

THE SOLAR GUARDIAN AND THE ELDER DRAGON



The Price of Tomorrow

MARIA MILAGRO FLORES PARADA

KAL



In a kingdom nestled among towering dark mountains, Kael was known for his natural talent and his habit of putting everything off until tomorrow. While the village echoed with the sounds of training, Kael often sat idly, convinced his skills would simply be there when he needed them.



Kael watched from a distance as his peers practiced their swordplay under the hot sun, polishing their armor until it shone like silver. He smiled to himself, leaning against a sturdy oak tree and whispering that there would always be more time to prepare later.



The peaceful atmosphere shattered when a colossal shadow stretched across the valley, blotting out the midday sun. From the jagged peaks of the dark mountains, an ancient dragon descended, its wings beating like thunder as it brought fire to the sky.



Panic gripped the kingdom as the brave warriors rushed to their posts, but Kael found himself frozen and unprepared. He looked down at his rusted blade and felt his breath grow short, realizing his body was not ready for the weight of the coming battle.

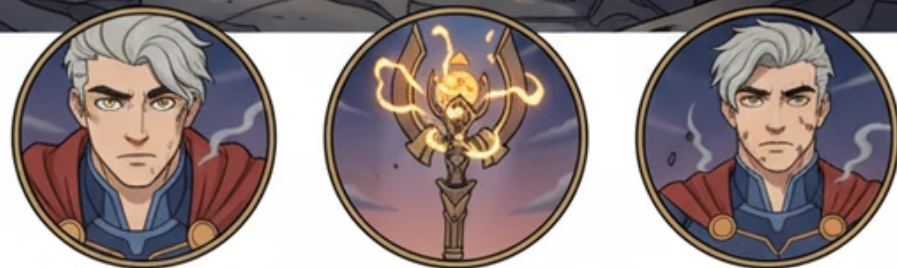


Kael charged into the fray with a heavy heart, but his movements were slow and his strikes lacked the strength he had always promised to build. The dragon's fire roared around him, and he fell to the scorched earth, his lack of discipline finally catching up to him.



CONFRONTATION AT THE RUINS
Kail vs. The Elder Draco

Surrounded by smoke and the cries of his people, Kael realized it wasn't bad luck that had brought him to this moment of failure. He saw clearly that his own choices and the days he had wasted were the true enemies that had paralyzed him with fear.



KAEL - STAND AGAINST THE DUSK

With a sudden surge of desperate resolve, Kael forced himself to stand, gripping his weak sword with trembling hands. He chose to stop mourning what he hadn't done and instead focused every ounce of his remaining strength on the duty he owed to his kingdom.



Kael fought with a wild, newfound fury, managing to strike a blow that wounded the dragon's wing and halted its advance. Though he could not defeat the beast yet, his bravery allowed the townspeople to flee to safety before the dragon retreated into the clouds.



From that day forward, Kael became a man of action, training under the rising sun every single morning without fail. He treated every hour as a gift, honing his body and mind into a living weapon, determined never to be caught unprepared again.



Years later, when the dragon returned to finish its destruction, it found a very different man waiting at the gates. Kael stood tall as a true warrior, his armor gleaming and his spirit unbreakable, as he finally delivered the strike that saved his kingdom forever.