

By: Omega

THE OTHER



WORLD

## 1) The Other World

Have you ever heard of mythical creatures? Or heard someone say they saw a unicorn? Maybe those people weren't lying when they said they saw those creatures, for there is another world. This world holds every creature that was ever thought of by humans. It has every creature except humans. These creatures are sometimes put into this world for a short period of time, but sometimes it's the other way around. They call this other world Currlaper. Currlaper is a planet that is constantly expanding and has a larger population than Earth. It has smarter and stronger creatures than Earth, but it's not as advanced as Earth is. Currlaper is still in its early years, meaning it doesn't have phones or cars. For this reason, creatures use dragons, and this is where our story will take place, with an ordinary person living an ordinary life. This person's name was Milo Simpleton.

## 2) Milo Simpleton

Who is Milo Simpleton, you may ask? Well, Milo is a twenty-year old male. He's six feet and five inches tall. He weighs around one hundred and forty-three pounds. He's also skinny for his age and has fast materialism. He has olive-like skin, greenish blue eyes, and long brown hair. Milo's current occupation is at a Starbucks. He lives alone and he has no friends or family. Milo grew up an outcast and people always thought he was weird because he always spent a lot of time outside rather than inside playing games. His parents disowned him when he turned twelve and said "You're a disgrace." and made him leave. No one ever wanted him when he was in foster care or in an orphanage. He lives in California in Fairfield near a library which he visits regularly. Milo, still at his age, would rather be outside camping and exploring. Milo's dream job is to be a fire lookout in a national forest.

## 3) Ordinaryish

Milo was walking on a sidewalk after his shift had ended. He was hoping that the library wasn't closed yet since he had to work late. He started running "Common, please don't be closed." He needed to return some books and check out a few more. All the street lights were on and it was close to ten pm. To Milos's luck, the library didn't close for another hour on Fridays. As Milo finally made it to the

library, he sighed. "Just in time," he said to himself. As he walked in, the librarian looked at him. "Last shift again, Milo?" he asked. Milo laughed. "Unfortunately, yes everyone had to go home early," Milo replied. "Well no dip Sherlock, today's Christmas Eve. Why don't you go home and celebrate?" The man asked, "If only I could, but I have no one to celebrate with" Milo stated. Grant wasn't too tall. Grant was an African male with blond hair and an average weight for his size. "Still no friends? Since you're out in the woods most of the time," Grant said "Hey! Nature calls to me. That's why I'm always out there." Milo said as Grant lifted an eyebrow as Milo searched through the books. "Listen, Milo, you're gonna get yourself into a lot of trouble and if you don't make any friends, then no one's going to help you," Grant informed Milo. "I thought we were friends?" "Acquaintances. There's a difference, okay Milo." the grant sighed.

Milo searched through the books in the fiction section. He had read every book there was to read in that section, but he wanted to see if there were any new books that had come in recently. As he browsed through the books, he found a book that had not been there before, so he grabbed it and started walking to Grant to check it out. The book was relatively light. It had a black key hole on the cover and after the black was a green outline fading to black. The book was called, in blue words, *The Other World*. Milo put the book on the check out table. "Can I get this one?" Milo had asked. Grant looked at the book but it had no barcode to scan. "You know what, just keep it." Grant said, "Thanks." Milo replied, then went to leave the library. 'That's odd,' Grant thought; there hadn't been any deliveries since Milos's last visit, and he'd never seen that book before. "Welp, better go home now." Grant sighed, thinking it was some kid's prank. Grant walked to the doors and shut them for the night and walked home.

After twenty minutes, Milo arrived at his house and locked the door once he got inside. He put the book on a counter and then went to take a long, nice bath to relieve him of the stress from the day he had. As Milo sat in the half-full tub, he wondered if anyone would miss him if he were gone. Then he laughed. "Welp, it's the thought that counts," he said aloud. After his bath, he put on his pajamas and headed to bed, but what caught his attention was that the book he had put on the counter was now on his bed. He rubbed his head in confusion and then said, "I must really be tired" and with that, he moved the book and went to sleep.

Morning came and Milo went to get some toast, but the book was on his dining table. He ignored the book, thinking he may have gotten up and moved it in the middle of the night. Milo put two slices of bread in the toaster and went to the

table to wait. Sitting down, he looked at the book and tapped his left index finger on the table. He asked the book as if it were a person itself, but didn't get an answer. After a few minutes, the toast was ready, so he got up, got a plate, and sat back down to eat. 'I'm running out of food.' he thought to himself. After he finished his food, he got up and did his morning chores. As he finished the dishes, he turned around to see the book on the counter close to him. Now he was sure he wasn't seeing things. The book was following him.

Milo grabbed the book and brought it to the table and sat down. He inspected the book but found that it wasn't a book at all, it was more like a box. The box opened like a book, but it was empty except for a black skeleton key with a heart on the end of it. Milo grabbed the key and looked at it. "Seriously? A weird key was following me?" He was disappointed with the result but shrugged it off. He closed the book and saw the keyhole once more. Jokingly, Milo pretended that the keyhole was real and put the key into it, but to his surprise, the key went into the book. He opened the book again, but there was nothing there except for the empty white walls inside. He closed the book to see if he was seeing things right, then turned the key. After that, Milo heard a click and the key went into the keyhole, vanishing into the darkness and automatically opening the book, revealing pages that had not been there before. Suddenly, there was a knock on his door, but Milo didn't respond until the book started sucking Milo into the book, starting with his right hand and slowly making his body disappear, "AAAHHHH!!!!!" Milo screamed as his body refused to move. After that, the door burst open. It was Grant. Grant saw Milo in the living room, but by the time Grant got to Milo, it was too late. Milo's body was gone and all that was left was a book that closed, turning back into a box, empty and hollow, but this time there was no key.

## 4) The Town

Milo woke up in the middle of a forest. "Gah!" He looked around, seeing nothing but trees. "Where am I?" he asked himself. Hearing nothing but his voice and some birds singing, he stood up. Milo started walking around the forest, searching for anyone that could help him. After an hour of searching, he found nothing but sticks and stones, but he did find something strange. His clothes were different from what they were before. They had completely changed from what they looked like a few minutes ago. Instead of a T-shirt, he was now wearing an old white raggedy shirt under a brown trench coat, and on his legs he was wearing

trousers. He was confused about why his clothes had changed, but that was the least of his worries at the moment.

Milo walked around the forest, but then he felt a gust of wind hit his head. As he turned around, he saw a green orc taller than him by a few feet. The orc had a death hawk with brown eyes and one of his teeth was snapped in half. Inches from Milo's head was a giant battle hammer. Scared Milo tried backing up, but a tree hit his back. "Who-what? -...." Milo was speechless. The orc looked at Milo. "I am Thra," he said in a deep voice, retreating his weapon and lifting his hand. Milo hesitantly shook Thra's hand, introducing himself "Milo." He said "Hmm, that is not a common elf name," Thra said. "I'm not an elf" Milo replied, "But you look like an elf. Then if you are not an elf, what are you?" He asked, "A human." Milo replied, confused, "Milo." Thra laughed, "Humans aren't real. They are just fairy tales." "But I am a human" Milo said "Prove it" Thra's laugh disappeared as he looked at Milo. Milo moved his hair out of the way, revealing his round ears as Thra's eyes opened. "You can not be out here," he said and dragged Milo elsewhere. "Hey!"

After a few minutes, Thra arrived at a shack in the woods and put Milo in it. "Hey! Why were you dragging me?" Milo asked but Thra didn't respond. Instead, Thra just went to a kitchen area, "WHERE AM I?!!" Milo yelled. Thra now looked at Milo. "You are in a forest," he told him, "No, I mean what planet, because where I'm from, creatures like yo-" Thra interrupted Milo "Orc" "... Orcs like you don't exist." Milo continued, "You are on a curve, much bigger than your planet Earth." Thra replied to Milo. "Currlaper? What type of name is that?" Milo asked, "The name the gods gave this planet?" Thra replied. After that, Milo shut up and checked to see if he had anything on him since he hadn't before. Checking his pockets, he found a skeleton key. "This is the key that brought me here," Milo said, sounding defeated. "That key is a rare one," Thra said. "It allows one to travel between worlds, but you need a book to use it." Milo said with a sigh. Thra looked at Milo. "So tell me. What was your planet like and how did you get here?" Thra asked Milo looked at Thra then explained everything he knew about the earth, then he explained how he got to Currlaper. Thra listened, but then got up to take care of some food in the kitchen. Instead of a stove, there was a campfire in its place. Thra brought back some food. "Eat" he demanded. "You are going to need energy when you leave," he added.

It's been a week since Milo was transported to the world. It felt like he had just arrived, waking up in the forest, but he knew it was time. Thra had given him supplies such as books about other beings, food, water, and tools. Milo thanked

Thra then left into the forest once more. 'No, I should be thanking you,' Thra thought as Milo left. Night came and Milo was still in the forest. "Geez, it's like the forest doesn't end," he said, setting up camp. Milo laid on the ground looking at the stars, then closed his eyes. After the morning came, Milo packed everything up and went back to walking. After a few days, he was extremely exhausted after doing nothing but eat, sleep, and walk, but that's when he saw the edge of the forest. Milo was now running towards the opening, just to come to a halt when he saw a town.

The town was huge and it had all sorts of monsters, such as giant birds, ogers, and more. Milo kept his ears hidden under his hair as he walked around, trying to blend in with the crowd. "Excuse me, sir?" "Do you know what town I'm in?" Milo asked the dwarf looking creature "HUH?? How do you not know where you are?" "You're in Bitsburg!" The dwarf yelled in a grouchy voice. "Okay, thank you, but you didn't have to yell," Milo said nervously. The dwarf said, "I'M NOT yelling," and stormed off angrily. Milo went back to looking around the town and found a bar, so he went in.

As Milo got into the bar, he was instantly stopped by a humanoid hog. "Name and age?" he asked in a horse-like voice. "I'm Milo and I'm twenty years old," he replied, and the hog looked at him. "Ok, you're alright," he said, and moved out of the way. As Milo went to get a drink, he heard loud music from an accordion, but that's not what stopped him from getting a drink. What stopped him was a girl standing on the counter of the bar holding a wooden and metal cup with beer in it, and she was shouting at everyone. "C'mon people! Everyone was laughing at her. "Really?" "You'll all see that I was right," the girl yelled, but then looked at how confused Milo was. The girl jumped off the counter as everyone laughed and went back to what they were doing and went to walk away in frustration. "Um, hey, what did you mean the world is dying?" Milo asked her, "You should know, shouldn't you? You're an elf. All elves know what's happening. " She replied to Milo, confused, "Didn't your prophet tell you in your village? I mean, that's why you're out here instead of in your village, right?" Now she was the one who was confused. "Unless your village has different rules than most." Milo had no clue what she was talking about. "Well, if you didn't know, let me inform you." The girl looked around, then took Milo by the hand and dragged him to her rented room. 'Why do people like to drag me?' Milo thought to himself.

## 5) The Girl

The strange girl threw Milo into her room. "Tell me who you are!" she demanded. Milo looked at her speechless. "I know you're not an elf. Otherwise you would know very well that the world is dying," she told him. Milo now has a good look at her. She was wearing a white, ragged shirt and black pants. She had fair skin, green eyes, and long brown hair that reached halfway down her back. She was five foot ten. Milo finally answered her "No, I'm a human." She stared at him for a moment, then started laughing, "Seriously? This is not a time for fatytal-" She stopped talking and laughing when Milo showed her his ears. "Wait, seriously?" the girl asked, then Milo nodded. "I'm Cathy. And you are?" She asked him "Milo. Milo Simpleton", she forcefully shook his hand. Cathy Inspected Milo "So you're from uh... What was that planet called again?" She asked "Earth" Milo replied "Thank you. So you're from Earth? Meaning you have no clue about what's happening?" She asked him, but he shook his head. "Okay, let me explain then. All elf villages are the same and no one is allowed out of them. Which is why you'll barely see any elves out and about. It is said that elves are the second strongest beings and only look out for themselves." She informed Milo, but Milo stopped her. "If elves only look out for themselves, they are the second strongest beings. Why warn the world when you guys can just save yourselves?" Milo looked at her for her response. Cathy was a bit speechless, then Milo added, "And if elves aren't allowed out of their villages, then why are you out?" Cathy opened her mouth to say something but stopped. "You ran away, didn't you?" Milo asked.

Cathy sat down, shocked by Milo's questions. "How did you know?" she asked him. "Easy, I know lots of people who did the same thing as you," Milo replied. She sighed then got up, "Okay. Well, do you want to help me?" She looked at him, waiting for an answer. "Yeah, why not? I've got nothing else to do besides return home," Milo replied. "Great!" Cathy and Milo left the bar to find their first steps in their new partnership and adventure. They made their way through the town as Milo looked around to see the difference between the old and new buildings, shops, and homes. Cathay stopped next to the worst looking stone brick house in the area. "Why are we stopping here?" Milo asked "You'll see," Cathay replied, and entered the building. Milo followed her in. The house seemed like it was about to collapse. Cathy struggled to move one of the collapsed pillars, so Milo came to help her.

Once they moved the pillar, they went to the top floor to meet a blind man. "Show us the world, Simon." Cathy said it quickly. Simon was a blind man who looked to be in his twenties with green hair. His height was unknown to Milo since Simon

was sitting the whole time. "Ahh, Cathy, your back? I thought you left the town with some people," Simon laughed. "You can tell the future, but you should know that isn't true!" She yelled at him. "That's not the reason I know, because that's not how fortune telling works. I know you were alone because you're too young and too... Out there. Anyways, what time would you like to see it? Past, present, or future?" Simon asked. "The future. Far into the future " She replied, then Simon's eyes started to glow. "The future you shall see." He stopped as an image projected from his eyes and his voice changed to a wise old man's voice, "In two months, the world will collapse. But do not fear, for there might be hope. Two adventurers will find an old relic that was stolen a millennia ago. If they do not return it within exactly two months, the world will crack into shards and drift into space, and the bond will be broken." Simon went back to normal. "Great, now I have a headache." He said Milo looked at him confused. "What do you mean the bond will be broken?" he asked. Simon jumped a bit, "I thought you were alone... It looks like you can make friends." He said "Hey!" Cathy said angrily. Simon laughed and said, "I'm joking, I'm joking. Anyways, the bond is unknown, but there's a rumor that there was a bond placed in this world but it's not in any history books. Now you two should get going." Simon said and went to sleep. Milo nodded and left with Cathy. After a few moments, the door fell over and a strange being grabbed Simon by the head and said, "Did you hear about a boy with an elf girl who came here?" The figure asked, "Yeah, they just left," Simon replied. The figure threw Simon across the room with brute force, but Simon wasn't hurt. "You're cursed?" Simon laughed. "What promise did you break to deserve such a curse?" The figure left in frustration without a word.

## 6) The Plains

Hours had passed by since they left the town and Milo and Cathy were still in the forest. "I'm so bored," Cathy groaned. "I thought adventures were supposed to be fun and exciting." She added. Milo looked at her as they continued to walk "So you thought that having to walk hundreds of miles was fun?" He asked rhetorically. "No but I thought we would have encountered some criminals by now." She pouted. Milo shook his head "Life isn't just about fighting monsters." he told her with a worried look. It was clear that he didn't want to fight anything that moved but yet again Cathy was very much oblivious to this.

"Not monsters, Species" Cathy corrected as Milo groaned but soon after he got curious by her statement. "Yeah, You woulda thought in a world full of... Species



you would have seen a few around." Of course there were a few noises in the wind but nothing to close. A few trees, some small rivers, rocks, but no monsters? Something was off and even though Milo wasn't from this world he knew there was something off about it.

The two continued to walk for what felt like hours despite it only being hardly one. "Where are we exactly?" Milo asked the girl. "Uhhh..." Her eyes widened. She hadn't thought about it "i-in Snialp plains..." she then replied. "The what?"