”...what the hell?” Gavin stopped abruptly at a stand in the mall. On it, different kinds of candies, all plastered with pictures of himself.

He sighed in frustration and picked up his phone, quickly dialing his agent, “Hey, yeah it’s me,” he sighed again, “Candies? A pez-dispenser? Seriously? That’s just ridiculous! I don’t care how well it sells, I do not want crap like that with my face on it!”

“Ohmygod!! It’s Kirito!!”

“I’ll call you later,” Gavin quickly said as he pocketed his phone, just seconds before getting stormed by half a dozen squealing school-girls.

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“The usual?” the lady behind the register asked.

“Actually, I’ll eat here today but otherwise the usual please,” he smiled.

She nodded politely and showed him to a table.

The small Japanese restaurant really suited Gavin’s tastes, it was intimate and quiet and mostly secluded. Not that many knew of this little diamond in the back streets of his hometown.

He leaned back in the chair and let out a sigh of relief. The young waitress brought him a bowl of miso soup, smiling shyly at him as she put it down.

He took the bowl in his hand and stirred it carefully, looking out the slightly dirty window he saw a small boy pass, wiping his nose. Recognizing the child he quickly got up, and put his soup down.

“Excuse me, I’ll be right back,” he said to the lady who nodded at him.

Gavin hurried outside and quickly caught up with the boy grabbing him by the shoulder, “Hey Josh, where are you heading?”

The boy stopped and looked up at Gavin, “Kirito! Wh-what are you doing here?”

“I’m just having lunch nearby. Did you run away from the orphanage again?”

He looked down on his feet and nodded, “Brian was being mean to me again…”

“Aw… wanna have lunch with me? They have really yummy food.”

Josh nodded feverishly, “I’m super hungry!”

“Let’s go then,” Gavin smiled and took the boy’s hand, leading him back to the restaurant as he made a phone call to Josh’s orphanage.

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“Mmm, this is great!” Josh smiled happily as he munched away on his plate of Yakitori.

“So, what did Brian do to upset you so?”

“He was teasing me because we’re the same age but I’m shorter than him,” Josh pouted.

“Nothing wrong about being short, it has its advantages,” Gavin smiled.

“Oh yeah? Like what?”

“Um, well… You’re superior at hide and seek, because you can fit in places he can’t. And you never have to worry about bumping your head in to stuff that hangs from the ceiling.”

“I guess… I do win a lot of hide and seeks.”

“I bet Brian is just jealous of you. He wishes he was short too so he could hide more easily.”

“You really think so?”

“I’m sure of it. Maybe you could give him some tips on how to play hide and seek. Who knows, you might turn out to be good friends after all.”

Josh smiled, “Yeah! I could do that!”

“Now, you need to stop running away. Sister Gaby always gets so worried about you, you know.”

“Mmm… I know…”

“I’ll come visit soon again. Promise. And I want to see you and Brian getting along then, yes?”

“Ok! If… if you come to visit,” he lowered his voice, “I wanna see more of that secret super-hero stuff!”

“Alright, we’ll see what we can do about that,” Gavin winked to him.