

Final Fantasy VIII Misc. Character Facts v2

by GirlWithPigtail

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This walkthrough was originally written for Final Fantasy VIII on the PSX, but the walkthrough is still applicable to the PC version of the game.

FINAL FANTASY VIII
NITPICKING CHARACTERS FACTS ^^;
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Version 2
(C) November 2008 - April 2009
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Best Viewed with Courier New font size 10

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1. INTRODUCTION

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As the title said, this is a Nitpicking Characters Facts, which means, facts of FF8's characters that I've discovered during my play of the game, not the facts that are obvious and/or mentioned like how much centimeters their height is or their hair/eyes color and suchs. This could be said as fun things about the characters. Some of you might know it already before reading this, some of you might be surprised with what you read here.

This is the second version, updated with more infos regarding FF8's charas and game, thanks to contributions from some people. The ones with the label (NEW) in the Table of Contents section are the ones updated, incase you didn't get what that (NEW) means ^^a.

So, how much do you really know about FF8's characters? Let's find out, shall we? ^^

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2. VERSION HISTORY

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Version 2 - April 2009:

- Revised the Table of Contents section.
- Revised the Introduction section.
- Added Version History section.
- Added a new fact on Squall's Facts section.
- Added two new facts on Zell's Facts section.
- Added a new fact on Seifer's Facts section.
- Added a new fact on Selphie's Facts section.
- Added a new fact on Other Facts section.
- Added FAQs section.
- Added Thank Yous section.

Version 1 - November 2008:

The first time the guide were made so of course everything in it was new.

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3. SQUALL'S FACTS

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Let's start off with our main chara.

- a. He is actually the chara with the most average body sizes. Not too tall, not too short. Not too big, not too small. Just... average. But those pants look good on him, ne? ^^a
- b. Likes to wear jackets, but always unbutton it. Just look at his Garden uniform and daily clothes, he unbuttons the tops rite? The only time you'll see him properly buttoning each and every buttons on his top is when he's putting on his SeeD uniform. I must say tho, he DID didn't look good with closed tops.
- c. For those who STILL didn't realized it, Squall IS the son of Laguna Loire and Raine. I'm not sure from where he got his Leonhart family name. Was it the last name of the family that adopted him before he entered Garden or was he's making it up himself or Edea gave it to him, or maybe it was Raine's last name? Anyway, I guess rather than to be called as Squall Leonhart, he should be called as Squall Loire after finding out that Laguna's his dad, don't you think?
- d. Squall inherited his figure and face from Laguna, yet he got his hair color and behavior from Raine. Thankgoodness is what me, Kiros and Ward say. XD I mean, he's lucky he got Laguna's nice body shape and pretty good looking face, but all three of us are just grateful he didn't become as silly as Laguna was. XD
- e. Squall's magic casting act is almost identical with Laguna's magic casting act. The only difference is Squall's doing it calmly and Laguna's full-spiritly. ^^a Either this is a coincidence, or Squall have seen it when he was a baby and unconsciously remembers it, only Square knows. XD
- f. He LOVED Griever. He got a Griever ring (in which have been given to Rinoa), a Griever necklace, his original Gunblade has a Griever pendant attached on its handle and the casing of the Gunblade has a Griever carved on it also. You should know what to give him on his birthday: a Griever's shirt! XD
- g. The first member of the SeeD army who mastered the Gunblade. Seifer could be the one who's first actually since he actually Squall's senior, if only he didn't flunked the SeeD tests twice....
- h. Remember how Squall was an introvert at the beginning of the game? Well, you might not believe this, but the first person in this whole wide world of FF8 that Squall considered as a 'friend' was... Zell.

Yes, that boy of mine that Squall referred as "He's just loud." This indeed a fact. You can see this during Galbadia D-District Prison escape. Remember when the party split into two charas to control, one was Squall and the other was Zell? Well, Squall and the others managed to escape the guards and go all the way to the meeting point, but Zell's not. He got caught up by a LOT of soldiers, he can't handle all of them by himself. Weirdly, Squall just instantly decided to return to where Zell was to save him. I'm not the only one who thought what Squall did was weird, every playable charas thought the same too, even Squall himself thought it was weird! I mean, it's normal if Squall as the team leader told Quistis to return to save Zell but he actually went there himself! Well, I guess Squall eventually was just too used of having Zell around, he unconsciously enjoying the lively Zell to balance his quietness. (It's a normal and simple psychology. If you're not much of a talker, then you'll like it if you have a friend who talk a lot so he/she can drag you to talk too. On the other hand, if you're too much of a talker, you'll like to have a quiet friend so he/she can stop you when you've talked too much. Sometimes it's tiresome to be quiet and sometimes it's tiresome to be cheerful.)

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4. ZELL'S FACTS
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Ooo, my favorite boy's facts!! Please don't be surprised if you found that Zell's facts are a lot more compared with other charas. I can't help to observe my baby more than the others. X)

- a. Shortest playable guy in FF8. Only around 167 cms or so. 10 cms taller than Selphie, but 10 cms shorter than Squall, about almost the same as Rinoa. He's even shorter than Quistis.
- b. Yet, he's also a playable guy with the biggest torso! Pay attention to his chest, it's WIDER and BIGGER than the rest of the playable guys. If you wanna see/compare it clearly, at the Missile Base where the team is divided into 2: Squall's and Selphie's, put the boys (Zell and Irvinne) in Selphie's and the other girls on Squall's. Choose to stay undercover with the G-Soldier's uniform until you fought the Base's Commander. Just before fighting the boss and reveal their identity (putting on their original clothes that is ^^a), you will see the three's backs, up close and personal on your TV screen, in their G-Soldier's tight uniform. From there you'll see VERY clearly how Zell's shorter than Irvinne but got BIGGER upper part body than Irvinne. Irvinne might be skinny, but him and Squall are not THAT much of a difference. It's just that... Zell was THAT built.
- c. Also the guy with the slimmest waist! Hmm-mh.... yummy.... See the G-Soldier's uniform once more to see how sexy his waist is. ^_~ Now you know why I loved this guy so much, he's just plain sexeh!!
- d. Zell's hobby other than built muscles is to read. Figure huh? From where else he can get all that info about Timber and Deep Sea Research Center? And the reason he's always outside Balamb Garden's Library when he's not in your party? Got the brawn, got the brain, got the look, what else you want from a guy?
- e. He actually gained Squall's respect at the brain area after Squall previously underestimated him. How? Squall admitted Zell as a pretty smart guy after Zell told him the infos regarding Timber and Deep Sea Research Center. Why? Because Squall as the 'serious one' didn't even know it yet Zell the 'loud one' actually learn it from reading lotsa stuffs (Zell always started the infos with "I've read that..." sentence). You show him, honey!

- f. Still about Zell's brain, he REALLY IS a good one on machines. If with Zell in your party you talked to a mechanic who's fixing a car outside Balamb's Gas Station the first time that mechanic got his new assistant (I think it's when you re-enter Balamb after you've finished your SeeD test at Dollet and everyone's back in their daily clothes rather than their Garden uniform, but I'm not sure), he'll tell Zell that he actually hoping Zell would be the one to become his assistant (but Zell wanted to follow his foster granddad as a wrestler). I suppose this proves what Zell did with the machines in the Deep Sea Research Center. Punch this, push that, and voila, the door's open! ...or not.... ^^;
- g. The only playable guy chara that can change his outfit after the SeeD inauguration. Don't put him in your party, go to the outside hall of Balamb Garden's Library and you'll meet him practicing his jabs either wearing his usual red jacket and blue shorts OR in his Garden uniform, which is damn perfect for him. His playful look in shorts or his sexy look in uniform? Your call. XD
- h. The only guy in the party you can play card with. You know this, of course? He's not that good tho, a complete opposite of Quistis.
- i. He hated long sleeves! Even if he have to wear something with long sleeves, he'll curl it up! Just look at his Garden uniform! The only time you'll see him wearing a long sleeves without curling it up is when he's wearing his SeeD uniform during the SeeD inauguration party.
- j. One out of 3 party members who can fly Ragnarok. Well, of course! I mean, he's a machine expert afterall!
- k. Zell's afraid of ghost! Ooh, my poor baby! If you're doing the Vase Pieces sub-quest at Winhill, put Irvinne and Zell in Squall's party. When the armor at the mansion fell apart, Squall and Irvinne will move back near the stairs, BUT Zell will RUN halfway UP that stairs, with a shocked and terrified figure! ^^a I assume Seifer knows this one weakness of Zell and that's why he keeps teasing Zell as 'chicken-wuss' (damn you, Seifer!!) ^^; My poor, poor baby....
- l. Don't you think Zell would look like John Cena (that World Wrestling wrestler) if he's a few years older and only wears his blue short? I wonder if John Cena got inspired of his outfit after playing FF8 and is a fan of Zell too? This is not a fact, just a thought, hehehe, sorry. ^^a
- m. Contribution from The Pianist:
Zell never get his confiscated skateboard[something I don't remember its name.] back.
--> Note from me: It was called "T-Board" and when I saw this thing I was actually hoping it'll be Zell's personal vehicle for some event like when Cloud got a bike during the infiltration toward Shinra Bldg but it turned out that Tidus who got a some sorta board on FF10. No fair!
- n. Zell admired Squall. I just remembered this. Zell's admiration toward Squall came from the fact that Squall mastered gunblade, the hardest weapon to master (actually, the entire Balamb Garden cadets respected both Seifer and Squall for mastering gunblade, you can see this from how everyone always asked, "Hei Squall, can you show us your gunblade?" -the kids in front of second floor classroom asked this, Zell asked this inside the submarine during their trip toward Dollet for their SeeD test, and some more-) yet it was also the strongest weapon to have (with the fact that it hit double, one damage came from the blade and one more damage came from the gun, so gunblade users able to do double damage while other weapons were just one). Since Squall's an introvert who rather to be alone and left alone while Seifer always showed off his strength and either scare people away or annoy people, maybe Zell thought Squall as

"Mastering the hardest and strongest weapon yet he kept a cool face. Squall's cool!" ^^a or something like that, and thought Seifer as "I don't care if you mastered gunblade or not, you're just too snob!!" ^^a or the like.

5. SEIFER'S FACTS

I like Seifer as an antagonist, unfortunately there's not much of him that I can found out.

- a. The tallest playable chara in FF8. I thought Irvinne's the tallest, but Seifer is 3 cms above him. He actually can call Squall "Short" if he wants to....
- b. I don't know the title of the movie where Laguna acted as "the knight with a gunblade that saved the princess in distress from a Ruby Dragon", but did you know that Seifer watched that movie and ADORE Laguna? Just see the facts:
 - Seifer chooses Gunblade as his weapon coz he liked seeing "Laguna the Knight" using it.
 - Seifer's Gunblade swing just before he's attacking is copied from "Laguna the Knight"'s Gunblade swing before attacking.
 - And most important of all, from where do you think Seifer got his "romantic dream" of becoming a knight that protected a princess? What age Seifer was when this movie comes out anyway? 3??
- c. Failed the SeeD tests THREE times in a row. The third one was the one where Squall, Zell and Selphie graduated. He left Balamb Garden not long after. Actually, the only reason of him failing is attitude alone, while skills and abilities are all actually almost identical with Squall's.
- d. He's the head of Balamb Garden's Disciplinary Committee. I agree with anyone who chooses him to become the head. His strong attitude is suitable for it.
- e. I forgot to mention this in the first version while it's very really obvious: Seifer's in love with Rinoa. That what caused him to go try killing President Deling when Squall and team's client was Rinoa who tried to assassinate Deling, while he's not a SeeD just a cadet. That moment, Seifer was trying to impress Rinoa. I'm guessing Seifer actually wanted to become a SeeD that year and have Rinoa as his client so that's why Seifer introduced Rinoa to Cid, but turn out he failed the SeeD test (again) and instead his archenemy who got Rinoa....

6. SELPHIE'S FACTS

Ah, who has never seen Selphie's deadliest attack which is also the most powerful one in all of the game? The End....

- a. The shortest girl with the most average sizes of all the girls.
- b. Do you know that you can see Selphie's panty when she's doing her "winning a battle" pose? It's white, you know.
- c. The only playable girl chara who can change outfit after the SeeD inauguration. Don't put her in your party, go to Balamb Garden's 2F classroom, and there you'll meet her in her desk, just in front of Squall's. You'll either see her in her usual orange overall OR in her Garden uniform. You'll also get different dialogues when you talk to her in her overall and uniform.
- d. The first one in the party to fly Ragnarok. She actually just hit here and there and luckily it flew.... If it blown up, maybe Zell

would be the one who have to fix it. ^^a I'm guessing that it is Zell who taught her HOW to fly it after they landed safely. One out of the 3 party members who can fly Ragnarok.

e. Trabia Garden is located on a cold area, but Selphie could hang on with those short skirts. ^^a

f. Contribution from The Pianist:

You can actually see Selphie's pantie by using "scan" magic. From frontal view, you'll see her white pantie pop in and out. If you remember, in scanning screen you can rotate the objects[monsters or characters], that is exceptionally not true for selphie. You can however slide her left and right. Well, I think the character designer team must be thinking something to let us view coincidentally her pantie but not a full view. Well this is a normal game after all not H game.

--> Note from me: Yes, I forgot about this. Only Selphie who didn't get a 360 degree option of view during Scan magic, thanks to a possibility of complaints from the parents seeing their children doing Scan over and over toward her.... ^^a

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7. QUISTIS'S FACTS
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Claimed by the Garden students as the most beautiful girl in the whole garden, also the genius that graduated as SeeD younger than anyone, and then become her juniors' teacher. Beautiful, strong, smart, I almost scared she'll be the one I have to compete with over Zell....

- a. The tallest playable girl in FF8. Maybe just 5 cms under Squall?
- b. Also has the biggest breasts. Really, you wanna see it clearly? At Missile Base, put her in Selphie's party and do as I told you to do at Zell's Facts section. You'll NOTICE the difference between her and the other girls.
- c. The only girl in the party you can play card with. Of course, she's CC's King! Duh!
- d. One out of 3 party members who can fly Ragnarok. She's smart, so no wonder if she can fly an airship or two.
- e. Has minus eyes. Did you noticed that she wore glasses the first time she picked Squall up from the infirmary after his fight with Seifer? Looks like she wore contact lenses afterwards, I don't know.
- f. Maybe not all of you noticed it, Quisty was actually in love with Squall. But later on she thought it's not love, just admiration toward Squall.

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8. RINOA'S FACTS
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Ready for our General's daughter, rebels' leader, Queen of all witches, and Squall's "touch her and die!" girl?

- a. Has the biggest butt of all the girls! Seriously!
- b. For those who still didn't realize it, Rinoa IS the daughter of General Caraway and Julia Heartilly. Her name was supposed to be Rinoa Caraway, but the fact that she's against her father (her dad's a General and she's the leader of the Forest Owl resistant group) made her prefer to use her mom's maiden name. But soon she'll be Rinoa Leonhart anyway. Or should I say, Rinoa Loire?
- c. If Squall got his look from Laguna, Rinoa got it from Julia. Thank God she didn't got it from Caraway.
- d. Chara with the longest attack animation. Setting up her pinwheel, shot it, the pinwheel attacked, then return to her and then she step

back to return to her standby position. Patience... patience....

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9. IRVINNE'S FACTS

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Time to head for the Saloon and found out a little about our number one gunman.

- a. Has the cleanest face of all the guys! Hahaha, no, really, Squall and Seifer got a scar on their forehead, Zell has a tattoo on his cheek, but Irvinne's face is so smooth and clean, he almost beat Quistis! XD
- b. Irvinne's cowboy outfit actually matches with Galbadia Garden who's in the middle of a small desert and the surrounding areas are not too cool either.
- c. Chara with the shortest attack animation. I mean, he uses a gun, what moves he'll do other than just shot it?

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10. EDEA'S FACTS

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Just a small amount of facts about our beloved matron.

- a. Incase someone haven't notice it yet, he IS Principal Cid's wife.
- b. Edea sent her orphans to all over parts of the world after she was inherited the "Sorceress" power and closed the orphanage after. She went on a hiding where only Cid knew.
- c. Also, Edea knows about Ellone's powers and she's the one that ordered the White SeeDs to guard Ellone, unknown by any of the rest of the other 'normal' SeeDs.
- d. Cid built Garden by Edea's request, in order to train an army that would be strong enough to fought her if one day her "Sorceress" power can no longer be controlled. In other words, Edea made the secret White SeeDs as Ellone's protector and made the official SeeDs as her 'insurance'. Such fate....

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11. OTHER FACTS

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Some other things you might be interested in.

- a. Did you realize that both Squall's mom (Raine) and Rinoa's mom (Julia) are dead? And both of their fathers are some kinda leader of something? (Laguna is the President of Esthar and Caraway is the General of Galbadian Army) And both Squall and Rinoa are also the leaders of something? (Squall is his SeeD team's leader and Rinoa is the Forest Owl resistant leader) The two just had VERY much in common.
- b. How come so little people used Gunblade as their weapon specialty? (Remember how Cid said "Finally, a Gunblade expert on Seed" when Squall graduated as SeeD?) Laguna actually learnt to use a Gunblade when he's still a trainee in the army, but then switch it to a machine gun after becoming a full pledged soldier. Well, the reason was, although Gunblades have perfect accuracy and stronger damage compared with normal blades or guns, it is also more difficult to handle compared with normal blades or guns. Due to the fact of this: first you swing the blade toward your enemy, and just a second before the blade hit the enemy, you have to trigger the gun, so both the gun and the blade hit the enemy AT THE SAME TIME. You need perfect concentration for this and I believe Laguna didn't have it

so that's why he didn't use Gunblade anymore. ^^; But it's a pretty realistic reason actually.

- c. Seifer is the head of Balamb Garden's Disciplinary Committee and Fujin and Raijin are the members. Then, who's the teacher in charge? None other than Instructor Aki. If you didn't know this guy, try this: before your Dollet SeeD exam, go to the front of Balamb Gardens's 2F Classroom, exit and re-enter it until you see two Garden students talking in front of the classroom and one of them is sitting on the floor. Talk to the sitting one and he'll ask Squall to show his Gunblade. If you choose to show it off to him, a teacher will show up and penalized Squall of -1 SeeD Rank (this penalty will be added after your test, so I recommend save before showing off so you don't have to have your SeeD rank lowered later on). That's Instructor Aki.
- d. Julia and Raine just HAVE TO died! If not, they would probably fight over Laguna by the time he's onboard Ragnarok. ^__^;
- e. Squall and Rinoa's love relationship could be said as a continued love between Laguna and Julia who's separated due to the wars.
- f. Fujin actually in love with Seifer but she realized that Seifer had a feel for Rinoa. If only the triangle love between Squall-Rinoa-Seifer had a more in-depth.
- g. Raijin is in love with Fujin, but he knew that the girl has a thing for Seifer so he stayed quiet. Since Rinoa is now Squall's, maybe there should be a triangle love story between Seifer-Fujin-Raijin, but their friendship seems to be too strong for that to happen.
- h. All three Gardens are specializing their students in different types of attacks. Balamb Garden students are specializing in medium range battles, Trabia Garden students are specializing in short range attacks, and Galbadia Garden students are specializing in long distance attacks. That's why you got those variations. Pretty clever for Square.
- i. The Nihongo version of Eyes on Me lyrics are much better than the English version.
- j. The "Girl with Pigtail/Ponytail" face can be seen just once in the entire long game. That's during the ending scene where Zell got choked with his food. There's a girl sitting next to him when he's eating. That's me! I mean, that's her!
- k. Contribution from Q McBride:
Here's a fact that you probably didn't think of. If Laguna wasn't sent away on that mission and if Julia didn't marry Caraway, they (Laguna and Julia.) would have married. And guess what that would have occurred? SQUALL AND RINOAS AS SIBLINGS! O.O Freaky, huh? XD
--> Note from me: This is actually not a 'fact', just a fun thought.
^^a If Squall and Rinoa became siblings, then it's possible that Quistis will be the one that became Squall's girl and Rinoa will become Seifer's girl, meaning it's possible that Seifer and Squall ended up as brothers-in-law.... It's even getting scarier.... Thank god this didn't happen.... ~__~;

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12. FAQs
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I'll try to answer some questions that come my way as best as I can. If you have better answer than mine, feel free to correct me. ^^

Q: From The Pianist: Trabia garden is so so so remote from any villages. May be it was established for Shumi?

A: It's because NORG was a Shumi and he (it, she, what is NORG anyway?) was the one who gave the fund to built Garden to Cid so that's why Cid built a garden in Trabia. It maybe because NORG told him to or

maybe because Cid wanted some Shumis to become a Seed (they're quite powerful compared to normal humans so it's better to have them as allies rather enemies of Garden).

Q: From The Pianist: Why Squall is so so so indifferent to his long lost father when he first met him?

A: Most possible it's because at that time Squall didn't even think that he HAD a lost father. Remember how the GFs blocked almost all of their childhood memories? So it's possible that Squall and the others were adopted (it was never mentioned in the game whether they had parents or not, only Zell that was mentioned having a family in Balamb, so since Zell was adopted, I'm assuming the rest of them were too) and the GFs made them didn't remember they were orphans and so they thought their foster parents were their REAL parents. That's why Squall thought Laguna as just 'some guy from somewhere'. I guess not until their memories returned they realized they were all adopted children and even by then Squall has already thought of Laguna as 'goofy' and can't think such a man can become his father eventhough they share lotsa physically resemblances that made me wonder why no one noticed them besides Ward and Kiros, and us players of course. Also the fact that Squall was still a baby when Laguna left him at Edea's, so it's almost impossible for Squall to remember the face of his old man (and mom too) and so eventhough he realized he and Laguna do have some resemblances, he just thought of it as coincidences. But maybe deep in his heart Squall slowly realized he had blood connection with Laguna yet he won't admit it seeing how Laguna acted all the time.... ^^a Laguna fans, don't kill me for this, please.

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13. THANK YOUS

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I can't do much for your help so at least lemme say thank you to these people:

- Q McBride for his contribution on Other Facts section.
- The Pianist for his contribution on Zell's Facts and Selphie's Facts sections and for his good questions in the FAQs section.

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14. LAST WORDS

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Thanks for reading, hopefully it's as enjoyable for you as it was for me ^^ . If there's anything you can add to this facts, please feel free to e-mail me at zell_alwayz@yahoo.com with "FF8 Nitpick Facts" as the subject line (sorry, but I'll ignore other subject). You can use this facts in your own guide or put in your website, as long you didn't change anytn in it and give me, as the author, the proper credit. Obviously, I will be happy if you let me know by e-mail first, but I won't mind no e-mail as long you properly credited me. Oh, and DON'T MAKE MONEY OUT OF IT!!

I've made a Final Fantasy VIII fannovel (around 50k words long) on my kelingking2.deviantart.com account (entitled All The Lambs) if you feel like reading MY version of the characters' past. You will find this guide and its updates (as well as my FF8's Maximum Stats Gaining Guide and my other guides for other PS and PC games) at www.neoseeker.com ONLY at the moment, so if you found this guide published outside Neoseeker please let me know.

This guide was first created by Girl With Pigtail (that's me!) at

November 2008 and the latest updated version was at April 2009,
copyrighted to me of course, and still dedicated to the cutest guy in
FFVIII: Zell Dincht (I'm yours forever, baby!)

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