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FIRE EMBLEM


Awakening

Highlights

Fire Emblem's strongest element was its depictions of parent-child relationships. It shows a variety of different personality types navigating parenthood and what comes with it. This is a direct result of how Fire Emblem chose to structure its child system. Each parental character was first written and established as their own person, with their own character flaws, traits and motivations, then they entered parenthood. Their character is not dependent on their role as a mother or father, nor does it begin with the lives of their child.

Lucina knows that her father would eventually be betrayed and killed by his faithful tactician. While this is in no way Robin's fault, as it occurs when they are under the control of either their own father or Grima, it is still an event that occurred in Lucina's past and she wishes to correct it. She finds Robin and attempts to kill them, but they are saved by Chrom's intervention... at least that's what usually happens. Normally this scene is a show of trust between Chrom and Robin, how even when knowing of Robin's future betrayal, they still choose to work together to prevent it. This changes, however, if Robin is Lucina's mother. Instead, Lucina's resolve wavers, now faced with the choice of either killing her mother and ensuring Chrom's survival, or letting her mother live and risking her father dying later down the line

The Children & The Shephards



The effects parenthood has on the Shepherds shows their development beyond the story, and how their characters changed with the passage of time. They can't always understand why they would take certain actions in the future, and that's because they changed in an environment they have not yet experienced. It shows that they, as characters, are ever-evolving.

Inigo

...You said I looked like I didn't have a care in the world? Well I'm sorry to tell you but that's not the case at all." -Inigo to his father

Inigo's personal experiences and fallout with his father is an example of how the children's experiences bring more weight to the story's main conflict. Not just for Inigo and the other children, but for the parents themselves. Until this point, the motivations for the parents' participation in the war were watery at best, like Gaius joining for a handful of sweets. However, being shown how the war affected their children connects them on a personal level, now that they are acting out of love for another.

Kjelle

"Just listen: it takes a special talent to navigate a mount around a battlefield. But it's not the be-all, end-all of combat. Everyone has their own unique skill set. I think I probably wanted you to find your own way to fight."

"But why? Riding is a crucial skill."

"Because I'm your mother."

"What?"

"One tiny slipup can cost a warrior her life out in the field. And if I saw a risk, no matter how small, I'd want to nip it in the bud." - Kjelle and Sully's A-Support

Characters interacting with their future children shows how parenthood changed, or adjusted, their principles and beliefs. The risk of young Kjelle pursuing riding, in future Sully's eyes, would increase her chances of being felled in battle. In the face of survival and the preservation of her child, future Sully shifted her steadfast rejection of "natural ability".