went to the next round. The sword technique of the Lewa and the human was impeccable. You could tell right away that they were both experienced warriors. Not only were they experienced warriors, they were even considered among the best warriors of their races. While the fight was fairly even, the Lewa's magical flame-burning sword flew out of his hand and was thrown in the human's direction by kinetics. All races in Shinayu had special abilities that only their character race could perform. One special ability of the Lewas was that they could control their weapon using kinetic energy without touching it. In this case, it was the flame-burning sword. At this point it is worth mentioning that the sword of any Lewa was extremely dangerous for opponents. Once injured by it, the wound could not be healed. It was a combination of magical and physical injury. The human warrior fought the sword, while the lewa controlled the sword from a distance. From a distance, several volcanoes fired lava into the air, while at the same time avalanches erupted on the opposite side. With slow but

graceful steps, the lewa approached the human as the swords continued to clash. The lewa had approached close enough after a few seconds and went for the physical blow, when suddenly the human made a sideways leap towards the lewa, stretching the sword ahead. In doing so, it injured the lewa with a cut to the ribs. The Lewa was not much affected by this injury but decided to stop controlling the sword kinetically. He took the sword in his hands to strengthen his own protection. The Lewa's strategy had failed. They continued to fight in the conventional way with their swords.

Humans were considered to be one of the most talented and clever warrior races regardless of which dimension they came from. However, not many of them existed anymore. Many humans had died in the great battles of the dimensions, despite being talented warriors and mages. The reasons for the large number of casualties were very different. Either their opponents had simply been more talented in battles, of which there were few character races, or they had been lured into ambushes and thus lost their advantage. In particular, people who are of the warrior type lost a lot of their lives against the character races from the Plains/Desert dimension and Wasteland/Swamp dimension. At that time, the character races from both dimensions had used their advantage against the warriors from the Mountain dimension very well and killed most of them in three major battles. When they left their lives, it had caused a great wave of rivalry. Before, it was only about obtaining

the energy source, but for all the character races of the Mountain Dimension, it became a personal matter. The worst battle for them had been the great battle against the character races of the Wasteland Dimension. The tragic loss of many people here was based on the fact that the undead feigned a peace agreement. They wanted to join forces with the people from the Mountain dimension to jointly take the Underworld dimension and thus divide the energy source among themselves. This betrayal marked the humans forever, as it was tragically and insidiously planned and executed by the undead. It remained as one of the greatest tragedies in the memory of the character races of the Mountain Dimension. At the same time, this tragedy had been the battle cry for all races to join forces and fight together against all dimensions from that moment on. Among these races were still dwarves, dragons, trolls and a few humans. An act of revenge was planned and so the battle between the Mountain Dimension and Wasteland Dimension had begun.

The fight between the leva and the human had meanwhile acquired a fistfight component. Between the blows of the swords, there were repeated fist blows to the body. The rapid speed of the sword blows had increased further. Despite the Lewa's injury, he was able to parry each of the human's blows. Fast body movements and the sword technique determined the fight. The fight lasted over an hour and both felt their energy dwindle. When one took a step back, they stopped the fight. They

faced each other exhausted and took a short breath. The lewa didn't hesitate long and attacked again. You could see it in his eyes how confident the Lewa was. He had already killed many people and was determined that this would not be his last fight. But none of his fights had lasted an hour yet. When a fight lasted that long, it was usually no longer a matter of sword technique or physical condition. It was especially a matter of keeping a cool head and waiting patiently for the opponent's weak point. Cleverness then came to the fore. Both were experienced enough to know that themselves. Both pressed their swords against each other and the human suddenly grabbed the Lewa's wrist with one hand. He pulled him towards him by the wrist and managed to injure the lewa with a stab to the chest. This injury was worse than the crack on the rib and would definitely affect the rest of the fight. Whatever the outcome of the fight was, one race was about to lose one of its most talented warriors.

The Lewas were generally a quiet race from the underworld dimension. They possessed two curved horns on the sides of their heads. They communicated more with eye and body movements than with verbal language. They lived very secluded in several villages and focused on their martial arts. Confrontations rarely occurred, but when they did, it always ended in a fight to the death. If one crossed a line with them, they followed a zero-tolerance policy. This behavior stemmed from both their instinctive behavior, which was genetically

predisposed in Lewas, and their strong sense of pride. In addition, they were raised in a way that the reputation of each individual has great relevance to the acceptance of the respective village people. If one was accepted by a people, one belonged to the family and was thus part of the pride of each member of that family. Self-esteem, respect and reputation was omnipresent in every people of Lewas. When it came to a fight, the fight was organized by the head of the underworld dimension. Usually this involved Lewas who came from different villages. When it came to a confrontation between two Lewas, as expected, there was a fight and only one survived. The importance of the reputation for the Lewas was made very obvious after the fight and publicly displayed by cutting off the head of the corpse. The severed head was tied to a clearly visible tree with the following inscription on the forehead: "whoever dares to challenge me will meet the same fate - Oni" Oni had been the name of the Lewa who had won the fight.

Back to the fight between the lewa and the human. The injured Lewa managed to dodge a dangerous sword blow with a jump. While both got more and more tired, both warriors thought about the relevance of the fight. They did not think about their own lives, but focused much more on protecting their own people and obtaining the energy source. They approached each other gracefully and confidently. With swords ahead, the battle continued. It seemed like it was getting very close to the end of the fight. The breathing of both of them became

more and more difficult and intense. Due to the length of the fight and the superior skills of both warriors, the outcome of the fight was decided by endurance. They were getting faster and faster with the sword strokes as abruptly the lewa took a step forward, he somehow managed to grab the human's left wrist in a flash of speed. He held the wrist tightly which irritated the human for a second. The human felt the magic blade pierce through his stomach. The sword was pulled out without hesitation as if from the body and with a turn of the lewa's body he gained momentum to cut off the head with enough force. The head bounced on the ground a few times before coming to a stop. The lewa walked towards the severed head, relaxed and relieved. He picked up the head and placed it upright on a small rock nearby. He wrote on the forehead, "you humans should surrender to the Lewas and volunteer the power source to us, otherwise your fate will be the same." With a swollen chest, the Lewa left the dimension through the Shinayu Gate.

There were five dimensions in total. Each of these dimensions had a planet with an associated and unique landscape. All inhabitants of a dimension felt comfortable in their familiar environment. All character races had in their own way an emotional bond to their planet. The fear of losing their home planet led to the unleashing of unimagined power when fighting battles in their own dimension. This home planet advantage affected each character race differently. Mages received

increased mana regeneration, allowed them to use their magical abilities more frequently at shorter intervals. Warrior-type character races went into battle with increased motivation when it takes place in their own environment. They fell into a kind of trance state and their will to win increases. The effects were shown by their increased physical striking power and slightly increased agility. Agility reflected the speed of body movements during a fight of characters. For mystical creatures, home advantage had a very different effect. This depended on the individual and could show up in any way.

In Shinayu there existed many types of mythical creatures. Some of them were well-known mythical creatures while others were newly introduced in Shinayu as first-time creatures. Their fighting style could be very different from each type of creature. Some stood out with their high agility, while other creatures stood out with their high steadfastness. In a few cases, creatures had extremely destructive magical abilities, similar to human mages. All the different creature types and thus character races that existed in Shinayu were highlighted in all parts, but regardless of how powerful a character race was, each character race had its strengths and weaknesses. Some races in the dimensions had formed strong alliances. They lived closely and peacefully with each other for centuries. Other character races lived in a state of war and are in a critical condition due to the lack of energy resources.

Plain Dimension

The plain dimension consisted of a lot of green flat land with very small hills. Birds flew around, the wind blew and there was generally a calm and peaceful atmosphere. The Plane Dimension had the unique phenomenon where humans and animals from the grassy plain fought together as an alliance side by side. Together they formed synergies by magically transferring energy to each other. In addition, some animals entered a special fighting state when they fought alongside a human. This state was called "raving madness" in Shinayu. It caused their adrenaline level to rise immensely, and this increased their defensive stamina. It allowed them to take more damage, and furthermore, they could take more damage by blocking harder. This condition only came with the prerequisite that enough energy had been absorbed by the energy crystal beforehand. The energy crystal, which provided energy resources as in all other dimensions, was slightly different from the other energy sources. This crystal had the unique ability to absorb light from the sun and transmitted it to animals and humans. This energy boost thus helped animals to rampage and made humans release more energy in battle. The warriors can perform several combinations of attacks with the extra energy they gain. The beam of the light absorption provided energy points to the entire dimension. The desert creatures were fulfilled by those beams and thereby had no desire to gain additional energy points. Despite the alliances between humans

and animals and the energy boost from the energy crystal, these two character races tended to be the weaker ones in Shinayu in the plane dimension. In the realm of Alexandria, where perpetual twilight veiled a city of towering spires and enigmatic wonders, an energy crystal pulsed at the heart of existence. Its luminous glow provided sustenance and life to the humans and grassy plain creatures who thrived within the safety of the city's walls. The energy crystal, revered as the crystal, was a source of power and survival, its radiance illuminating the city in the midst of the eternal twilight. The energy crystal was coveted by both humans and grassy plain animals alike, for it was their lifeblood, the essence that sustained their existence in a world cloaked in twilight and veiled in darkness. In Alexandria, Lyana emerged as a reluctant guardian of the energy crystal, bounded by duty to defend it from all threats. Her origins were shrouded in mystery, her eyes bore a haunting familiarity to the desert creatures. Yet, she was firmly rooted in the city's embrace, devoted to its survival.

Beyond the city's boundaries lay the arid desert, home to the mythical desert creatures—a race of powerful beings birthed by the unforgiving desert sands. They were creatures of sandstorms and shadows, their loyalty to the desert as unyielding as the sun's scorching heat. Among them was Zephyr, a fearsome creature with shimmering scales and eyes that held the secrets of centuries. The vast desert plain covered more than half of the planet. The inhabitants in the desert were also

very different in terms of their race, values and fighting strength. Only a small number of humans existed in the desert region. Many mysterious and powerful desert creatures dominated this part of the planet. These creatures were extremely dangerous due to their sturdiness and their different attacks, which vary from creature to creature. They were the only creatures in Shinayu that had both high stamina and relatively high agility, which is unusual. Normally, characters had either high stamina or high agility, but the desert creatures are well endowed with both attributes, made them a great threat to humans and other mythical creatures. They were also a danger to the other dimensions. Most creatures from the desert stood out because of their body size. They were comparable with dragons in terms of body length. Unlike humans and animals, they never formed alliances. They are loners because they never needed to join other characters. Even in extreme circumstances, they refused to form a group. If it came to a fight, the alliances from the green plains would have very little chance against the powerful creatures from the desert. Since the creatures felt very comfortable in the desert, they never felt the need to approach the other region, so confrontation had never occurred for a long time. As long as everyone stayed in their own region, it would never led to issues but this changed when the humans avoided sending beams to the air. The desert creatures didn't get their needed energy points anymore. However, the energy points it emanated were limited, and a feud festered—a clash between the guardians of the city and the denizens of the desert. The desert

creatures, led by Zephyr, were relentless in their pursuit of the crystal's energy points. They believed their survival depended on it as much as the humans', and the tension between the two factions reached a boiling point. Skirmishes at the city's edge became more frequent, the desert creatures' power and persistence a formidable challenge to the guardians. Desperation led the humans to wield the crystal's energy points as both a shield and a weapon against the desert creatures. They erected powerful barriers and unleashed devastating magic, determined to preserve their way of life at any cost. But as the battles escalated, lives were lost on both sides, and the animosity deepened, a darkness that mirrored the world's twilight.

People lived mostly in cities and fortresses, and only a small number of people lived in small villages scattered throughout the grasslands. Among the warriors, consisting exclusively of humans, there were groupings that had emerged due to several reasons. These included social class, origin, fighting abilities and previous social contribution to the people. There were four tribes consisting exclusively of humans. At one time, they all lived together in the vast city of Alexandria. Alexandria was located far to the west of the green plain region and thus far from the eastern desert region. When they all lived together, they were able to overcome all problems in some way. There were sometimes some uprisings of the lower working class but nevertheless they always lived happily together. Democratic politics and separation of powers prevailed. All relevant decisions,

which affected the whole people of Alexandria, were decided by a council, which consisted of high-ranking nobles. The decision-making power was divided into two different groups. In votes, the majority always won, and if there was a tie, the people were allowed to make the final decision. If there was any doubt about the integrity of a noble, a vote was called. In this vote, the people could decide whether that person remained part of the council or not. This system had worked excellently until the day of separation. The day in which the four alliances in the entire plane dimension split began with an insidious betrayal by a noble.

It takes at least two months to reach the desert region from Alexandria on a horse. When the alliances were still united, no people existed in the desert region. No one knew exactly what the life expectancy was there, because they didn't know what kind of life forms lived there. Since it was a barren land, there was never any reason to migrate to the desert plain. One day, when a group of wanderers decided to explore the desert area out of curiosity, only three people came back from the group of twelve. Although the entire group consisted of experienced warriors, they were frozen with fear when they arrived back in Alexandria. They reported to the nobles that they had been attacked by a giant scorpion and by a sandworm. The size of the scorpion was over six meters and the sandworm was even over ten meters. Even if the group was attacked by only one of the creatures, the chances were relatively slim. They were

simply not prepared for the desert creatures. They did not know their strengths or weaknesses. These creatures are both stalwart and agile. That left the survivors wondering how to defeat them. What the people of Alexandria did not know, was the weakness of the desert creatures to make them fight for a long time. Their musculature was weak compared to their massive body. Therefore, it was enormously important to induce them to a long-lasting fight. Their stamina will not hold up in a long fight and they became much slower. For people with high agility, were easier to dodge the attacks and lunge for counterattack. After the nobles learned the whole story, the entire nation was informed. Since then, no one dared to go into the desert.

Several years have passed since the incident in the desert. The nobles had decided to expand the territory of Alexandria. Several settlements were created. They even decided to build an arena to have some kind of pastime in the future, because Alexandria had a monotonous lifestyle. The chairman of the nobles Trimus had made the decision that fights should take place in the arena. When the decision was put to a vote, it had been unanimously decided to build the arena. The event in the desert had led to more focus on the training of warriors. Experienced warriors became teachers. In order to create the best conditions for the training, training places had been built, a curriculum had been worked out and a good payment for the instructors had been offered.

When the arena was finished, the entire nation was amazed at the huge structure. Almost 100,000 spectators could fit into the arena. Trimus wanted the first battles to be fought quickly. He himself was never involved in a war but his father was. Trimus had inherited his father's pride, but he never possessed great courage to fight a battle himself. Instead, he preferred to watch battles and enjoyed his position as chairman of the nobles taking a decisive role over Alexandria. When the first fight was fought, it was the duty of one to clearly repeat the rules to the participants. Everyone was allowed to choose a hand weapon, with most preferring either a sword, a spear or an axe. There was a risk of death but in case of injuries where a participant was no longer able to continue fighting, he had the option to give up the fight. To signal this, one had to clap hands three times. In this case, a fight would be stopped immediately. Either volunteers participated to win a valuable prize or they were arbitrarily chosen by the nobles. In this case, they were forced to participate. Even if some people from the working class did not like it, it had no effect on the continuation of the fighting. Because the great majority enjoyed watching the fights. The prize of the winners was relatively small considering the risk. It consisted of either expensive clothing (toga), jewelry or food that could last a family of four for just under a year. It was only in few cases necessary for nobles to choose someone, because there were enough volunteers who agreed to participate in the fights.

A strong wind blew during the autumn season. As usual, farm workers went into the field to check the ripeness of the planted vegetables. Some of the fields were located many kilometers away from Alexandria. Therefore, they went to these far-flung fields only once a month. They looked from a distance as a horde of desert creatures ran in their direction. Because of the distance they could not see what kind of creatures they were. Ten seconds passed and the creatures were stood a few meters in front of them. The farm workers were not warriors and did not know what to do. They were frozen as they were surrounded by them. The only creature they recognized was a scorpion and a sandworm. The other creatures were unknown in that time. The result was very clear. The farm workers did not survive and the wolves mauled them within seconds. Several days passed as a group of warriors searched for the farm workers. When they arrived at the fields, they found the dismembered bodies of the farm workers. It was clear to them that they were not human. At that time, people were very cautious and distant towards animals. It had taken a long time at that time for alliances to be formed. How these alliances were formed and how the characters of the plane dimension prepared for the great battle will be described in more detail in another part.

Wasteland Dimension

A wind blew through the old and decaying trees. The wind tore off some weakened branches. The remaining birds flew in the direction of the wind. They were on the verge of extinction, as were many other creatures that were at the top of the food chain. No fertile land, suboptimal standard of living and little chance of long survival for weaker creatures, of course it had been the wasteland dimension. This dimension was littered with zombies, snakes, flying creatures and numerous reptiles that lived in the deep swamps and whose character race had not yet been clearly identified. The wasteland consisted of many huge swamps, stony plains, and departed forests. The zombies mainly stayed in the lowlands. Only in rare cases were they outside their range. The reptiles were the clear dominance in the swamp area. They did not allow any other character races except their own. As soon as another race invaded their territory, they displayed their dominance by either eating the invaders or chasing them out of the area. Many different species of reptiles existed, with one being more dangerous than the other. In general, the character races from the wasteland/ swamp dimension were considered one of the strongest character races in Shinayu. They were comparable to the desert creatures from the plains dimension only that the reptiles were even more dangerous. They had similar stamina and agility as the desert creatures with the addition that their attacks also emitted a poison which either paralyzed

their opponents or added more damage over time. All other character races that did not live in the stony plains or swamps were found in the deserted forests. In general, a hierarchy existed in the Wasteland Dimension that was accepted by all life forms in the dimension. The top of the food chain was found in creatures that lived in the forests. Mostly bats, insects and sometimes snakes were found there if they could not find food in the swamps. Then followed the zombies from the lowlands and the last place in the food chain were the reptile species from the swamps.

The character races were aware of which life forms were the most dominant. Therefore, each race respected the habitat from the respective race and each usually remained in their own region. Years before the hierarchy was not realized and accepted, conflicts often occurred. Once a reptile was in conflict, the other side always lost. As a result, reptiles were the most abundant life form in this dimension. The reason for the conflicts was the misunderstandings among the different life forms. They were not able to communicate with each other and always acted on pure instinct. Within a territory there were hardly any fights. Very rarely a reptile had a conflict with another reptile. The same was true for zombies and the other character races that stayed in their usual territory. There was one troublemaker sometimes. As soon as a reptile could not find food in the swamp area, it left its territory and entered other areas.

Mostly they moved towards the forests and fed on smaller creatures that lived there. They were helplessly subjected to the reptiles.

There was another race in this dimension, weaker than the reptiles, but among the most powerful characters in the dimension. The spirits of former living warriors, they were called "the undead". When a warrior died, he ended up either in heaven or hell. No matter where the warrior's spirit landed, it found rest in its own way. Then there were the undead, whose spirits landed neither in heaven nor in hell. They buzzed around in the wasteland and had no way to find their rest. Due to a betrayal of character races from another dimension at that time, they were cursed so that they could never find their rest. They had formed an alliance to go into battle together against the Underworld Dimension, but were betrayed by them. Therefore, they were cursed with a curse that would forever prevent them from finding their peace. Only the one who had cast the curse could lift the curse. The special thing about the spirits was the fact that they could not be physically attacked. They could only be harmed with magic. This meant that they could be defeated either by mages or by warriors whose weapons had magic attacks. Spirits were thus an enormous advantage for the Wasteland Dimension when it came to the great battle of dimensions.

The spirits were either buzzing around the cemetery or were near some hills. The special characteristic of the ghosts was that they always stuck together no matter

what situation they were in. Even if they became undead spirits due to a great betrayal, they always had great trust in each other. This was due to the fact that all Undead Spirits were brought to this state because of the same event. Their greatest wish was to be freed from this mental state so that they could finally find their long-awaited peace. They, like most knights, used conventional weapons such as swords, axes, hatchets, maces, lances and morning stars. They generally possessed weak armor but, as spirits, had special qualities that made them a special breed in battles. They were immune to physical damage and could only be defeated by either magical attacks or biological attacks, such as poison attacks. If a sword had a magical enchantment, it could be used to defeat a spirit if the sword was thrust through a spirit. The contact this made with the magic would injure or completely defeat a spirit. Likewise, contact with poison-based attacks would have the same effect on ghosts. In general, ghosts never travel alone. They are always found in larger groups that usually stayed close to where they lived. Except for the reptiles, the other character races in the wasteland dimensions avoided contact with the spirits and always kept their distance from them. They were easily irritable and always ready to attack in larger groups. Their special characteristics and cohesion always posed a danger to all inhabitants.

Communication between the inhabitants of the wasteland dimension was non-verbal. Since there were no humans in this dimension, except for the zombies, all mystical creatures could communicate using body

language, facial expressions and tone of voice. After the hierarchy was established, all creatures were aware of who they could have a confrontation with and especially who they should not have a confrontation with. As long as the zombies stayed in their region, few creatures died except for the small weak creatures. Since there were many powerful creatures and only small numbers of them died in confrontations, the Wasteland Dimension was considered one of the most powerful dimensions in Shinayu. When the character races from the other dimensions fought with the feisty swamp creatures and the agile zombies, they quickly realized that it was impossible to emerge victorious without making great sacrifices.

Enchanted Forest Dimension

A crowd of fairies buzzed around. They circled in a certain radius and in the center was a magical well, the so-called "Well of Wisdom". Since they had been buzzing for over 20 minutes, it seemed that they were waiting for something specific. In fact, this was the case. They were waiting for the monthly "Festival of Lights". As soon as the full moon was at a certain angle to the Well of Wisdom, a beam of light was fired from the well to the moon. This released energy and the well was replenished with a magical elixir. All the inhabitants of the enchanted forest could absorb the elixir, which completely replenished their entire life supply and mana. It could also heal from any negative spell effects on a character such as any type of poisoning, paralysis, silencing, or damage reduction. This well was guarded by elves around the clock, as the elixir was limited in supply. Despite the guarding, very friendly conditions applied to obtain the elixir. Everyone, including the elves, had to give a valid reason why they urgently needed the elixir. Attention was paid to which character race asked for the elixir and what the justification was. Valid reasons were, for example, that they suffered a life-threatening injury or were facing a battle that affected all character races.

The elves were the dominant character race in this dimension. But they were very obliging to the other character races and had no need to introduce a political dictatorship. Their morality was to help other living

beings. The elves were by far the most intelligent character race. There were more of them than of any other character race in the Enchanted Forest dimension. This dimension was the most peaceful of all the dimensions in Shinayu. There existed a gigantic hometown, the Avalon, which was almost twice the size of the city of Alexandria from the Plane Dimension. It was considered the most peaceful city in this dimension and thus in all of Shinayu. They got along extremely well among themselves and had no enemies with other character races. In the city there was always a very quiet atmosphere, sometimes you could hear laughter, but it was always very quiet. The elves were brought up in a way that they never shouted or spoke with a raised voice. Respectful and appreciative interaction was the most important educational rule of an elf.

Apart from elves, the most diverse character races existed. Besides elves, there were fairies, druids and some creatures that lived only in the deep forests. Among them were mushroom creatures, goblins, insects and living trees that magically came to life. The trees, in particular, could display ruthless behavior when enraged. Their size with their tremendous striking power made them dangerous creatures. The elves knew how to communicate with the trees so as not to cause conflict. For a long period of time, they got along well with each other until the first invaders from other dimensions entered the enchanted forest.

Goblins were among the troublemakers in this dimension. They were not interested in fighting and dominating anyone. They were only interested in logical things like money, clothes, weapons or potions. There were only a small number of them. They are loners and under no circumstances had established personal relationships neither with other goblins nor with other character races. Even to achieve their goals or to have an advantage in battles they never had the intention to build a comradeship. They stand out for their high agility and have remarkably high striking power for their size. They mostly stayed underground. There were some hills and small mountains that led to entrances underground. Long ago, goblins had worked out their own entrances through the mines. Generally, the other character races stayed away from the goblins, as they were good for nothing and only brought negative events.

Mushroom creatures are small, but you should never be fooled by their appearance. They have powerful magical abilities that you should be wary of. Mushroom creatures are very effective against stalwart creatures that have low agility. Due to the low agility, such creatures are unlikely to be able to dodge the magic of mushroom creatures and thus these steadfast creatures become easy targets. They have a joyful appearance on the outside and reflect this in their behavior as well. All creatures knew mushrooms very well and respected them for their magic. They lived in seclusion in the deep forests and very rarely left their terrain.

The elves knew that they were the most dominant in the enchanted forest dimension due to their high numbers and intelligence. They had taken on the task of ensuring justice and order. They intervened when there were disagreements or obvious injustices, regardless of the place of action or character race. Despite their friendly nature, elves had a bossy way of taking control over everything. If it was not clear how justice could be done in particular individual situations, then they had consulted among several elves. It was always meticulously and impartially made sure that the right decision was made. The crystal, which served as the central energy source, was located outside of Avalon. It took a horse about three hours to get from Avalon to the crystal. The elves guarded the crystal as well as the well every day around the clock with the goal of protecting both essential objects from abuse. The elf mages had the ability to create limitless energy points from the crystal, but this required a lot of time and effort. In the Wasteland Dimension and the Plane Dimension, they could not perform this process, which was the main reason why the epic battles of the dimensions took place. The elves protected both objects and decided who got energy points and who got the magic elixirs. This arrangement had become established and thus, with few exceptions, there were never any problems. In the distribution of resources, elves were always fair.

Eberus was the king of the elves. His wife died due to a rare disease. He had another son Labus and a younger

daughter Cirdan. Eberus was once considered to be one of the most talented swordsmen in the entire dimension. Before he was appointed king, he had already won the respect of the entire elven race. The other character races also had great respect for him because of his reputation, but none of the other character races ever met him personally except for some of the living trees. When it came to a conflict, Eberus alone had managed to defeat a living tree. No elf could do this alone, and with this event Eberus laid the foundation for his appointment as King of the Elves. His son Labus looked up to his proud father and tried to acquire his talents through many years of training. Labus was rather a quiet personality compared to his father. Upon closer acquaintance, fellow elves quickly realized that Labus did not have the same courage as his father. One of the reasons was the fact that Labus was born a prince and never had to try hard to get anything. Because of his rank, the people respected him but of course there was a difference between respecting someone because of his personality or just because of his rank. The relationship between Labus and Eberus was always very good. Eberus was always confident for his son. There was never any doubt for Eberus that Labus would be a good throne prince.

Cirdan was the mage in the family. She had both healing powers, which she inherited from her mother, and magic with negative effects. The negative magic referred to paralyzing and reducing the damage of opponents. Cirdan had taught herself magic, she was already very

talented as a child. Cirdan always had an honorable reputation in the community. Despite her young age, all elven mages looked up to her. In her spare time, she helped mages improve their talents by giving lessons at regular intervals. She always had a good relationship with her family. She was one of the few mages who had the talent to create the energy points from the crystal. One day a group of elf soldiers set out with Cirdan for the crystal when new energy points had to be made. They rode their horses at high speed in the southern direction. The crystal was relatively centrally located. After they arrived, Cirdan began the procedure. The procedure consisted of certain body movements that could be interpreted as a ritual dance. While she performed the ritual, she sang a certain song. The elves called it "the song of Matura". Matura was the first elf to create energy points. She was considered the most powerful elven mage but had long since passed away when Cirdan performed the ritual. The ritual lasted a total of five hours. Suddenly, out of nowhere came three giant wolves together with some paladin warriors. Cirdan immediately broke off the ritual and approached the elf soldiers. The elves were very surprised at the character races they encountered. Since Giant Wolves and Paladin Warriors did not exist in the Enchanted Forest dimension, they did not know where they could have come from. They did not know about the Shinayu Gate at that time. Cirdan and the elf warriors decided to accept the fight. The three giant wolves stared at one particular

elf warrior who positioned himself at the front of the group. The wolves showed their dangerous teeth and kept their eyes on the one elf soldier at all times. One giant wolf started the fight by jumping on the group. In the next part it will be enlightened how these wolves became friends with the humans and established alliances in order to strengthen themselves for the fight against the other dimensions.

Mountains Dimension

From the depths of a cave sounds a loud snoring of a monster. A reddish-brown centuries-old dragon is in the middle of a deep sleep. Apart from dragons, there also lived humans, trolls, dwarves and other mystical creatures. No one had dared to enter the lair of a dragon before. No character race knows exactly what other creatures lived beneath the earth's surface. Unlike the enchanted forest dimension, no character race in this dimension had managed to gain control over all character races. The Fire and Ice Mountain dimension had the most diverse and powerful character races. The diversity of the character races and their different attack techniques posed a threat to the other dimension. Because of the diversity of the character races, the other dimensions had a difficult time identifying the weak points.

The entire landscape in this dimension was half volcanoes and fire mountains and the other half was icebergs. The people were divided into several cities. This depended on which tribe they belonged to and from which region their origin was. The human warriors were either warriors who attacked with fire elements or warriors who fought with ice elements. These warriors belonged to the most agile warriors in Shinayu. Their attacks were very flexible with the help of the elements and their speed. Their way of body movements was very individual. Although they were warriors, many of their

special abilities resembled those of a mage. An agreement had been made between the dwarves, trolls and humans to avoid the continuation of the war of that time. In the past, there were epic battles among these character races. Thousands lost their lives in the process.

Trolls once lived in the Fire Mountains. After some trolls decided to leave their home villages, they moved to the ice mountains as nomads. They did not get along with the authority of the time. They were too proud to listen to the word of an authority figure. The leader at that time was Kal-el. The physique of the trolls was genetically well endowed but Kal-el possessed an above average physique. This helped him intimidate the other trolls. It often came to a one-on-one duel as soon as his authority was challenged. Kal-el always emerged victorious and the loser lost his life. He was a good leader and had the talent to win over his people. He captivated them with his strong presence and reputation. A group gathered the courage to leave the people and moved out of the Fire Mountains towards the Ice Region. They crossed several months until they arrived at their desired location. However, this was only the beginning of their story. The dangers lurking there and the consequences for their escape were fatal. It had consequences that affected the future of all character races of this dimension.

The dwarves lived in caves just like the dragons. Of course, they did not live together with dragons in the same caves. Dragons always lived together and that had never changed. The dwarves generally kept to

themselves. They are not very social but their greed for gold was boundless. That's why other character races always had difficulties to trust dwarves. Due to this characteristic and the high number of losses from past battles, only a few dwarves still existed. The dwarves that remained alive lived very secluded in their caves. They were considered the weakest character race in the Mountain Dimension. Even if they did not like the company of other character races, they were forced to join the peace treaties. The dragons were considered possibly the strongest character race in the Mountain Dimension due to their size and special attacks from their mouths. However, especially talented warriors were able to win against dragons in battle, even if the statistics were more in favor of the dragons. Dragons existed in both the Fire Mountains and the Ice Mountains. Many different types of dragons existed, spraying different attacks from their mouths. The disadvantage of dragons was that they were very sluggish. Their physical and magical attacks could be dodged by agile character races.

The people were divided into three units. Each unit had its own temple. There were the Tetas who had their temple in the fire mountains, the Falus who also lived in the fire mountains but rather in higher mountains far away from Tetas, then there were Qesada who lived in the ice mountains. The Tetas and Qesada used the elements of fire and ice respectively for their attacks. They were the only people in Shinayu who could combine elements with physical attacks. There were not

many people left in the mountains dimension, but those who were still alive were considered to be among the most talented warriors in Shinayu. They were the character race that used the elements of fire and ice with a high agility. Thus, it was very difficult for all other character races to dodge or withstand their attacks with ease. The Falus consisted exclusively of barbarians who fought with pure physical attacks. They could not use the elements. The relationship between the three units was always peaceful, as all three units rarely left their terrain. There were never any conflicts between them because there was nothing they wanted from the other unit.

The war between the races has arisen due to several reasons. It all started when a dwarf named Tulu was wandering in the mountains looking for gold.

Unknowingly, Tulu crossed the border into the territory of the trolls. It was never considered peaceful by many character races when one race entered the territory of another, unless there was an alliance between the races. The Trolls were very particular about an unwanted race entering their territory. There was no alliance between the dwarves and the trolls. Tulu saw a tiny glint between two large stones. He ran to the glittering object and stretched his arms ahead. When he was about to touch the glittering object, another dark green hand reached out to the object. The palm was so large that it would cover the entire front of Tulu's head. It was full of injuries consisting of scars and still open wounds, which were obviously from past battles. Tulu saw the hand that

had grabbed first and slowly looked up at the face to see who the huge hand belonged to. Tulu was stunned when he saw the owner of the hand. He had guessed it from the first moment the giant hand came into his field of vision. It was a troll but not an ordinary troll. It was taller and more muscular than an ordinary troll, and it had a scowl that would terrify any dwarf. With that scowl, he looked down at Tulu. The little dwarf did everything to hide his fear, but his ego and greed still tempted him to reach into the glittering object.

Afterwards, both looked at each other again. The giant troll grabbed the dwarf by his armor at the back and hurled the little Tulu forcefully five meters away. The troll dug out the glittering object stuck between several stones. It took a few moments for the troll to push the stones aside. He picked it up and lifted it into the sky. It was a huge gold. The gold piece was three times larger than the average size of gold pieces in this dimension. The troll began to grin as he stared at the gold. Tulu stared at the gold from five meters away with his eyes wide open. The situation was actually clear. Tulu should have left the terrain immediately without saying anything but the gold did not leave his thoughts. He walked gracefully toward the troll. Tulu took the gold from the troll's hand with a quick movement of his arm. He admired the gold with a cheeky grin. Tulu took two meters distance from the troll and took out his axe. In a fight, the advantage was definitely with the troll. His scars all over his body indicated that he had been in

many fights. The troll had two small axes on his back, but he did not take them out. The troll stared at Tulu and began to get angry, which could be seen from his facial expression. He ran to Tulu with big steps. When Tulu took a swing with the axe, the troll dodged backwards with a jump. After the swing with the axe failed to hit the troll, the troll grabbed Tulu's right wrist with his right hand to prevent him from striking with the axe. He lifted him in the air and gave the little Tulu a powerful punch in the face. Tulu was half unconscious after the blow. The troll took all the valuable items from poor Tulu along with his clothes. The troll took the gold and left the area towards his village. When Tulu regained consciousness, he found himself naked. He returned to his people in this state, humiliated. When all the dwarves looked at Tulu, he ran to his cave out of shame. After some following events, it was the beginning of the sparked war between trolls and dwarves. This war between the two characters races also resulted in the war against humans.

Underworld Dimension

A group had gathered in a temple. Twenty-five characters circled a woman in the center. She was standing in front of a huge cauldron. Green flames rose while lightning thundered from the sky. The Underworld dimension was always dark throughout the year. There was no sun in this dimension. The moon reflection and the lights from the many temples were enough lights to see the surroundings. A ritual was performed in the temple. While a corpse was being burned in the cauldron of green flames, the members of the temple sang the same song they sang every time during the ritual. The woman in the middle performed a dance. Obviously, the singing and dancing was part of the ritual. The purpose of the ritual was to honor life forms that protected the energy crystal against invaders from other dimensions, sacrificing their lives. The ritual was performed shortly after the first battle.

The Underworld dimension had humans and many different mystical creatures as inhabitants. The inhabitants were mostly powerful mages or warriors who used magic in combination with their physical weapons. They are considered to be the dimension with the most powerful mages. In battle, they shone with their special magical abilities. They were very agile and their special abilities caused immensely high damage. The mages from the Underworld dimension were very effective against large stalwart creatures. They could do a lot of

magic damage and at the same time easily dodge the attacks that were not fast enough. Thus, they were very effective against creatures such as dragons, reptiles, or the desert creatures. Among the creatures in the Underworld dimension were the Lewas, which have already been introduced. They were of the warrior type and, like all other warriors from the Underworld Dimension, used a combination of magic and physical weapons. As another character race, there were the demons. They had the facial features of an alien or a skeleton. Around their head was a hemisphere that was magically bound to their heads. They were partly made of electricity which they demonstrated when they attacked. There were of the demons, as with the humans, of the type mage and warrior. Despite their advantage of electric attacks, their special abilities could be very diverse. In addition, there were mystical creatures such as golems, cerberuses, and other powerful creatures that will be explained in more detail in the following parts of the book series. The Underworld dimension was considered perhaps the most powerful dimension in Shinayu, but they had their weaknesses as all character races had them. There were warriors from the Mountain Dimension and Plane Dimension who could fend off magical attacks or had a high magical resistance. These warriors were also very agile and dealt great physical damage. It was exactly this kind of warriors that the mages and warriors from the underworld dimension had big problems with.

There was generally an uneasy atmosphere in the Underworld dimension. All character races had very dominant personalities. There were groups based on respect and trust, but even in these groups you had to earn the respect of the members again and again. When you were part of such a group, it was not like being part of a family. It felt more like being a collection of several individuals. All the character races in this dimension grew up in an environment where self-respect was essential. Whether you were part of a group or not, everyone was on their own in the end.

The energy crystal was located on one of the mountains, from which light beams regularly cast into the sky. The light beams were created by mages to focus energy from the sky, which was then transferred to the energy crystal. Thus, they could create energy points without limits. Communication between the character races was not a problem. One learned as a child how to communicate with the different races. Humans among themselves could communicate verbally, as usual. With some mystical creatures, such as golems or cerberuses, you had to communicate through body language, and when communicating with levas, the tone of voice and eye contact determined the meaning. With demons, you had to communicate with them by thought. Learning this thought language took a lot of time, which is why only the experienced and older people knew the language.

There are numerous temples, but there was no difference between the numerous temples. All temples were located

in one village where the Lewas, humans and demons lived together. Mystical creatures from the ancient times, such as golems, cerberuses or other unnamed creatures lived far away from the temples. Even if the character races lived relatively peacefully with each other, the primeval creatures were sometimes very irritable and thus unpredictable. In such cases, it could become very dangerous for any life form from the underworld dimension. Some of the ancient mages were able to approach the Ancient Creatures and understood their state of mind. It was an unwritten rule that except for these experienced mages, one was not allowed to approach the Ancient Creatures. The inhabitants of the Underworld dimension were generally very quiet characters. They were always very attached to traditions and had rituals for many specific events. Despite their quiet nature, they are extremely combative. One could argue that the denizens represented the humanized version of the reptiles from the Wasteland dimension. As soon as they were involved in a fight, their will to win and ambition came out. They usually showed it when they had a big grin on their faces during a fight. Among the mages there were three levels youngling, duke and the highest level was lord. The levels were determined on the basis of magic knowledge and combat experience. The most powerful and oldest five mages of the Underworld dimension formed the head, who had decision-making power over all character races. Among other things, they decided the level of each mage in the

Underworld. As the most powerful mages, they were naturally respected by all character races and their decisions or authority were never questioned.

The dark clouds floated around as usual. While many characters formed a queue at the energy crystal to satisfy their essential need for energy points, many others were at several temples to summon the light rays. They avoid unnecessary communications but always go about their responsibilities to serve the community. They were not selfish when it came to the well-being of their home dimension or the people. The primary reason is not to improve the state of mind of their fellow inhabitants. It was to protect the people and consequently to ensure the protection of the energy crystal and the dimension. They knew how important it was to keep the people alive to protect their home dimension. The more characters remained alive in the Underworld dimension, the higher the chance of emerging victorious from battles when attacked by characters from other dimensions. Humans, Lewas and Demons were considered to be very organized and intelligent character races. If there was a misunderstanding in minor cases, they were very patient and did not let their feelings guide them. Their combativeness came out only in serious fights against characters from other dimensions. If a conflict did occur, the fight was reported to the head. They gave the parties involved one day to sort out their problems. If this did not happen, the fight was carried out the following day and only one side could survive. The winning side was

always promoted one step in rank. After the light beams were transported to the sky to charge the energy crystal, a short time later everyone was supplied with energy points. The head called all the people from all the temples together to give a speech. The people were on the ground while the five members of the head stood ten meters above at the entrance of a temple. The speech was about the next strategy regarding the next battle. They firmly believed that the next battle would happen promptly. After seven minutes of motivational speech, they heard a sound they always heard when someone crossed the Shinayu Gate. Thousands of warriors and mages all turned their heads toward the Shinayu Gate. Fortunately for the Underworld characters, the Shinayu Gate was hundreds of kilometers away from the temples. Thus, they had time to prepare after hearing the sound. They formed up in battle position and waited for the unknown guests, but maybe it wasn't an enemy coming, but someone who had left the underworld, or was it something else?

Closing words

Shinayu is characterized by the coincidence of several dimensions in which the most diverse character races live, each with their own morals. Each dimension is unique in its own way and the characters in it differ from all characters from other dimensions because of the environment they were born and raised in. Exploring all the character races and how their behavior affects the epic battles of the dimensions and what choices they make before, during and after the battles makes Shinayu an exciting adventure. Despite the differences of the dimensions in terms of scenery, character races and general atmosphere in the dimensions, they have one thing in common, each dimension has an energy crystal which is the most important object in each dimension. The production of energy points is very limited in the Wasteland, Mountain and Plain dimensions which all characters depend on. When they realize that their energy crystal is barely producing energy points, they discover the Shinayu Gate. Characters from the three dimensions have entered the gate and returned a short time later. They realized that there were several dimensions and they also discovered the energy crystals. They realized that there is a way to save their character race and themselves from extinction, of course. They will gather all the characters from different races within their dimension and do everything they can to take one dimension with their energy crystal. For the three dimensions, only the Underworld dimension and the

Enchanted Forest are eligible, as they are the only ones with the means to produce unlimited energy points. Thus, this is the beginning of a long-lasting battle of the dimensions to ensure their own survival.

The following parts will go into detail about individual dimensions and tell their unique story. For this, epic battles will be part of the narrative. The advantages and disadvantages of the character races in battles will be carried over in the game. Thus, knowing the entire story will be beneficial for players, as they will know how to use the character races most effectively in the game. Also, they will be able to make a better decision when choosing the first starter deck, as they will know more about the strengths, weaknesses, fighting style and visual design of the character races.