

The Authengeek

A.L

PD 7

Started by an unknown genius sometime ago, a mix-matched handful of people decided to band together and break off from the herd of sheep that is called society. Others followed in his or her footsteps. But like other revolutionary ideas, this path of life encountered those who would wish to oppose this ever-growing force. This force was made up of willing people who adorned themselves with playing cards, gaming headsets, and graphic novels. This strong-willed group of individuals dubbed themselves, Authengeeks.

Many popular factions that are housed at high schools choose to stay away from all Authengeek factions out of jealousy (even the one at our own school). There are many reasons as to why this is, but these are the most probable: One, our endearing geeky-good looks. Two, we can make light of any situation. Three, which is the most probable, we Authengeeks don't feel the need to prove ourselves to any other faction. Authengeeks are free-spirited, (sometimes rebellious), crusaders, so unlike the other factions, Authengeeks do not feel the need to conform to popular beliefs or practices. An excellent example of an inspiring Authengeek is my childhood friend Bailey. He's the kind of guy who plays an Ocarina, (from "Zelda", a video game franchise), before and after class. He's my DM ,(the Dungeon Master), in the first ever role-playing game "Dungeons and Dragons". And just like any Authengeek, Bailey is kind, hilarious, and most importantly to the name Authengeek, he's *real*. Real as in he can forge his own path in life. He isn't just what society has painted him as- he's an original work of art. Other people from most factions are shallow, fake, stuck in one emotion, or vain. The Authengeek will take strides; these people have their heads held high, hand-held games at the ready, and an undying smile. It's no wonder Authengeeks experience freedom in its purest form.

An Authengeek, especially one who is excessively studious, (which is not all too common), may sometimes be branded as...a nerd. Now, I'm not trying to beat down our brethren, but a nerd is more anti-

social than an Authengeek. In other words, nerds are like the Authengeeks distant cousins that have been twice removed- and no one wants to talk about the confusing family tree. Something else to deepen the growing rift between these once close factions, is how each end their day. The nerd would end their tiring day with only homework to help take their minds off of the day's trials. Alone, and sometimes ravaged by the days encounters (both the good and the bad), the Authengeek would end his or her day trying to finish a pile of homework that always seems to replenish its health points, and then after a long battle, (at the stroke of 10pm), the Authengeek would try to seek refuge in a sci-fi or fantasy book, or try a video game. This is the only effective way the Authengeek can replenish his or her health and mana, (the video game way of saying 'magic'), points that had been lost in life's grand battle.

In all honesty, we do care about our education, but much like everything else, we think of any test like a game. Any test we take is like a boss battle in a game. Getting an 'A' is like defeating the boss. Whoa, the test bumped up our grade in the class? If that happens, we jump up and shout "LEVEL UP!" But sometimes we can lose the boss battle. But even if we do, we Authengeeks always prepare for the next round- even if that means level-grinding (in other words, 'studying'). Once we set our mind to something, we won't stop until our quest is completed.

Everyone in our little world plays the never-ending game called life. But we Authengeeks know something that others do not: how to enjoy our lives. We know that there isn't just level-grinding involved in moving up that elusive ladder of success. We know that one must take on side-quests, but not alone. An Authengeek is a strong individual who enjoys the small and strange things in life that others might brush off as insignificant or weird.