



CHAPTER 1:

Win the War

Once upon a time...

Wu had fallen asleep at a campsite by the bonfire. The Elemental Alliance, short of Falco, was traveling back to the Temple of White Tiger to train for the upcoming battle. The Viking empire had invaded the former Gou Community's territory after the complete breakdown of government. Wu slid off from the log he was sitting on and collided into the dirt. He was having a vision. He heard a voice say, "My son."

Wu looked up and saw the First Spinjitzu Master standing by the fire. Wu commented, "It is funny- in my dreams you are still here."

The First Spinjitzu Master explained, "I am not here to comfort you. I am here to tell you the legend behind the legend of Ninjago."

Wu asked, "You mean you are finally speaking to me from the departed realm?"

His father replied, "Yes."

Wu insisted, "Before you begin- let me tell you something I was too shy to tell you on your death bed."

His father raised a brow. Wu said, "I love you more than anything in the world. I am so sorry I spent so long trying to fill your shoes when I should have been telling you how much you meant to me."

His father smiled and said, "Emotions are OK. Cry, even Viking can have their tea."

Wu thought, "Father always knows what to say."

The First Spinjitzu Master began, "Long before time had a name, I created Ninjago using four golden weapons. That is the legend, now let me tell you the greatest story ever told!

"In the Original Realm of the Oni and the Dragon, my father was a dragon hunter. He believed emotions were the source of evil. He killed dragon after dragon for eons. He had no emotions, quick to be brave without hesitation, like a runaway bull. My mother was the milkmaid of the dragons. She believed tending to your emotions was the source of all good. She believed figures had to form a bond with their dragon, earn their trust, and never put them in danger no matter what. I struggled with who was good and who was bad. I struggled with if I was good or if I was bad for all my life and beyond. With all the power and wisdom I gained, I never gained the wisdom to win the war inside of me, and maybe for the best. My strife is immortal, it is not bound by the laws of the departed, it does not even know the bounds of death.

"I did the only thing that seemed logical...I left the Realm of the Oni and the Dragon and started a new realm- Ninjago. Just as in the far west a prophet of falcon who believes, "thou shall not be monstrous" should rise and in the far south a prophet should rise who can find chi in anything, Ninjago would have its own prophet. One ninja should rise above the other ninja and become the green ninja. As soft as the wind but also as angry, he or she will be the next Ultimate Spinjitzu Master- the Green Ninja.

"In order for this master to grow wise he would need senseis to guide him. Therefore, I created the elemental masters, whom each one holds a spectrum of wisdom, unique from the others. The primary elements of creation and destruction hold the greatest power. The secondary elements of earth, fire, lightning, and ice hold their own spin on wisdom. The tertiary elements

that remain hold their own wisdom. It is your duty as my son to hold the wisdom needed to teach the Green Ninja along with the Elemental Masters.

“He must gain all of the wisdom I know and gain the wisdom I do not have- how to win the war. If he gains this wisdom he will bring balance to Ninjago- but also to me. Then my war can finally end. You must do whatever it takes to win the war...”

Wu asked, “Why are you telling this to me now?”

The First Spinjitzu Master replied, “I am not now. You will remember the joy of speaking to me, but what I said will need to be rediscovered. Like an old dream, you will remember parts of it when something reminds you of it.”

Wu woke up. He looked into the fire. A tear dripped down his face- his father’s Shinto had finally visited him after all this time.