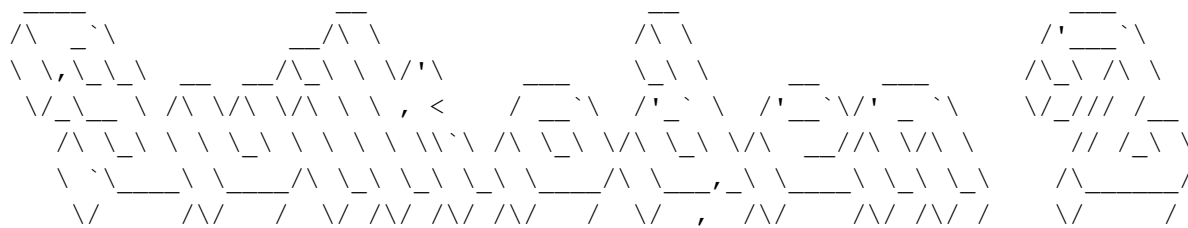


Suikoden II Riou-Only Challenge FAQ

by JMarkes

Updated to v1.03 on Nov 15, 2006



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|/                W A L K T H R O U G H                               \|
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Important Note (READ THIS FIRST)
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Before reading any further, I want you to know that this guide is NOT spoiler-free, actually it will be roaming with spoilers all over it, proceed at your own risk.

And for those who don't know who Riou is, that's the name that was given to the hero of Suikoden 2 in the novels.

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1) Introduction
=====

You bet it's true, it is possible to beat Suikoden 2 with just Riou. Yes, I understand you, just thinking about bosses like Luca Blight, Bone Dragon and Beast Rune gives me the chills, let alone with only Riou in the party.

Fear not, that's why I'm here for, to help you throughout this quest and achieve bragging rights ^-^.

Any constructive comments or opinions are appreciated.

Another note, this guide is based on the PAL version of Suikoden 2, so it's probable that minor changes may occur in other versions (items names-locations for example).

So, if you find any grammar or syntax errors, think that something could change, be added or removed to improve the quality of this guide or find any significant change from PAL version, please feel free to send me an e-mail, I would be most grateful.

If you have another strategy for any boss, I would like to see it, since I believe that my strategies are not the ultimate best possible strategies out there.

Also, I won't be using the "Matilda's Glitch Trick", the "Stat-Raising Stones Trick" or the "Money Trick" since it wouldn't be too much of a challenge that way now would it?

=====
2) Disclaimer
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Furthermore, this guide may not be altered or distributed without first asking me for permission, using the e-mail written at the beginning of this guide.

=====
3) Version History
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Version 1.00 (October 12th, 2006)

- First version of this guide, with a complete walkthrough.

Version 1.01 (October 13th, 2006)

- Corrected a few grammar and sintax errors.
- Neoseeker (www.neoseeker.com) and Super Cheats (www.supercheats.com) now have permission to post this guide.

Version 1.02 (November 9th, 2006)

- Corrected a few more grammar and sintax errors.

Version 1.03 (November 15th, 2006)

- Changed my e-mail adress.
- Corrected a few more sintax errors.

=====
4) Challenge Rules
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In here, I'll explain all the aspects that are involved in this challenge:

RULES:

NORMAL BATTLES: You may only have Riou in your party, but if you, for story-related reasons or other reasons listed below, have to use other characters, then you must let the enemies kill them before you begin to input commands for Riou(except healing of course).

STRATEGIC WAR BATTLES: Since it would be very difficult(and by "very"

I mean almost impossible)to achieve victory in this battles with only Riou's Unit, strategic war battles are out of this challenge since the real deal is to finish off the bosses.

OUTSIDE BATTLES: You may have other members besides Riou in your party to recruit more companions in order to unlock "Forgiver Sign" and obtain that character equipment. You shouldn't use Stallion either to run faster on the field or from battles, but since I know how tedious those long walks can be, you can avoid this rule if you want.

NOTES:

About the 108 Stars of Destiny (SOD), you CAN beat "Riou-Only Challenge" without their equipment or "Forgiver Sign", but they will make your life easier on your way to completion of this challenge. Whether you choose to recruit them or not, I will warn you of the time to get them and if it's needed, what items to get from them.

=====
5) Helpful Tips
=====

- SAVE OFTEN, you never know when a powerful fiend may appear and stop you from running away (unless of course, you happen to have Stallion in your party ^_~).
- Watch out for your HP, don't forget that enemies can do critical blows just like you.
- Always carry an Escape Talisman or extra medicine in case something goes wrong.
- Before a boss battle be sure that your extra characters have 1 HP so they are killed right away.
- If you have 4 or more party members put Riou on the back row behind the character that you think is more likely to die last so that Riou won't get hit before all other party members die.
- If you find yourself dying over and over again on the same boss, try using different combination of runes and/or items, use "Clay Guardian" for extra defense and "Sacrificial Jizo" for auto-reviving.
- When using Clay Guardian, it's best just having 1 left, so next turn you can pick up another item from the inventory, since Clay Guardian lasts for the entire battle.
- And most important, don't give up, this is not a very hard challenge, only a few bosses will give you any trouble, so just keep trying until you defeat them, or change your fighting style, different runes, items, etc.

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6) Walkthrough
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=====

TENZAN PASS

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So it begins, Riou and Jowy are at the Highland Unicorn Youth Brigade Camp, let's see with what our friend Jowy can help us:

Jowy -> Remove everything, then equip Tunic and Boots on Riou.
***** It's best to equip "Medicine[6];Boots;Boots" for now.

After the ambush, when you're fighting against Rowd's soldiers, you'll have to let Jowy die before you attack (as I explained you before). This is a very good spot for leveling up Riou, so get him to around level 8, it shouldn't take too long.

=====

MERCENARY FORTRESS

=====

Recruitable SOD : Gengen (automatically)

=====

After doing all the chores, go get Gengen and Tuta:

Gengen -> You can only remove the Medicine[6] for now.

Tuta -> Same as Gengen, remove all the medicine from her.

Then head towards Ryube Village on the northeast.

=====

RYUBE VILLAGE

=====

Things to Buy : Leather Hat

Blacksmith : Up to Level 2

=====

You'll see Eilie, Rina, Bolgan and Millie. Say hi then go to the Armor Shop, buy a Leather Hat for Riou, sharpen your weapon to level 2, then go back to Mercenary Fortress. Oh, and don't forget the Flour.

=====

MERCENARY FORTRESS

=====
Another day of boring chores, then you'll be heading back to Ryube Village with Jowy.

=====
RYUBE VILLAGE
=====

Go near the show, participate, but don't get yourself killed (well, it wouldn't matter too much considering the amount of medicine you got from Tuta ^-^).

It's Rip-Off Time !!!

Ellie -> Sell everything from her or keep the medicine.

Rina -> Remove her Angry Blow [2] as you'll need it for the
***** upcoming boss. Sell the rest or keep the medicine.

Bolgan -> Keep the Sacrificial Jizo, it maybe be helpful for
***** bosses or selling purposes. Sell the rest.

When you're done, head out to North Swallow Pass.

=====
NORTH SWALLOW PASS
=====

Good Treasure Chests : Fire Wall, Brass Armor and Feathered Hat

Must-Get Enemy Drops : Double-Beat Rune (from enemy: Cut Rabbit)
=====

After Rina's "Adult Conversation" with one of the guards, begin your journey throughout the mist. Get into a random battle and kill off your extra party members so they begin the boss battle with 1 HP. Don't forget to pick up Brass Armor, but especially Fire Wall since it will be a major damage dealer against Mist Shade. I don't suggest using the water pond to level up or getting Double-Beat Rune right now since you would have to kill your party members everytime you'd heal. We'll come back here after we're left alone in Kyaro Town.

Ok, so the mist starts mixing together and ...

=====
BOSS BATTLE: MIST SHADE (800 HP | 2000 Potch | Kindness Drops[4])
=====

Woohoo, our first boss in this challenge ^-^ !!! Ok, so this is what I'm going to do in boss battles. I'm going to place my stats in here so you can see some important things to have on Riou, and if you have stats like mine (you will, since we'll basicly just level up on bosses and a normal battle or two), then you can surely beat the boss.

Another thing, when I say "change" next to an item, I mean using that item

and when the slot is empty, change to the listed item.

```
=====
My Stats:                               My Equipment:

Riou - Level 9                           HELMET
                                           Leather Hat

HP 98/98                                  ARMOR
MP 3/1/0/0                                Brass Armor

STR  40 EXP 120                            OTHER
TECH 44 PROT 34                            Medicine [6]  -> Change for more Medicine
MAGIC 36 M.DEF 35                          Fire Wall    -> Change for Flaming Arrows[2]
SPEED 39 LUCK 44                            Angry Blow [2] -> Change for Flaming Arrows[2]

H    LOCKED
RH  -----
LH   LOCKED

ATT 46 DEF 42

Twin Fang
Level 2 ATT 6 M
RUNE -----
=====
```

Ok, here we go. Basically just use all your spell scrolls and you'll win, that's it. You should have 1 Fire Wall, 1 Angry Blow [2] and 2 Flaming Arrows [2]. This spell scrolls will give an extra 30 damage to Mist Shade making a total of EXACTLY 800 damage, finishing him (or her) on the spot.

His male form is the most dangerous, being able to attack twice or thrice in one turn, each blow dealing around 20 damage to Riou.... not a pretty sight.

It's best that you pick items from the inventory when Mist Shade is in her female form, which can only hit you once per turn, with her strongest attack doing around 20 damage.

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So Mist Shade is down, let's continue. Pick up Feathered Hat from the path to the right, then head out to Kyaro Town.
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=====
KYARO TOWN
=====
Recruitable SOD : Mukumuku, Nanami (automatically)
=====
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When you reach Kyaro Town your "circus" friends will say goodbye and leave, so as Jowy, so you're left alone to "Rune Hunting". Head back to North Swallow Pass.

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=====
NORTH SWALLOW PASS
=====
```

Go near the water pond and start killing Cut Rabbits as they'll drop Double-

-Beat runes. It's not very easy to obtain one, but it shouldn't take too long. Continue fighting and healing as necessary and after you've got yourself a Double-Beat rune go back near Kyaro Town.

=====

WORLD MAP - KYARO TOWN AREA

Good Enemy Drops : Technique Rune (from enemy: Cut Rabbit)

=====

In this area close to the town you can obtain Technique runes. It's not very important as the money you get throughout the game is more than enough for everything Riou needs, and since we'll be changing runes as soon as we get to South Window, the choice is yours.

=====

KYARO TOWN

If you want you can go back to Ryube Village and get a Technique rune embed on your weapon, but since we'll be back there soon enough, it's not really necessary.

Now, go recruit Mukumuku at the big tree by checking it 3 times, then enter your house and go see Nanami.

Nanami -> Nothing important really, just keep the medicine
***** or sell everything.

Forget about Rowd, he's not worth fighting for, just give yourself up. As soon as you get rescued by Viktor and Flik, go back to Mercenary Fortress and get a Double-Beat rune along the way if you haven't before.

LISTEN TO ME, YOU HAVE TO GET A DOUBLE-BEAT RUNE OR ELSE THIS CHALLENGE CHANGES FROM "NOT SO HARD" TO "VERY HARD", DO IT NOW OR REGRET IT LATER.

(breath in, breath out, breath in, breath out..... just kidding ^-^)

You can also take a Mega Medicine [3] from Flik and a Feathered Hat from Nanami if you missed the one at North Swallow Pass.

=====

MERCENARY FORTRESS

Blacksmith : Up to Level 3

=====

Before beginning your search for more recruits, go sharp your weapon up to level 3 and keep Jowy and Nanami in your party. Get a Technique rune embed on your weapon if you got one, as extra money is always welcome.

Remove your other characters items and either keep them (if they're useful) or sell them for extra money. You can also store them if you're already with a full inventory.

Now travel to Ryube Village and make sure you have at least 3000 potch.

=====

RYUBE VILLAGE

=====

Recruitable SOD : Rikimaru and Millie

=====

Right at the entrance, you'll see Rikimaru lying on the ground, talk to him, pay for his food and he'll be grateful and join you (or maybe he just wants a place to eat for free.... hmmm --'). Next it's Millie, she'll be at the entrance to Ryube Forest, talk to her and agree to help her find her pet, Bonaparte.

=====

RYUBE FOREST

=====

Good Treasure Chests : Leather Cape and Gauntlet

Recruitable SOD : Kinnison and Shiro

=====

Millie doesn't have anything good for Riou since he can't equip Blue Ribbon, so just remove her Boots and Medicine[6] BUT keep the Blue Ribbon on her. That way, Millie will be the last one hit and Riou will start battles unharmed if you place him behind her.

Start by going the left path (yes, the left path), and put the baby bird back to his nest. Continue forward and turn again to the left and pick up Leather Cape and Gauntlet then equip them on Riou. Go back to the beginning and you'll find Kinnison and Shiro next to the baby bird you just saved (walk around a bit if they're not there yet). Tell them you did it and they'll join you both. This time go through the right path and chase Millie's pet until you catch that... that..... thing.

=====

MINI BOSS BATTLE: BONAPARTE (600 HP | 0 Potch | No Items) --'

=====

No need to place my stats here, just attack and heal whenever necessary and he'll go down pretty quickly.

=====

Now leave the forest or go back to where the baby bird is to recruit both Kinnison and Shiro, if you haven't before. Sell all the stuff from Millie and Kinnison (or keep the healing items) then head to Toto Village.

=====

TOTO VILLAGE

=====

Good Items : Guard Robe (from Zamza)

Recruitable SOD : Zamza

=====

At the entrance of Toto Village you'll see little Pilika ^-^, and she'll invite you to her house, but before that, head towards the inn. Talk to Zamza next to the wall (make sure you have Nanami in your party), remove his Guard Robe from him and equip it on Riou, then go to Pilika's house.

There she'll ask you to buy a wooden amulet for her father's birthday, so take her precious 70 potch and head left out of town.

NOTE:

You can now do the "Matilda's Glitch Trick" to level up Riou. I won't do it in this challenge, but I suggest it if you find the monsters too strong for you (although I doubt it).

But before going to Muse, we'll stop by Coronet.

=====

CORONET TOWN

=====

Things to Buy : None (don't buy Shoulder Pads as we're going to replace them at Greenhill).

Blacksmith : Up to Level 5

=====

Sharpen Riou's weapon up to level 5 (you should have plenty of money), then get out and head to Greenhill through the Muse-Geenhill Border.

=====

GREENHILL CITY

=====

Things to Buy : 2 Toe Shoes

Runemaster : Attach a Double-Beat Rune on Riou

=====

Go to the item store, buy 2 Toe Shoes and equip them. Keep the other slot with either medicine or another "Stat-Raising" item. Go inside the New Leaf Academy, enter the rune's classroom and attach a Double-Beat rune to Riou.

While you don't have Bright Shield rune, you can level up a bit if you want, now that will be faster. Next stop, Muse City.

=====

MUSE CITY

=====

Things to Buy : Circuret (Armor Shop - Rare Finds)

Runemaster : Attach a Double-Beat Rune on Riou (if you forgot to do it in Greenhill or didn't travel there).

=====

If you don't find a Circuret, don't worry, it doesn't matter too much, a Feathered Hat will do just fine. Go buy the amulet for Pilika, or make Jowy pay for it, earning an extra 1500 potch, then go back to Toto Village.

=====

TOTO VILLAGE

=====

Recruitable SOD : Apple (automatically) and Hanna

=====
Upon arriving at Toto Village, you'll see the terrible things prince Luca has done to this place. Pilika is safe, although she has lost her parents, so she will accompany you from now on. You'll see Apple and both her and Pilika will join convoy. As you leave Toto, go back inside and talk to Hanna, she'll join you too.

=====
MERCENARY FORTRESS
=====

Equip, sell, store your items as you see fit and make your party with only Riou and Jowy. You'll be in charge of finding Tsai of the Divine Spear.
Tsai's house, here we go!!

=====
RYUBE VILLAGE
=====

|||||

=====
RYUBE FOREST
=====

Recruitable SOD : Tsai (automatically)

=====
Just go to his house, put him in convoy then head out of the forest.
You'll see, once again, the cowardly acts of the Highland Army and his prince, Luca Blight. Don't worry, we'll get our revenge. For now take Tsai back to Viktor and Flik.

=====
MERCENARY FORTRESS
=====

O-----O
\ One on One Duel - Flik \
O-----O

It's a simple battle, the more health you have the better, so just attack until you've dealt 50 damage to Flik and he will let you fight alongside his army.

Name your company and in the next day the Highland Army will attack the fort. Talk to Apple to begin your first strategic battle.

O-----O
/ Strategic Battle #1 /
O-----O

You only command Riou's Unit in this battle, so just do the best you can and it will be over soon.

lucky enough to find them.

Runemaster : If you already have (although I doubt it) an extra rune slot on Riou, then attach the Double-Beat Rune again.

Blacksmith : You can buy runes here and attach them into your weapon in Coronet Town. None is really needed, but a Technique Rune would be nice (especially since you can get an extra 1200 potch from Double-Headed Snake).
=====

|||||
=====

SINDAR RUINS

=====

Good Treasure Chests : Stone of Magic, Chain Mail, Magic Drain Rune and Water Rune
=====

This "Easy-To-Complete-With-A-Map-Dungeon" offers quite some good treasures, especially the Chain Mail, with a wooping "Defense +16" bonus, so be sure to get it. The Water Rune is good to keep but the other two, Fire-Lizard and Magic Drain can be sold for some good extra money.

This is also a good place to level up if you want an extra rune slot for Riou at level 25, but you really don't need to, since Double-Headed Snake is very easy(well, pathetically easy would be the term to describe it)and the experience it gives will shoot you up to a little less than level 25 so don't bother doing it and just go "Snake-Hunting" ^-^.

Well, the treasure of the Sindar Ruins is yours to take, but then again... naaaa, who am I kidding, just squish that snake!!!

=====

BOSS BATTLE: DOUBLE HEADED SNAKE (2500 HP | 4000 Potch | Spark Rune)

=====

My Stats:

Riou - Level 15

HP 152/152
MP 4/1/0/0

STR 59 EXP 438
TECH 67 PROT 48
MAGIC 54 M.DEF 53
SPEED 60 LUCK 66

H LOCKED
RH * Bright Shield
LH LOCKED

My Equipment:

HELMET
Circuret

ARMOR
Chain Mail

OTHER
Medicine [6] -> Change for more Medicine
Toe Shoes
Toe Shoes

ATT 73 DEF 89

Twin Fang
Level 5 ATT 14 M
RUNE * Technique
=====

And to think that I was afraid of this tiny little snake. Her "Double-Head" attack will deal about 3 damage and the 2 magic attacks will deal around 25 damage, not a problem at all, just make sure to use a medicine once in a while in case she gets too angry (hhuuuuu, scaaaaary!!!!).

Attaching a Fire Rune will deal an extra 25% fire damage, speeding up the battle, and an Earth Rune will give you more protection and nullify the "Double-Head" attack, or, you can get some extra money by stealing 1200 potchs from her using a Technique Rune, the choice is yours.

NOTE:

I don't know why, but some bosses, like this one, Abomination, and Bone Dragon, after a few turns in battle, stop using magical attacks. Well that's a good thing nevertheless (except for Bone Dragon 0_0).

What?? An Healing Herb?? You call this a treasure?? What a waste!! If only they knew that this herb would save the treasure that is most dear to Alex.

=====

WHITE DEER INN

Guess what? Alex did find the treasure of the Sindar Ruins, it just wasn't what he expected to be. Well, after Hilda is all better head to Muse City.

=====

MUSE CITY

Runemaster : By now you should be level 25 and obtained a new rune slot for Riou. If so, then attach the Double-Beat Rune again.

Blacksmith : Up to Level 4 (in case you didn't upgrade in Coronet)

Recruitable SOD : Tuta and Anita

=====

The party will try to sneak in, but because of Jowy, they'll be arrested (of course Nanami looked like a 28 years old woman ^-^). After Vickor gets you out of jail, head to the right of the rune shop to meet Elza and Clive, then go the town's entrance to see their "cat and mouse" chase. You'll receive a Sound Set which will be useful to recruit Connell later on.

After Jess asks you to spy on the Highland Camp, be sure to recruit Tuta and Anita before leaving the city.

Anita -> You can get her Circuret if you haven't found one yet.

=====

PATH TO HIGHLAND CAMP

Good Treasure Chests : Circuret (if you still haven't got one)

Good Enemy Drops : Belt of Strength (from enemy: Kill Rabbit)

=====
The Circuret is in the path to the right of the entrance, and it would be a good idea to try and get a Belt of Strength or two, although without a Double-Beat Rune it could take a while. Soon you'll be at the Highland Camp.

=====
HIGHLAND CAMP
=====

Must-Get Items : Fire Sealing Rune (DO NOT FORGET THIS RUNE !!!)
=====

I REPEAT, DO NOT FORGET THE FIRE SEALING RUNE !!!!!

Without this rune, your battle with Luca Blight will be unbelievably hard. You can get it after you check on the provisions or after you leave Jillia's tent, but DO NOT FORGET THE FIRE SEALING RUNE.

And if Jowy's still equipped with something, remove it. Now back to Muse.

=====
MUSE CITY
=====

Recruitable SOD : Gilbert (in Strategic Battle #3)
=====

After all the events in Muse, it's time for your third strategic battle.

O-----O
/ Strategic Battle #3 /
O-----O

You'll see the mercenary Gilbert working with the Highland Army, and if you wound him, he'll join your side, so be sure to damage him in order to obtain all of the 108 Stars of Destiny. Just battle it out, be careful not to let Riou's Unit die, and it will finish quickly.

After a little more talking, unveiled truths and mysteries, Riou will escape from Muse with Nanami and Pilika.

=====
WORLD MAP - MERCENARY FORTRESS AND TOTO VILLAGE
=====

Recruitable SOD : Templton
=====

But before heading to Coronet, we'll stop by the Mercenary Fortress to recruit another Star of Destiny, Templton. He'll be at the entrance arguing with 2 Highland soldiers who won't allow him to enter the fortress. Talk to him and he will leave. Follow him to Toto Village and talk to him again and ask him to join you, done.

=====

CORONET VILLAGE

=====

Blacksmith : Up to Level 5

=====

Recruitable SOD : Eilie, Rina and Bolgan (all automatically)

=====

Upon arriving, Nanami will say that they need to catch a boat to Kuskus town then travel to South Window, that that was the information given to her by a "cute" mapmaker she met (geeez, like we didn't knew him already --').

Anyway, at the docks, a Highland soldier will stop them from traveling by boat, so go back to town and enter the inn. Guess who's here, your old friends Eilie, Rina and Bolgan, the 3 circus brothers ^_^ . You'll have to find a way to get a boat, so go right just before you reach the docks and talk to the two men on the house, Tai Ho and Yam Koo, who will agree to take you to Kuskus Town if you can win a game of Chinchirorin. You should have plenty of money by now, and if you don't, just sell a few unuseful runes like Fire Lizard, Titan or Unicorn. After you win, go tell your friends at the pub and travel down to Kuskus.

=====

KUSKUS TOWN

=====

Blacksmith : Up to Level 6

=====

Once you reach Kuskus it's time to head toward South Window but before that be sure to sharpen Riou's weapon up to level 6, you'll need it.

=====

SOUTH WINDOW

=====

Things to Buy : Clay Guardian [2] and 2 Belts of Strength

=====

Things to Find : Friendship Rune

=====

Runemaster : Attach the Double-Beat Rune in your left hand

=====

Blacksmith : Go back to Kuskus Town and attach the Friendship Rune

=====

Recruitable SOD : Viktor, Flik and Freed Y(all automatically)

=====

At the entrance you'll see Viktor and after checking on the girls (except Nanami ^_~) head to the inn to pick up both Viktor and Flik to your group, visit Lord Granmeyer, and say hello to Clive by the way ^-^.

The Friendship Rune is inside a bonsai, the fourth from the left to the right of Gantetsu.

Viktor -> Take his Half Helmet and equip it on Riou. You can use the
***** Chain Mail too if you didn't get the one in the Sindar Ruins.

Flik -> Take advantage of his Lightning Rune, you can keep it
***** (or even attach it), or sell it for more money (in case you
lost a lot in Chinchirorin ^-^).

After earing from the mayor about the terrible monster that only captures girls, you'll be getting a hand from the most polite Freed Y. Go back to the inn then go out of town. Don't forget to pass through Kuskus Town to attach the Friendship Rune on Riou (or another rune if you prefer) then go see what's up at North Window.

=====
NORTH WINDOW
=====

You'll soon find that a vampire has attacked Viktor's village a few years ago, but that Viktor defeated it, so the problem was over ... or was it ?
The "Blood Sucking" Vampire Neclord will appear right before their eyes as Viktor will be very suprised by finding that his worst nightmare is yet to be finished. Don't bother fighting him, he'll just crush you to the ground. We need the Star Dragon Sword and to obtain it, we need to go to the Cave of the Wind, as it seems the sword is 'hiding' in there (a sword ... hiding?, how strange...).

=====
CAVE OF THE WIND
=====

Good Treasure Chests : Blue Gate Rune and Stone of Defense
=====

An easy dungeon it terms of navigating. About the monsters, you should be careful not to let your guard down, as they can quickly change the flow of the battle, especially the Sun King.

Be sure to pick up the Blue Gate Rune in one of the 3 treasure chests by the old man (what the heck is he doing there ? ... not exactly the best place for summer vacations -_-'), and the Stone of Defense in case you want to "Power Up" Riou. Close to the Star Dragon Sword lair, you'll see Kahn, a vampire hunter from the Marley family who also wants to banish Neclord, he'll join your party, and soon you'll find 'her', or is it 'him', 'it' maybe?

=====
BOSS BATTLE: STAR DRAGON SWORD (2500 HP | 0 Potch | No Items) Scrooge -_-'
=====

My Stats:

Riou - Level 26

HP 265/265

MP 6/3/1/0

STR 97 EXP 153

TECH 98 PROT 72

MAGIC 80 M.DEF 78

SPEED 89 LUCK 95

My Equipment:

HELMET

Half Helmet

ARMOR

Chain Mail

OTHER

Belt of Strength

Belt of Strength

Clay Guardian

-> Change for Medicine

H LOCKED
RH * Bright Shield
LH * Double-Beat

ATT 127 DEF 110

Twin Heaven Fang
Level 6 ATT 18 M
RUNE * Friendship

=====
Haaaaa, a talking sword !!! And mean too. Ho, and cocky as well. Lots of "qualities" for this old "pal", starting with its speed. It strikes 2 times per turn, having 3 different attacks, 1 physical and 2 magicals. The "Sword Thrust" attack with Clay Guardian activated does around 3 damage (your best bet), the "Lightning" attack will do about 30 damage and the "Black Sphere" attack around 50 damage.

You shouldn't have many problems, if any. Start the battle by using Clay Guardian then picking up some medicine from the inventory, heal whenever your health is under 100 HP and take advantage of Battle Oath's berserk.

=====
Now that you obtained the Star Dragon Sword, go heal at South Window if you need to, then head towards North Window.

=====
NORTH WINDOW
=====

Good Treasure Chests : Fire Rune and Stone of Magic Defense
=====

Nice surround system Neclord has installed in his castel ^_^, you can hear his organ all over it. How come we can't use it once the castel is ours ?

Well anyway, you can pick up the Fire Rune at the entrance to the right and the Stone of Magic Defense in the main hall hiding behind a pillar. We'll just move a few statues, light a few candels (geez, could it be more obvious ?), and soon you'll reach Neclord's chamber where he'll run off like a scared little girl and call his big pet...

=====
BOSS BATTLE: ABOMINATION (4500 HP | 10000 Potch | No Items)
=====

My Stats:

Riou - Level 31

HP 316/316

MP 6/3/1/0

STR 108 EXP 403

TECH 111 PROT 82

MAGIC 89 M.DEF 88

SPEED 99 LUCK 106

H LOCKED

My Equipment:

HELMET

Half Helmet

ARMOR

Chain Mail

OTHER

Belt of Strength

Belt of Strength

Clay Guardian -> Change for Medicine

RH * Bright Shield
LH * Double-Beat

ATT 138 DEF 120

Twin Heaven Fang
Level 6 ATT 18 M
RUNE * Friendship

=====

Bad Abomination, bad !!!! He has 3 kinds of attacks, 2 physicals and 1 magical. His magical attack is the most dangerous dealing around 70 damage to Riou (auch!), the "Stomp" attack deals around 35 damage and the "Jump" attack only a mere 3 damage, so pray that he jumps a lot (here boy, catch!).

Again, start the battle by using Clay Guardian then changing for medicine. Hopefully later in battle, he'll stop using that nasty magical attack and just use physical attacks, that'll give you some room to breath. Battle Oath's berserk is a major helper. One time or another, you'll win this battle.

=====

When the battle is over, Kahn will leave the party and before we have the chance to travel to South Window, Flik and the others appear and explain that the city has fallen to the Highland army, and that Lord Granmeyer was murdered by General Solon Jhee. After hearing about what happened during the invasion, Apple will suggest that we ask an amazing strategist called Shu to join us in order to defeat the Highland Army once and for all. It seems he's living in Radat Town, so head there.

=====

RADAT TOWN

Recruitable SOD : Shu (automatically)

=====

Once in Shu's house, Apple will ask for his help, but he refuses, to the surprise of Apple, because since he is a trader, a war makes a lot of profit for his businesses. Go to the pub and once you leave Shu will appear, and once again Apple will beg for him to lend his strength, but again, he refuses.

Don't give up, go talk to Richmond, the best investigator in Radat (well, the only one in fact -_-') near the appraisal shop and pay for his services, then sleep over at the inn. At night, Richmond will appear and tell you that Shu will be at the port to the east to make a trade, so the next day head to the bridge near the port. When Shu finally appears, Apple will once again ask for Shu's help, but this time Shu is willing to give a chance to her, so he throws a coin into the river and if Apple finds it, Shu will join our army.

First we need to stop the flow of the river, so go talk to the men in green near the bridge, but he won't do it since the gate can only be closed in special occasions. But then Amada shows up and explains why the gate cannot be closed but then he gets so much admired by Riou's determination that he proposes a fight between the two of them, and if Riou wins, then he'll close the gate.

O-----O

\ One on One Duel - Amada \
O-----O

He shouldn't do any significant damage, so simply attacking will finish him in 3 or 4 blows.

Apple, Riou and Nanami will be all night searching for the gold coin and when everything seems lost, Riou finds it and Shu then agrees to join your side (Thanks Richmond!! ^-^).

=====
HEADQUARTERS CASTLE
=====

Back at the castle, Riou, Shu and the others will plan a strategy for Solon Jhee's assault against the headquarters. In the morning go talk to Shu and the battle shall begin.

O-----O
/ Strategic Battle #4 /
O-----O

The battle will start by some of our troops attacking the enemy. The next turn, Riou's Unit will appear, which you can control, so go forward to Solon Jhee's Unit. Next the South Window remaining armies will join your side and a few turns later, the Highland army will retreat.

=====
A New Destiny
=====

When you arrive at the castle from the battle, everyone will be cheering for Riou and congratulating him for defeating General Solon Jhee's army and by so, Shu asks him to become the leader of the New State Army. At night you can go to the tabern and hear about what happened between the State City and Genkaku.

In the morning, agree to become the leader of the New State Army and Doctor Huan will appear and join you, next is to choose a name for your castle.

After all is decided, Leknaat will appear and present you with the Stone of Promise and Luc's aid. The next day, Fitcher will be at the entrance of the castle and ask you where the leader that defeated General Solon Jhee is, he'll then go to the Great Hall. Follow him and he'll ask you to forge an alliance with the people of Two River City. Accept, pick up Freed Y and head to Radat for some new recruits.

=====
RADAT TOWN
=====

Recruitable SOD : Yoshino, Richmond and Amada
=====

First is Yoshino, take Freed Y to talk to her and she'll join you. Next in line is Richmond, he'll join you if you guess the right side of the coin he'll join. When you give up of trying go to the pub, talk to the man at the first table to the left and he'll say that Richmond is tricking you so he'll give you a coin. Talk again to Richmond and since you found out his little trick he'll join you. Finally in Radat go talk to Amada by the bridge. Again agree to battle him out, just like the other battle, attack and you'll win very easily, he'll then join you. Next stop, Kuskus Town.

Amada -> Be sure to keep his Chirashi-Zuchi [5] in your inventory
***** as it'll be useful in later battles.

=====
KUSKUS TOWN
=====

Recruitable SODs : Tai Ho and Yam Koo
=====

Go near the docks where you last saw Tai Ho and Yam Koo and ask him to join your army. He will if (there's always an "if" -_-') you can win 5000 or more potch in a game of Chinchirorin. After you won, go visit South Window.

Tai Ho -> Take his Grilled Fish [5].

Yam Koo -> Take his Obento [4].

=====
SOUTH WINDOW
=====

Recruitable SOD : Alex & Hilda and Adlai
=====

Once here, head to the inn to see Alex, Hilda and their son Pete, Hilda asks Riou to let them join him so accept. Now go to the house above the armor shop to find Adlai, he'll ask you for a Sacrificial Jizo, a Wooden Shield and a Wind Rune. Bolgan has a Sacrificial Jizo or you can buy one in Kuskus Item Shop Rare Finds, and you can buy both the Wooden Shield and the Wind Rune in South Window. Give him the first two, but throw the Wind Rune at him and he'll join you. Now you can head to Lakewest Village, but first go to the Great Hall at the Headquarters Castle. And go alone, it'll make things more simple. Ho, and get Grilled Fish and Obento from Tai Ho and Yam Koo.

=====
LAKEWEST TOWN
=====

Recruitable SOD : Taki
=====

In here, enter the last house to the north-west and talk to the old woman in

red, it's Taki. After you talk many times to her, ask her to join.

Now go back to your castle to recruit some more companions. Choose 5 female members for your party then head to Kuskus Town.

NOTE:

You can get a Kindness Rune from the basket near the boat but only when you reach Lakewest for the first time, if you want it pick it up. Although it won't be too useful in this challenge, it's good to know it's there (since you would need to have other party members with you to power it up, which you shouldn't, you should be always alone whenever possible).

=====
KUSKUS TOWN
=====

Recruitable SODs : Oulan
=====

First talk to the old woman by the entrance, then leave and reenter the town, go over the bridge to encounter the gang (you must have an all-female party). Oulan will save Riou, ask her to join you and she will. Now go to South Window.

=====
SOUTH WINDOW
=====

Recruitable SODs : Clive
=====

Talk to him, tell him that you have a boat and that you can take him to Lakewest if he comes with you, done. Go ahead and take him there since we're going there anyway.

=====
KOBOLD VILLAGE
=====

Things to Buy : 2 Gold Emblems (Item Shop - Rare Finds)

Things to Find : Exertion Rune
=====

First we'll stop by this village, go to the item shop, and if you're lucky, you'll find some Gold Emblems which will be useful against Pest Rat's magical attacks. Check the pot on the left of the entrance to the elder's house to find an Exertion Rune. I recommend you go back to Kuskus Town and attach the Exertion Rune on Riou's weapon. Now, to Two River City.

=====
TWO RIVER CITY
=====

Recruitable SOD : Fitcher, Ridley & Chaco (automatically), Hans
=====

Upon reaching the Human's District of Two River City, a winger by the name of Chaco steals your wallet and with it, your introduction letter. When you go talk to the guards, they won't let you in, so follow Chaco all the way through

Winger's District, who again proves to be very annoying by flying out of your sight. Once back to the Human's District, you'll see Fitcher who's about to take a punishment from Ridley. After that mistake is solved, talk to Makai, then go to sleep at New Leaf Inn. When you enter the inn, go upstairs but before going into your room, talk twice to Hans in the room next to yours and invite him to come to your castle for free. Then you'll find Chaco in your room, eating your food, and he runs away AGAIN (he's got some nerve -_-).

In the morning, Fitcher tells you that there is a problem at the city hall, it seems Makai and Ridley are arguing about a deal that the humans have made with the Highland army. Ridley will go back to his district furiously, so follow him. The kobold guards won't let you in, and when you try to go back, Chaco steals Fitcher's wallet (now THAT was funny ^-^). Chase him once again, and when you surround him, he'll open a secret passage to the sewers, that's where we're going next.

=====

TWO RIVER CITY - SEWERS

Good Treasure Chests : Head Gear, Resurrection Rune, Fire Emblem and
Stone of Defense.

=====

An easy dungeon and pretty much straightforward. Make sure you get the Head Gear right at the beginning, and the Fire Emblem later on. Sid's house is under the waterfall if you're interested. When you reach the end of the sewers, you'll soon realize that the housekeeper doesn't like uninvited guests at its house.

=====

BOSS BATTLE: PEST RAT (3500 HP | 20000 Potch | Poison Rune)

=====

My Stats:

Riou - Level 34

HP 347/347
MP 7/3/1/0

STR 104 EXP 210
TECH 117 PROT 87
MAGIC 95 M.DEF 114
SPEED 105 LUCK 113

My Equipment:

HELMET
Head Gear

ARMOR
Chain Mail

OTHER
Gold Emblem
Gold Emblem
Clay Guardian -> Change for Mega Medicine

H LOCKED
RH * Bright Shield
LH * Double-Beat

ATT 122 DEF 137

Twin Heaven Fang
Level 6 ATT 18 M
RUNE * Exertion

=====

NOTE:

If you didn't find Gold Emblems in Kobold Village, you can try and find Guard Rings (Defense + 7 ; Magic Defense + 10) at the Item Shop Rare Finds in the Human District.

Start again by using Clay Guardian then changing for some Mega Medicine (or another "High Recovery" medicine item). Pest Rat attacks twice in a row and has 3 kinds of attack, 1 physical, 2 magicals. The physical without Clay Guardian deals around 65 damage, and with Clay Guardian it lowers to a mere 2 damage (WOW!!! Big Diference!!!) and it's highly avoidable. The "Poison" magic attacks does around 50 damage + poison, and the "Falling Roof" magical attack (yes, it's magic type) is the strongest, dealing around 70 damage.

If you have an Exertion Rune embed on Riou's weapon, his damage in a few turns will change from around 60 to 110 (WOW AGAIN!!!), so make sure you have one. You can also use a Fire Rune, but I think the Exertion is better, especially with a Double-Beat Rune included. Let's hope he uses the physical attack more often than not, heal whenever your health is under 150 HP, and if you're lucky, you'll get berserked by Bright Shield Rune's Battle Oath.

=====
=====
|||||
=====

When you leave the sewers using the stairs in the front, you'll end up at the Kobold District where Ridley will catch you too sneaking in. Ridley will then explain why he was so angry with Lord Makai. Afterwards, head back to the Human's District to find Lord Makai speaking with General Kiba and his son and strategist Klaus. Talk to Makai in the assembly hall about Ridley's conversation, and when you get out, Chaco will invite you to his Granny's house. Once there, show her your Bright Shield Rune, and she'll tell you about the Winger's past. When it's over, go sleep at the inn.

In the morning, at the entrance of the city, you'll see that the Highland army has broke its promise and starts attacking the human soldiers, and you're in too. You'll have the chance to try and change Ridley's mind, but since you should be almost level 40, continue fighting the Highland soldiers by not giving up. It all seems lost, but then the Wingers will come and help protect the city since it's their own too. And to their surprise, Ridley appears with its Kobold army and helps defending the city as well.

The Highland army will retreat, and you'll see what's happening on Highland's side, General Solon Jhee will be executed for failing to capture Riou's castle, and Jowy will step up and accept to capture Greenhill with only 5000 men and Muse's prisoners.

Back at Two River City, go to the assembly hall to find Shu. Fitcher and Ridley will join your army, and at the entrance Chaco will ask to join your army too, so accept and he'll return your wallet (but not Fitcher's ^-^).

Time to recruit some new companions!!!

=====
TWO RIVER CITY
=====
Things to Buy : Silver Hat (Kobold Armor Shop - Rare Finds), and Fried Tacos
=====

Now that you've got your money back, go back to the Kobold District and buy some Fried Tacos, and if you're lucky, a Silver Hat from the Armor Shop.
Travel to Lakewest Town.

=====
LAKEWEST TOWN
=====

Recruitable SOD : Tetsu
=====

Use the Fried Tacos so that you'll have little vapor clouds around you, then talk to Tetsu and tell him you love baths. Then go back to your headquarters.

=====
HEADQUARTERS CASTLE
=====

Recruitable SOD : Hai Yo
=====

At the second floor of the castle, go right, down the stairs then down again, go through the 4 doors passage and invite Hai Yo to be your Chef.

Hai Yo -> Take his BBQ Meat Bun [9].

Head towards Radat Town.

=====
RADAT TOWN
=====

Recruitable SOD : Stallion
=====

Talk to the "Blue Haired Speedy Elf", Stallion, and challenge him to a race. If you run away 50 times or more from battles, you'll win the race and he'll join you.

Stallion -> Take his Sunomono [7].

Now go pick up Gengen and Chaco at Leona's Tavern and sail to Lakewest Town.

=====
LAKEWEST TOWN
=====

Recruitable SOD : Shilo
=====

Enter the inn, and talk to Shilo for him to join your army, and just like Tai Ho, he'll challenge you for a game of Chinchirorin, you win and he join.
Next talk to the couple of Tengaar and Hix, and they'll tell you that Hix is on a quest to become a real man, a warrior from Warrior's Village, then

they'll leave to Kobold Village, but first let's pass by Two River City.

=====

TWO RIVER CITY

=====

Recruitable SOD : Sid and Gabocha

=====

Make sure you have Chaco in your party then head down to the sewers, and go through a hidden passage below the waterfall to find Sid's house. Chaco and him will have a friendly conversation (very friendly alright ^-^) and Sid will invite himself into the group (poor Chaco ^-^).

Sid -> Take his Mayo Rice Omelet [9].

Next in the Kobold District, enter the first house to the right and you'll see Gabocha, Gengen's old friend and fan ^-^. He'll say that he wants to come and fight with Gengen, but Gengen says he's too small to fight yet, but as you get out of his house, he follows you ^-^.

Next stop, Muse-Greenhill border.

=====

MUSE-GREENHILL BORDER

=====

Recruitable SOD : Meg and Gadget

=====

In here, Meg is trying to go through the border, but the Highland soldiers won't let her, so she'll threaten them about how Gadget will beat them up, but Gadget won't make a move and make Meg embarrassed. Gadget will process the information and greet you, then Meg will have the "briliant" idea of joining Riou's army, so both of them will.

Meg -> Take her Anchovy Pizza [5].

Now go to the Forest Village, way west of Greenhill.

=====

FOREST VILLAGE

=====

Recruitable SOD : Wakaba and Tony

=====

You'll find Wakaba next to the Armor Shop, in search for worthy opponents to fight against. Riou will show him his strength, Wakaba will be impressed and join you.

Wakaba -> Take his Skill Ring away from him, quickly ^-^.

=====
At the Great Hall, everyone will congratulate Riou for forging an alliance with Two River and Shu has an announcement to make, but that it will be made the next day. You'll go to sleep, and in the next day go again to the main hall and Shu will tell us that Greenhill has fallen to Highland. You'll have to sneak into Greenhill and rescue Lady Teresa. Take only the forced ones, Nanami and "Teacher Flik" ^-^. When you're ready, head to Greenhill.

=====
GREENHILL CITY
=====

Recruitable SOD : Teresa, Shin, Nina (automatically) and Emilia
=====

Once you arrive, talk to Fitcher who's hidden in the woods and he'll give you some papers so you can get into the city. Come up with those fake names (I liked Sturtheim Reinbach III ^-^ ... ha ha just kidding!!) then enter the city and head to the New Leaf Academy. On the way, you'll see a Highland soldier harassing a female student called Nina. Flik will stop the guard and become Nina's Charming Prince ^-^'..... ok. Register at the academy and ask Emilia about Shin, tell her the truth about your intentions and she'll join your group.

Outdoors you'll find again Nina who'll kidnap Flik from you, and since Pilika seems tired, go to the dorms and rest. The next day, you'll find Flik outside the dorms, he then tells you that Shin looks very suspicious and quickly runs away from Nina who is chasing him ^-^. Go downtown, and the inn will be surrounded by Highland soldiers who believe that Lady Teresa may be hidden there, but Shin suddenly appears and cools things off. Go after him when he leaves, but soon you'll lost track of him, so go to sleep at the dorms again. After supper, you'll find Nina and have a little talk with her. She'll warn Nanami about the "wandering ghost" ("at the stroke of midnight"... ^-^, ha ha, look at Pilika's reaction ^-^). Again in the morning, head towards the academy and left of Emilia you'll see Nina who's again chasing Flik.

Outside, Flik joins you then head downtown and watch Fitcher being accused of treason. After Fitcher is saved, he'll tell you that he hasn't yet found about Teresa whereabouts, so once again head back to the dorms, where you'll see Flik running away from Nina... again ^-^'. At night, you'll hear someone walking around the floor, and Nanami thinks it's the ghost so go after him.

He'll go through a secret passage by lighting the middle lamp, and when you catch the dark figure, you'll find Flik who was chasing Shin all the way to the academy. Open another secret passage by moving the statue.

Go all the way through the forest path until you find a little house where Lady Teresa is hidden. Shin will stop you from going any further, and after Pilika starts to cry, Lady Teresa shows up and stop the discussion. You'll then ask her help, but she'll refuse because she has already made her people suffer enough. Lady Teresa will explain what happened during the invasion of Greenhill, and you'll have to go back without her help. When you're about to the the town, you'll see Rowd who promises a reward in exchange of Lady Teresa's whereabouts. Then the least expected happens, out of all the people, Jowy appears to the suprise of our friends at the side of Highland. Pilika runs off towards him, Jowy and Riou look at each other and then Rowd commands his soldiers to capture Riou and the others. A battle will then start with some Highland soldiers.

After you've won, go to where Lady Teresa is, and you'll have some fights

in between with more Highland soldiers. When you arrive, you'll learn that Nina has been helping too, by bringing food up here for Lady Teresa.

She'll then give up and surrender to the Highland forces. Shin, Riou, Flik and Nanami will still try to stop them from getting their hands on Lady Teresa. All of a sudden, the people of Greenhill appears and help saving Lady Teresa as well. Run away with her through the forest pass going through the back door of her house.

=====
|||||
=====

GREENHILL CITY - FOREST PATH

Good Treasure Chests : Silver Hat
=====

Be sure to pick up the Silver Hat if you didn't find one in Two River. With it's "Defense + 19" and "Heals HP" it'll make a great addition to Riou's equipments. A little further into the forest, Jowy will appear and advice Riou to relinquish leadership of his army and run away with Nanami. Nanami will try to convince Jowy to come with them, but a group of Highland soldiers show up and they had to run. You'll see what has happened with Jowy after you've run and next, go to Two River City.

=====
TWO RIVER CITY

Recruitable SOD : Jeane
=====

Just go into the Rune Shop and ask Jeane to join you. Next, Kobold Village.

=====
KOBOLD VILLAGE

Recruitable SOD : Yuzu
=====

Talk to Yuzu, the little girl in red and help her find her sheeps, then tell her to bring them into your castle.

=====
HEADQUARTERS CASTLE

Upon reaching the Great Hall, shu will congratulate you for rescuing Lady Teresa. Shin then appears, it seems Fitcher helped him by using one of the many secret passages in Greenhill, and guess who came along, Nina, and she'll take Flik with her out of the hall. At night you'll see Jowy who asks prince Luca to marry princess Jillia and says that he has a new idea for the future of Highland. The next day, at the Great Hall, Shu will recommend that we forge an alliance with the kingdom of Matilda, so travel to the forest path north of Greenhill.

Nina -> Take her Spicy Pilaf [6].

NOTE:

When Nanami insists to go with you, continue to refuse so she'll join Convoy instead of Party.

=====
FOREST PATH TO MATILDA
=====

Good Treasure Chests : Dragon Armor

Recruitable SOD : Viki
=====

You can get a fantastic "Defense + 30" Dragon Armor at the little hill before you find Viki, whom you'll agree to let her stay at your castle.

Viki -> Take her Tempura [5].

A little further you'll meet Miklotov, Captain of the Blue Knights of Matilda who'll take you to Rockaxe Castle.

=====
ROCKAXE CASTLE
=====

Things to Find : Violence Rune (GET THIS!!! IT'S VERY IMPORTANT!!!)

Runemaster : Attach Violence Rune on Riou (you should be level 40 by now)
=====

Go inside the castle and talk to Lord Gorudo, who'll despise your hard work and your army. He won't even let you speak, he'll just order Camus to let you rest and then escort you to the border. At night, Leknaat will appear and speak to Riou about his destiny and the hard work he still has in his future.

When you wake up, near the throne room, Miklotov will inform Lord Gorudo that a group of refugees are trying to escape from the Highland army to Matilda. It's time for your fifth strategic battle (finally -_-').

O-----O
/ Strategic Battle #5 /
O-----O

It's been a long time since you had your last strategic battle, and not a thing to do in this one. Ho well, just watch the refugees being slaughtered.

After the battle, you'll see that Miklotov intends to travel over to Muse so he can see for himself what's happening there, so follow him outside.

Now's the chance to go pick up the Violence Rune who is inside the appraisal shop, on the bookshelf in the back of the store (DON'T FORGET TO PICK IT UP!).

Attach it on Riou's Weapon, then go right of Rockaxe into Highway Village.

=====

HIGHWAY VILLAGE

Recruitable SOD : Humphrey and Futch

=====

Once here, head to the inn and Futch will bump into you, go up to see Sir Humphrey, talk to him and you'll see Futch and Kent talking about dragons and that Futch is a dragon knight, he'll show a dragon scale to prove that it's true and promise Kent someday to take him to a ride on a dragon. Back at the inn, have a little chat with Humphrey and he'll pay for your stay at the inn.

In the morning thank him and outside you'll see Kent and another guy talking and the guy says that his wife saw the shadow of a dragon up in Mt. Rakutei, Kent will run off there to see the dragon himself. Speak again with Humphrey, then sleep at the inn. The next morning, a group of villagers, Humphrey and Futch are saying that Kent has ran away, so to return the favor, go save Kent.

=====

RAKUTEI MOUNTAIN

Good Treasure Chests : Stone of Power, Skill Ring and Thunder Amulet

=====

At first, the mist will stop you from going any further, but Riou's Bright Shield Rune will clean it up, making it possible for you to advance.

There are some pretty good items in here so search everywhere, but be carefull with the monsters, although they should give you too much trouble.

Save at the Journeyman Crystal (you'll need it 0_0'), then go up to find Kent, and the "WannaBe Dragon" ...

=====

BOSS BATTLE: HARPY (7400 HP | 40000 Potch | No Items)

=====

My Stats:

Riou - Level 41

HP 422/422

MP 7/4/2/1

STR 119 EXP 127

TECH 132 PROT 98

MAGIC 109 M.DEF 128

SPEED 122 LUCK 130

H * Violence

RH * Bright Shield

LH * Double-Beat

My Equipment:

HELMET

Silver Hat

ARMOR

Dragon Armor

OTHER

Gold Emblem

Gold Emblem

Clay Guardian -> Change for Mega Medicine
or another "High Recovery"
item

ATT 137 DEF 167

Twin Heaven Fang

Level 6 ATT 18 M

RUNE * Exertion

=====

If you got Winged Boots, exchange for a Gold Emblem, that way you'll avoid

Harpy's physical attacks easier.

This birdy is a tough cookie (birdy, cookie, what the heck am I thinking?).

Harpy attacks twice in one turn and has 4 kinds of attacks, "Wind Slash" and "Hurricane" attacks, both magical, "Grab" and "Normal" attacks, both physical.

Both magical attacks are very powerfull, dealing a little under 100 damage each and the "Grab" attack can unbalance you. Start with Clay Guardian, then change to some "High Recovery" item, powering up the Exertion Rune every turn.

Hopefully, Harpy will do a lot of physical attacks and Riou will avoid them, while he does up to 450 damage each turn with a fully powered Exertion Rune.

If you have the Violence Rune (which you should, if you don't, go back to Rockaxe castle, seriously!) Riou will be able to deal up to 2400 damage each turn, more if he gets critical!!!!

=====

After Kent is saved, he'll insist that he heard a dragon the night before, but Futch says that it's impossible that a dragon could live there. Go upwards to find a dragon egg, Kent will be very excited, but Futch doesn't want a new dragon. As Humphrey tries to destroy the egg, it hatches, and a white dragon is born from there. Humphrey explain to Futch that it's ok for him to have a new dragon, that he wouldn't have to forget about Black, so Futch becomes its master and christens him "Bright".

As you leave Rakutei Mountain, ask for Humphrey and Futch's assistance in this war, and they'll accept. Now it's time to follow Miklotov at Muse-Matilda Border (geeez, he must be tired of waiting --').

=====

MUSE-MATILDA BORDER

At the gates, you'll catch Miklotov who'll request that he accompanies you so that he doesn't look too conspicuous alone. Go through the gate and the guards will let you pass freely, so travel to Muse.

=====

MUSE CITY

But before arriving you'll see a sacrifice being held for a Double-Headed Wolf Monster. Jowy and Luca will be up at Jowston Hill watching that cruel show, with Luca laughing of amusement. Enter the city, which seems empty, then go to Jowston Hill gate to see a Muse citizen falling on the ground, a soldier will appear and you'll have to battle him out. Now go back to Rockaxe castle.

=====

ROCKAXE CASTLE

Recruitable SOD : Miklotov and Camus

=====

At the castle you'll see Camus who'll greet Miklotov and ask if everythings ok, but Miklotov is out of control and goes straight into Gorudo's chambers.

He'll explain what he saw at Muse, but Gorudo refuses to help him invade Muse, saying that Miklotov must obey his oath and obey his king. Miklotov, in disgust of hearing Gorudo's words, resigns his position as Captain of the Blue Knights of Matilda. Camus follows his steps and breaks his oath too, then asks

Riou to join his army. To the captains surprise, their knights also break their oaths and join Miklotov and Camus in their decision.

As you escape through Matilda's Forest Path, you'll meet Shu who's there to escort you to the castle and then Camus appears with a handful of knights who also decides to join Riou's army. All of you will then return to the castle.

=====
HEADQUARTERS CASTLE
=====

After talking at the Great Hall, go to your room and Pilika will be there. On Highland's side, prince Luca and Jowy will be discuting their new strategy, then Jowy will introduce Leon Silverburg, a strategist who fought at the Scarlet Moon Empire war, who's got everything planned out for the victory of Highland.

In the morning, at the Great Hall, Shu will inform you that the Highland's 3rd Company of General Kiba and Klaus have appeared in Radat Town, Viktor then tells Riou to go check it out.

=====
RADAT TOWN
=====

When you get here, you'll see the entire town gathered together to hear General Kiba and Klaus's speech. Klaus will notice you and tell you that Lord Jowy and princess Jillia are getting married then walks away to prepare for the next battles.

Now we need to go back to the castle, but first go to Kuskus Town and shapen Riou's weapon up to level 11 (ha, no more level 6).

=====
HEADQUARTERS CASTLE
=====

Recruitable SOD : Kiba and Klaus
=====

At the Great Hall, Shu will ask for your permission to deploy the troops for your next strategic battle.

O-----O
/ Strategic Battle #6 /
O-----O

Not that you have full control of your troops, start attacking the Highland army. Ridley will ask why only his kobold troops are in th e fornt lines.

A few turns later, Ridley will be angry at that and retreat his troops, weakning your army. Shu will then orders to retreat from the battle.

Go to rest at your room and Eilie will say a few cheering words to you. At L'Renouille, you'll see Jowy making an oath to King Agares, but it was all

a plan to make prince Luca the King of Highland.

The next day, at the Great Hall, Shu will explain his strategy of ambushing General Kiba's Company and the battle will start.

O-----O
/ Strategic Battle #7 /
O-----O

Klaus will figure out Shu's strategy, and tries to go directly to Riou in order to win. Wait until their close enough, and your other units will appear.

After a few turns, your army will be in trouble, but then Ridley's kobold units appear and help you. A few more turns in battle and Kiba will ask for 4th Company's help, but Leon Silverburg shows up and orders the 4th Company to retreat, making General Kiba's Company forced to surrender.

Kiba and Klaus will be taken to the castle and asked to join your army. They refuse, but as a letter from Leon Silverburg arrives suggesting that prince Luca has murdered King Agares, they'll join you.

In the morning, at the entrance of your castle, you'll see a girl who's chasing Sheena, who'll then run off into the castle. Head to the Great Hall, and Shu will say that the army needs more allies but that it seems that there aren't any other to ask for an alliance. Sheena then shows up and proposes an alliance with his father, the Toran Republic's president. Since it's the only possible alliance at the moment, accept the offer.

Now before you head to Radat Town, go to South Window, and at the city hall Freed Y will talk about Lord Granmeyer. Now go to Radat and speak to the guy near the boat at the docks and he'll take you to Banner Village.

=====
BANNER VILLAGE
=====

Things to buy : Rose Brooch
=====

|||||
=====

FOREST PATH TO TORAN REPUBLIC
=====

Good Treasure Chests : Stone of Luck and Magic Ring
=====

Woohoo!! Cool battle song ^-^!! This is a pretty much straightforward "maze", and contains a few good items as well, the only "bad" thing is that it's a very loooooong way to Gregminster -_-'. As you go through the forest, it would be nice to try and pick up at least Stone of Luck and Magic Ring, both being at the "ropes section".

A little further into the woods, and you'll find a "bug" (no, not a glitch, a real bug ^-^).

=====
BOSS BATTLE: WORM (4200 HP | 35000 Potch | No Items)

My Stats:

Riou - Level 44
 HP 452/452
 MP 8/4/2/1
 STR 125 EXP 52
 TECH 158 PROT 102
 MAGIC 115 M.DEF 123
 SPEED 129 LUCK 138
 H * Violence
 RH * Bright Shield
 LH * Double-Beat
 ATT 193 DEF 179
 Twin Heaven Fang
 Level 11 ATT 68 M
 RUNE * Exertion

My Equipment:

HELMET
 Silver Hat
 ARMOR
 Dragon Armor
 OTHER
 Gold Emblem
 Thunder Amulet
 Skill Ring

Ha, an easy fight. Worm has 2 attacks and can only attack once per turn, making it a child's play comparing to other bosses(except Bonaparte ^-^).
 Worm's "Body Crush" can only do about 10 damage and his "Lightning Tail" attack (common, you love the names I give to the attacks, don't you ^-^?) will damage you around 60 HP.

As you can see, I didn't even equipped restorative items on Riou as you should win before your health deplenish to 0, but you still have the Bright Shield Rune, so if you need to heal, use Battle Oath. When the Violence Rune activates, bye bye "Wormy" ^-^!!!

A few more steps, and you'll be at the border of Toran Republic and Varkas will escort to the capital city, Gregminster.

GREGMINSTER

Things to Find : Copper Hammer and Cyclone Rune

Recruitable SOD : Kasumi (or Valeria if you prefer)

Once in the capital's palace, go to the right of the throne room, down the stairs and talk to one of the guards in one of the rooms, and he'll give you the Copper Hammer.

Once inside the throne room, you'll meet president Lepant, who although at first confused by your request for help, being the Toran Republic and the City-State enemies for quite some time, will accept to help your goal of bringing the world into peace, as he sees the same glitter in your eyes as he saw in the hero that ended the Scarlet Moon Empire war.

He'll let to choose which general you want to command the troops he lend you, either Valeria or Kasumi, both great generals. For the sake of having an easier time recruiting the 108 Stars of Destiny and since you won't be using neither one of them, pick Kasumi. You'll also receive the Blinking Mirror, hurrray ^-^!!

Kasumi -> Amazing, she has both a Speed Ring and a Winged Boots, remove
***** them both and equip them on Riou, that way he'll avoid a lot
more physical attacks and will be very useful against bosses.

Inside the city, head to the inn, and at the second floor speak to Sarah and she'll give you a Cyclone Rune.

NOTE:

I don't know why, but in my game (PAL Version) I can't either recruit Lorelai, Gordon, Mondo or Sasuke the first time I go to Gregminster. I'll have to go back to recruit some more characters before I recruit these. If you happen to NOT have this problem, then I suggest recruiting this characters now as it will save you some time (and some boring trips --').

Back at Banner Village, Apple and Ridley will be there to escort you back to your castle.

=====

HEADQUARTERS CASTLE

=====

Before going to the Great Hall, we'll recruit some new members. Bring along Shiro and Tsai and also a Sound Set.

=====

FOREST VILLAGE

=====

Things to Find : Iron Hammer

Recruitable SOD : Connell
=====

Go inside Connell's house, talk to him twice and he'll join (don't forget to bring a Sound Set).

The Armor Shop will now be open, go around the balcony and talk to the guy near the bed, he'll sell the Iron Hammer for 2000 Potch.

=====

FOREST PATH TO MATILDA

=====

Recruitabe SOD : Badeaux
=====

Just speak to him with Shiro in your party, he'll join and give you 2

Listening Crystals.

=====

FOREST VILLAGE

=====

Recruitable SOD : Ayda and Feather

=====

Neat the elders house, you see Ayda who's protecting a Griffin from the townsfolk, who want to kill him. 3 other Griffins will then attack the city and you'll fight them. After you've won, use a Listening Crystal and Feather, the Griffin will thank you and Ayda for saving him, then both will join you.

=====

RYUBE VILLAGE

=====

|||||

=====

RYUBE FOREST

=====

Recruitable SOD : Tomo

=====

Go to Tsai's house and you'll find his daughter, Tomo. She'll argue with Tsai for being away from her and her mother. Tsai will explain that he's helping Riou fight the war and she'll join you.

Now go back to your castle, and pick up a pure maiden (Nanami for example) into your party.

=====

KOBOLD VILLAGE

=====

|||||

=====

UNICORN FOREST

=====

Recruitable SOD : Siegfried

=====

Go near the Unicorn Tree, use your last Listening Crystal, and Siefried will appear and grant his power to you (just make sure you have a pure maiden in your party).

Now pick up Kasumi and head towards Rokkaku Hamlet.

=====

ROKKAKU HAMLET

=====

Recruitable SOD : Mondo and Sasuke

=====

As you reach Rokkaku Hamlet, Sasuke will transport you into Lord Hanzo's room, and Kasumi will ask for his help. He'll lend you Mondo and Sasuke, two great ninjas who will assist your army.

Mondo -> Take his The Shredding [2].

=====

GREGMINSTER

Recruitable SOD : Lorelai and Gordon

=====

Talk to Lorelai to the left of the fountain, she'll say that you may be able to win this war and joins you.

At the Trading Post, talk to Gordon and he'll accept to join if you can make 50000 potch worth of profit from tradings, so buy or 3 Ancient Text and sell them at Forest Village's Trading Post and that'll make more than 50000 potch.

Gordon will then join you and don't forget to buy a Celadon Urn.

=====

TWO RIVER CITY

Recruitable SOD : Bob

=====

At Kobold Disctric talk to Bob and he'll join you (if he doesn't join you now, try again later when you've got more Stars of Destiny recruited).

==*==*==*==*==*==*==*==*==*==*==*==*==*==*==*==*==*

The True Face of Evil

==*==*==*==*==*==*==*==*==*==*==*==*==*==*==*==*==*

=====

HEADQUARTERS CASTLE

At the Great Hall, Shu will congratulate you for forging an alliance with the Toran Republic, and that the Highland army is headed to the castle with a total force of 50000 men, while your army only has 20000 men.

At night talk to Nanami, and on Highland's side you'll see king Luca, Jowy, Leon Silverburg and Sasarai taking about attacking your castle.

In the morning, Shu will inform you that the Highland army has appeared in Radat and that Lord Ridley has deployed to check on the enemy's numbers.

But then, a guard shows up and says that Ridley's forces have been ambushed and surrounded. You'll need to go help him.

O-----O

/ Strategic Battle #8 /

O-----O

Ridley will be completely surrounded and start the battle for himself. It's

possibe to save him from being captured, and it's not hard to do it.

If you want Ridley to be saved get him one square left and one up and get your quickest unit (one with cavalry and flight) near Ridley's Unit and you'll escape from the battle.

If however you don't care or couldn't rescue Ridley don't worry, he'll be rescued later. If Ridley's Unit is killed, your army will withdraw.

If you take too long in battle, Luca's army will appear and the battle will get harder.

Either you save Ridley or not, Shu will say that he has a plan to beat the enormous army of Highland and then tells the men to rest.

As you go to sleep, on Highland's side, you'll see Ridley talking with king Luca and being taken as a prisoner. It seems that Leon Silverbug has summoned a new general to aid the Highland army.

In the morning, at the Great Hall, Shu explains his strategy. General Kiba will be used to attract Luca Blight, he'll be ambushed and killed to end this war.

O-----O
/ Strategic Battle #9 /
O-----O

The battle will start with Kiba running away from Luca's army, and when Luca is close enough your units will appear and surround Luca's unit. He's your only target so hit him with all your might.

When you're able to wound Luca's Unit, he'll use an attack that will hit all of your unit's with one sword and remove himself from battle. Shu will then order a withdraw.

Back at the castle, go to the first floor and you'll see that Sasuke and Mondo have rescued Ridley. He then forgives and apologizes for being careless and says that he has a message to Shu. At the Great Hall, Shu reads Leon Silverbug's letter saying that Luca Blight will lead a night raid and that it'll probably be your last change of defeating him. Shu will ask for your decision, BUT BEFORE YOU SAY TO DEPLOY THE TROOPS, go attach a Fire Sealing Rune on Riou and buy some Clay Guardian.

When creating the 3 party groups that will attack Luca Blight, make Flik and Viktor's Units with only Flik and Viktor themselves so they're killed right away and, of course, make Riou's Unit with only Riou.

DO NOT FORGET THE FIRE SEALING RUNE !!!

You'll see Luca Blight with his White Wolf army heading for the castle when two of his soldiers inform him that his troops are under attack. Then, his army gets hit with a shower of arrows and he falls off his horse. Flik's unit is the first to fight him, let him die, and do the same with Viktor's unit.

The real battle starts with Riou...

=====

BOSS BATTLE: LUCA BLIGHT (6500 HP | 50000 Potch | No Items)

=====

My Stats:

Riou - Level 44
HP 452/452
MP 8/4/2/1

STR 125 EXP 226
TECH 138 PROT 102
MAGIC 115 M.DEF 113
SPEED 154 LUCK 140

My Equipment:

HELMET
Silver Hat

ARMOR
Dragon Armor

OTHER
Speed Ring
Winged Boots
Clay Guardian -> Change for Medicine

H * Fire Sealing
RH * Bright Shield
LH * Double-Beat

ATT 193 DEF 175

Twin Heaven Fang
Level 11 ATT 68 M
RUNE * Exertion

=====

NOTE:

You can exchange the Double Beat Rune with the Violence Rune if you prefer.

=====

This battle is, surprisingly, one of the easiest boss battles in this challenge (if you have the Fire Sealing Rune, that is).

2 of the 3 attacks that Luca possesses are completely nullified. The other remaining attack only does a maximum of 30 damage (with Clay Guardian), making a total of 90 damage if he's lucky enough to make 3 non-elemental attacks in one turn.

You will likely only have to heal with Battle Oath, but you can always pick up some medicine from your inventory. Indeed an easy battle (I almost fell asleep ^-^).

=====

Luca Blight will run away, so go after him. You'll have 2 fights against White Wolf soldiers, and then Luca will be in a dead end and get showered again with more arrows.

He still breaths for a last battle and jumps right against Riou.

O-----O
\
One on One Duel - Luca Blight \
O-----O

He's almost finished, so attack twice and he'll fall (just make sure you're not on critical health).

Luca will say his last words, claiming that it took hundreds to kill him but that he killed by the thousand. He'll then fall onto the ground and you'll return to your castle.

Watching behind a tree, Jowy and Leon Silverburg are able to get their plan fulfilled.

As you reach the castle, everyone congratulates Riou for finally defeating Highland's King, Luca Blight. Riou will be exhausted and faint, but their friends carry him to his room to rest.

On Highland's side, you'll see Jowy getting married to Jillia and becoming the new King of Highland.

One week later, Riou is felling all better and Nanami suggest that they visit Kuskus Town and South Window, so head towards Kuskus Town (or just use Viki ^-^).

=====

KUSKUS TOWN

Recruitable SOD : Karen

=====

As you enter the town, 2 guys will tell you that a Highland ship has arrived and when you reach the docks, you'll see Culgan who informs you that Jowy has become the new king of Highland and that he offers a peace treaty, which will be discuted as soon as you reach your castle. He'll join Convoy, but first head to the inn.

In there, talk to the girl next to the stage, it's Karen. Ask her to join, and she will if... you dance with her.

The pattern is easy to complete, but if you need help here it is:

+-----+
| Triangle, Square, Circle, Cross, Triangle, Cross, Circle, Square. |
+-----+

Next stop, Radat Town.

=====

RADAT TOWN

Recruitable SOD : Lebrant, Hoi and Simone

=====

In radat town, head to the appraisal shop, ask Lebrante to join you, and if you have a Celadon Urn, give it to him and he'll join.

Next head to the pub, and you'll see Hoi, who pretends he is Riou so he can eat for free. But things go wrong when his supposed Bright Shield Rune starts melting and everyone finds out he's a impostor. Help him against the raged

restaurant owners and he'll join you (after both of you get beaten up... how come Riou defeats Luca Blight but couldn't beat up those guys -_-').

Hoi -> His 3 Sacrificial Jizo will come in handy.

Now head to the docks and near the stairs that go into the river you'll find Simone, he has lost his friend Rose Brooch, so give him yours and tell him to join you in exchange (or tell him to "Run around and bark like a dog!" ^-^).

Now travel to South Window.

=====

SOUTH WINDOW

=====

Recruitable SOD : Max, Annallee and Killey
=====

As you go up the stairs, Max shows up and begs for you to let him join, so be nice and say yes.

At the inn, you'll see Annallee who tries to stay at the inn, but doesn't have any money, so the innkeeper tells her to go away. You'll find Annallee again to the right of the city hall, accept to hear her song and invite her to stay at your castle.

Finally talk to Killey, the guy with a red hat and tell him about Alex, he'll go into your castle. Follow him into the inn and he'll asks for what Alex found in the Sindar Ruins. He then apologizes and leaves. Go back to South Window and ask Killey to join you until he does.

Now back to the castle.

=====

HEADQUARTERS CASTLE

=====

In the castle, take Culgan to the Great Hall and he'll say that he's only there to announce a peace treaty and that he'd like to take Lord Riou and Lady Teresa to Muse to sign the agreement. Head to Muse City then.

=====

MUSE CITY

=====

Once in the city, Chaco will leave your party to explore Muse, head towards Jowston Hill and inside you'll meet Jowy who, after all, set up a trap against you, and asks you to surrender. Viktor appears al of a sudden and runs through the crossbowers and brings Pilika up to Jowy, escaping then with Riou and Lady Teresa. As you try to run out of the city, some Highland soldiers attack you.

As you reach for the gate, you'll see Chaco mocking with the gate soldiers and Viktor will chase them away, then you'll get out of Muse back to your castle.

=====

HEADQUARTERS CASTLE

Shu will greet you for your safe return, and Nanami will get furious with him, saying that he used Pilika as a tool. Shu says that he will do anything to ensure Riou's safety.

=====
Neclord and the Undead Army
=====

At the entrance of the headquarters, you'll find a young boy named Koyu, the youngest of Lampdragon bandits, who needs your help to get rid of the zombies that infest his home. It's time to take care of that "Blood Sucking" vampire again. You'll have to take Nanami in your party, there's no other choice.

Also, go to Leona's Tavern and put Wakaba in your party, then travel to Drakemouth Village.

Make sure you bring at least 2 Sacrificial Jizo and some Clay Guardian.

=====

DRAKEMOUTH VILLAGE

In here, Koyu will persuade the guard into letting them pass, go through after Kokto leaves his station.

=====

PATH TO TIGERMOUTH VILLAGE

NOTE:

Be sure to get Window Set #2 from Air Lizard if you intend to recruit Tenkou in Crom Village later on.

Go straight (like you had another choice -_-') and then up to the right path to find Gijimu, Koyu's brother, and his gang, who had to escape from the zombies by burning the barricade, roads and bridges. Viktor will say that eventually Tinto will have to fight the zombies too and that it would be a good chance to forge an alliance with them. Now head out to Crom Village, passing by through Tigermouth Village, who is useless for now.

=====

CROM VILLAGE

Recruitabe SOD : Tenkou and L.C.Chan

=====

First thing here, talk to Tenkou and show him your Window Set, then ask him

to join you.

Afterwards, head to the inn, and by the door you'll see Wakaba's master, L.C.Chan running away from the innkeeper. Talk to him behind the item shop, Riou and L.C.Chan will do their fighting poses and L.C.Chan will join you.

Now head towards the main city, Tinto.

=====

TINTO CITY

Things to Buy : Wind Hat (Armor Shop - Rare Finds)

Things to Find : Power Ring

Blacksmith : Up to level 13

Recruitable SOD : Raura

=====

Once in Tinto, pick up a Power Ring from the cart outside the Blacksmith. Go to the Armor Shop, and buy a Wind Hat if you're lucky enough to find it. Next, sharpen your weapon up to level 13 and speak to Raura standing to the right of Gustav's house. Tell her about Jeane and she'll join your group.

Talk to the guard at the door of Gustav's house and he'll let you in. Gustav will be admired by your courage as you defeated Luca Blight and ask you to join forces. Koyu will go back to the castle and ask for reinforcements.

Marlowe will take you to your room and admire your strength since you're so young and have been able to defeat the evil Luca Blight then runs off to his room.

In the morning, Viktor will wake you up, go downstairs to meet with Ridley and Klaus, as well as Gijimu and Koyo. Lilly will come in and say that evil monsters have come to the city, and at the city's entrance you'll see Neclord and his army of zombies ordering the citizens of Tinto to leave the city, as it'll become Neclord's new kingdom, he then leaves.

Again at Gustav's house, Jess and Hauser will come in and Jess will insult Riou, saying that he was the one who killed Lady Anabelle. Talk again with Gustav and at night talk with Lilly then go to sleep. At night, Leknaat will once again appears and speaks about Riou and Jowy's destiny. Next, go to Nanami's room and she'll say to run away, run away from all this battles, all this problems. Say that you can't run and in the morning, as you talk with Gustav, a guard will come in and say that Jess plans to take the soldiers out to battle Neclord by himself.

Now go into the mines, down the elevator, and you'll encounter Neclord, who you can't defeat just now. He'll use his Moon Rune to attack you, but your Bright Shield Rune will break the curse and save you. As you get out of the mines, you'll see the city infested with zombies, Riou will lose his strength and Nanami will take him to Crom Village. In Muse, you'll see that Jowy is day by day, being consumed by the Black Sword Rune.

=====

CROM VILLAGE

Recruitable SOD : Kahn

When you wake up at Crom, head out of the village and you'll see Kahn who's also after Neclord and tells you that they need another person that has the power to help them destroy Neclord. That person is in Tigermouth Village.

TIGERMOUTH VILLAGE

Recruitable SOD : Sierra

In the middle of Tigermouth, a group of villagers is insulting a young lady, and accusing her of being one of the vampires who is ruining their towns.

Viktor will try and stop them but it'll only make her more furious. She'll scare of the villagers, and Kahn will greet her, lady Sierra. At first she doesn't want to join forces, but as the Star Dragon Sword speaks to her, she accepts, but first, a little test...

MINI BOSS BATTLE: SIERRA (2800 HP | 1000 Potch | No Items)

This battle is very esasy, but don't be careless, as her attacks can deal quite some good damage. She attacks twice every turn and has 3 kinds of attacks. Her "Normal" attack deals around 70 damage, her "Bat" attack about 100 damage and her "Double-Image" attack deals around 130 damage.

As you can see, she's very powerfull, but has very little HP, so just battle her out and if you need to heal, use Battle Oath.

She'll congratulate you, and join you. Go back to Crom Village now.

CROM VILLAGE

You'll see that Sierra takes a liking for Klaus, as he gets embarassed and quicky leaves the room. Rest, then in the next day, Viktor and the others prepare for the final battle against Neclord. You can access Tinto through the mines to the east, so let's go hunt some vampires.

TINTO MINES

Good Treasure Chests : Stone of Magic Defense, Master Garb and Wind Hat

Be carefull not to get lost in this dungeon, as it can be very confusing, as the paths all look the same. While you travel, pick up the Stone of Magic Defense and the Wind Hat (if you haven't found one in Tinto, the Wind Hat is somewhat hidden near the save point before the Stone Golem), but you must get the Master Grab, an amazing piece of armor for Riou (Def+45;Str+15;Tech+15).

Prepare everything and save at the Journeyman Crystal, then slide to the "place of no return" ^-^. Continue through the mines until Sierra stops and tells Viktor to step forward. As he does, a huge Stone Golem appears with his own FMV (lucky guy ^-^ !).

=====

BOSS BATTLE: STONE GOLEM (7500 HP | 50000 Potch | No Items)

=====

My Stats:

Riou - Level 52

HP 537/537

MP 8/5/2/1

STR 157 EXP 606

TECH 173 PROT 114

MAGIC 131 M.DEF 129

SPEED 179 LUCK 156

H * Violence

RH * Bright Shield

LH * Double-Beat

ATT 249 DEF 207

Twin Destiny Fang

Level 13 ATT 92 M

RUNE * Exertion

My Equipment:

HELMET

Wind Hat

ARMOR

Master Garb

OTHER

Speed Ring

Winged Boots

Clay Guardian -> Change for Medicine

=====

Ha, once one of the hardest bosses in Suikoden 2, now a walk in the park.

This fellow only attacks once per turn, but has 3 kinds of attacks. His "Row Blaster" deals around 85 damage, his "Stone Spikes" attack about 130 damage and his most powerfull "Double-Beam Shot" can damage you around 160 HP (how do I come up with these names ^-^ ?).

Stone Golem has a weakness towards lightning, so you can use a Lightning Rune or "Bolt of Wrath" scrolls, although I prefer to use the Violence Rune.

As soon as it gets activated, your Exertion Rune will be at its highest and a single tonfa hit from Riou will deal around 750 damage making a total of 3000 with a Double-Beat Rune, and each critical hit manages do deal 2500 damage PER TONFA HIT !!!!! (Ho my... 0_0 , you can defeat him in 1 turn !!).

=====

After the battle, Viktor will be angry with Sierra for using him as a bait, but Kahn says that it's best not to go against her.

ADDITIONAL TIP:

In case you used too many Rune Spells or need to buy something, you can use an Escape Talisman to get out of the mines, but then you'll have to go through the mines all the way again.

Continue through the mines, up and down on the elevators until you get inside Tinto City.

=====

TINTO CITY

=====

Things to Find : Mother Earth Rune (from Gustav)

=====

Make your way up to the upper house and prepare yourself for the final battle against Neclord.

Inside the room where Neclord is, you'll see Lo Wen and Lilly who have been captured by the vampire, to become his brides. Viktor will take out every single frustration he had with Neclord, by saying that he'll chop him down, grind him, dry him, break him into pieces and never ever forgiving him ^-^.

Kahn is then able to trap Neclord into the sacred barrier that his family researched for generations, making it impossible for him to escape. He still tries to use his Moon Rune, but Sierra dispels its power, leaving Neclord powerless.

"Hey!! Neclord!! It's time to cash in your chips!!!"

=====

BOSS BATTLE: NECLORD (4500 HP | 70000 Potch | The Shredding [4])

=====

My Stats:

Riou - Level 54

HP 557/557

MP 9/5/2/1

STR 161 EXP 326

TECH 178 PROT 117

MAGIC 135 M.DEF 143

SPEED 159 LUCK 160

H * Violence

RH * Bright Shield

LH * Double-Beat

ATT 253 DEF 196

Twin Destiny Fang

Level 13 ATT 92 M

RUNE * Exertion

My Equipment:

HELMET

Wind Hat

ARMOR

Master Garb

OTHER

Sacrificial Jizo -> Change for Medicine

Sacrificial Jizo -> Change for Medicine

Gold Emblem

=====

Neclord can attack twice, has 4 kinds of attacks, but will only use 3 since there's no female members alive in your party.

The "Cursing Souls" attack does around 105 damage, the "Lightning" attack about 240 and his "Death Ray" instantly kills you.

Begin the battle attacking, while your Exertion Runes powers up, and when

the Violence Rune activates, you should be able to deal 1000 damage per tonfa hit, finishing him for good.

Keep "The Shredding [4]" in your inventory, it may be come in handy against Bone Dragon.

=====
Neclord will ask for forgiveness and return the Moon Rune to Sierra, which in turn let's Viktor do whatever he wants with him. Viktor then has his revenge and destroys Neclord together with the Star Dragon Sword.

Now head out to the entrance of Tinto City, and Lilly will go back to his father as well as Lo Wen to his brothers. Jess will be confused by your decision of saving Tinto, but then asks to join you, so say yes.

You can now go talk to Gustav and he'll give you a Mother Earth Rune.

Time to go back to your castle, but first some new recruits.

=====
PATH TO TIGERMOUTH VILLAGE
=====

Recruitable SOD : Georg
=====

As you go back to Drakemouth Village, turn right at your first intersection. You'll find Georg, talk to him and accept to hire him.

Georg -> Take his Cheesecake [6].

Now travel all the way to South Window.

=====
SOUTH WINDOW
=====

Recruitable SOD : Gantetsu
=====

Pick up some members for your party then head to the city square and talk twice to Gantetsu. Ask him to join you, and he'll suggest a test of strength. You'll push him and he'll join.

NOTE:

I don't consider this cheating, since you could use the Stones of Power to give more strength to Riou in order to push Gantetsu, but that would just be wasting time, so speed up the process by taking a few high strength characters.

Now back to to castle.

=====

HEADQUARTERS CASTLE

=====

Once you arrive, at the first floor, Sheena will tell you to go see Shu, he seems to have another idea. At the Great Hall, Shu will suggest that you retake Greenhill, since most of the Highland troops seem to be at Muse.

Go rest at your room and at night you can see some funny scenes between your characters. As you come back to your room, you'll see a mysterious woman named Lucia who intends to assassinate you.

=====

MINI BOSS BATTLE: LUCIA (1500 HP | 20000 Potch | No Items)

=====

Lucia's pretty weak for now, you shouldn't even have to heal. Just attack until she falls.

=====

You can either release her, or take her to prison, but the next day she'll escape so, it's your choice.

When you wake up, you'll see that you now have 2 personal guards for your room, go to the Great Hall and Shu will ask to deploy the troops and lets you choose the army that you want to lead.

I think that Viktor's army battle is easier to win, so choose him.

Make sure you have at least 2 Sacrificial Jizo and some Clay Guardian.

O-----O
/ Strategic Battle #10 - Viktor's Side /
O-----O

Your only target is Jowy's unit, destroy it and Highland will retreat.

=====

GREENHILL CITY

=====

|||||

=====

GREENHILL CITY - FOREST PATH

=====

Good Treasure Chests : Stone of Skill and Winged Boots

=====

This is the same path you used to escape from Greenhill back then. But we didn't see the last part of this path, that's why there's some new items to pick up. Get Stone of Skill and another pair of Winged Boots as the more speed the better.

=====

BOSS BATTLE: BONE DRAGON (8900 HP | 100000 Potch | No Items)

=====

My Stats:

Riou - Level 55

HP 568/568

MP 9/5/2/1

STR 163 EXP 543

TECH 181 PROT 119

MAGIC 137 M.DEF 135

SPEED 161 LUCK 163

H * Violence

RH * Bright Shield

LH * Double-Beat

ATT 255 DEF 188

Twin Destiny Fang

Level 13 ATT 92 M

RUNE * Exertion

My Equipment:

HELMET

Wind Hat

ARMOR

Master Garb

OTHER

Sacrificial Jizo -> Change for Medicine

Sacrificial Jizo -> Change for Medicine

Clay Guardian -> Change for Medicine

=====

Yauch!! This boss can give a lot of trouble if you're not prepared. Bone Dragon has 3 kinds of attacks but only attacks once per turn. His "Bite" attack will do around 300 damage (with Clay Guardian 0_0'!!), his "Blue Breath" attack around 250 damage and his "Meteor Shower" attack about 350 damage.

It is best to have the same equipment as I do, and have 2 Sacrificial Jizo and Clay Guardian. Start the battle with Clay Guardian and if you have the change pick up some medicine from your inventory with a large quantity (5 or more).

If you get berserked by the Violence Rune, attack with all power even if on the next turn you die, since you have 2 Sacrificial Jizo equipped. Hopefully you'll be able to deal 1000 damage per tonfa hit, making a total of 4000 damage in 1 turn. If Riou has full health and is bitten, if on the next turn Bone Dragon uses the "Blue Breath" attack, Riou will survive (well, most of the times 0_0') so use that extra turn to attack again with all your might.

You can also use "The Shredding" which'll do about 1000 points of damage to Bone Dragon, since he's weak against Wind, but the Violence Rune is much, much stronger.

=====

Once the battle is over, Highland will retreat and the citizens of Greenhill will cheer for Lady Teresa. Fitcher then appears and informs Riou that Shu requests him to return to the castle as soon as possible.

=====

HEADQUARTERS CASTLE

=====

At the Great Hall, Klaus will say that the Matilda Knights have surrendered to Highland, then Apple suggests to reconquer Muse. First say that you need some time to think, as we're going to recruit the last Stars of Destiny.

=====
GREENHILL CITY
=====

Things to Find : Rage Rune and Silver Hammer

Recruitable SOD : Pico and Jude
=====

Go to the inn and watch Mairie arguing with Pico, then tell Pico that you know Annallee, and he'll join you (leaving Mairie heart-broken T_T).

Next, at the academy's blacksmith class, talk to Jude and he'll ask you for some clay, go get it at a guy in Forest Village who's hidden in the woods, give the clay to Jude and ask him to join you in exchange.

You can talk to the rune class's teacher and she'll give you a Rage Rune, student at the blacksmith class will give you the Silver Hammer.

=====
TINTO CITY
=====

Recruitable SOD : Alberto
=====

At the Armor Shop, speak with Alberto and tell him about Annallee and Pico, he'll join you.

=====
CAVE OF THE WIND
=====

Recruitable SOD : Pesmerga
=====

Go to where you found the Star Dragon Sword and Pesmerga will be there, ask him to join you.

Back at your castle, pick up Viktor, and go to Kuskus Town.

=====
KUSKUS TOWN
=====

Recruitable SOD : Tessai
=====

Go to the Blacksmith Shop and speak with Tessai, he'll be amazed by seeing the Star Dragon Sword and begs to let him sharpen it. Viktor and Star Dragon Sword start fighting (again -_-') and Tessai will ask to join you.

Pick up Simone at Leona's Tavern and head to Radat Town.
=====

RADAT TOWN

=====
Recruitable SOD : Vincent
=====

Head to the docks, to the spot where Simone was and you'll find his friend, Vincent. After some conversation he'll join your group.

At your castle give the Silver Hammer to Tessai and sharpen your weapon up to level 15 then head to the docks of Coronet Town.

=====
CORONET TOWN
=====

Recruitable SOD : Genshu
=====

Talk to Genshu and show him your weapon (must be at least level 14), he'll then join you.

=====
TINTO MINES
=====

Recruitable SOD : Mazus
=====

Near the save point, to the left, you'll find Mazus, ask him to join you and he will.

=====
CONGRATULATIONS, YOU HAVE RECRUITED THE 108 STARS OF DESTINY

(Isn't That Nice ^-^ ?)
=====

=====
HEADQUARTERS CASTLE
=====

Speak to Apple, accept the idea of attacking Muse and you'll see the soldiers walking off to battle.

=====
GREENHILL CITY
=====

Apple and Klaus will be preparing the strategy details, so go out and have a walk. You'll see Lucia running off inside the academy, follow her, into the secret passage until you reach her and the King of Highland, Jowy Blight.

He will ask you once again to quit as the leader of your army, but say you can't. Nanami will ask Jowy to quit as King of Highland but he refuses as well. Jowy will then leave, so go back and talk to Apple.

When you're ready, it's time to invade Muse City.

O-----O
/ Strategic Battle #11 /
O-----O

If you've been recruiting the Stars of Destiny you will vastly outnumber the enemy units. Attack Lucia's Unit and her Karayans, as well as the Highlanders near her. After a few turns, Jowy, Culgan and Seed will retreat, finish Lucia and you've won.

=====
MUSE CITY
=====

Enter the city, go to the city hall, and you'll see state soldiers running away from a monster, who you'll see inside that it's a...

=====
MINI BOSS BATTLE: GOLDEN WOLF (3500 HP | 10000 Potch | No Items)
=====

Yes, I know that on normal circumstances, this would be a normal boss and not a mini boss, but the fact is that, once the Violence Rune activates, Riou will deal 4000 damage to Golden Wolf, killing him in 1 turn.

The city will be infested with Golden Wolves that regenerate every time you try to kill them, so run away from the city. Luc will recognize the wolfs from being servants for the Beast Rune, who was passed on from Harmonia to the Blight family. Fitcher will come running saying that the Highland army is attacking and that you'll have to escape (well, duh --').

=====
HEADQUARTERS CASTLE
=====

As you reach your headquarters, Shu will greet you for your safe return. Go to Shu's room and you'll see Kiba entering it. Shu will ask Kiba to attack Viktor's fort in order to create a decoy and divide the Highland forces.

Talk to Shu, he'll say that he has formed a new strategy and asks what do you wish to do. Say you'll fight and everyone will gather at the Great Hall.

Shu will explain that this is the fiercest and decisive battle of them all, everyone will lend their power to Riou and Leknaat will then appear.

She will say that you have assembled many heroes and because of that, the seal of the Bright Shield Rune will be broken and you'll be granted the most powerful spell, the Forgive Sign.

The next morning, Nanami will wake you up and Kiba will be leaving with his soldiers to battle. Head to the Great Hall and Shu says to first attack Greenhill and then Matilda. To battle!!

O-----O
/ Strategic Battle #12 /
O-----O

You'll have roughly the same number of units as the enemy. Make use of the long range attacks, such as fire spear, bows and magic before attacking physically. A few turns later, Jowy will give the signal and Culgan's Units will appear behind you. Continue fighting until Shu gives his own signal and two more ally units show up, Jowy will order the troops to retreat.

Viktor will ask who's army was that, then Barbara, Leona, Hilda and Alex show up and Shu thanks them for doing formidable on the battle field.

You'll be back at Greenhill, now it's time to take on Rockaxe Castle. You'll also receive the notice that General Kiba has been mortally wounded in battle.

=====
ROCKAXE CASTLE

Good Treasure Chests : Stone of Speed, Stone of Defense, Power Gloves
=====

Be careful with the enemies, they're quite strong and the Cockatrice can petrify you, so don't get careless. Pick up some useful items and you'll be inside the castle. In there, you'll have a few forced battles with Matilda Knights (M-Knight), save at the Journeyman Crystal, one more forced battle and you'll be at the big corridor where you'll see Jowy.

Riou and Jowy will look at each other, knowing that one day they'll have to fight. Jowy will explain that although the City-State had peace conferences, they were full of maelstorm, envy and hate, he wants to establish a new ruler, one nothing to do with either the City-State or Highland, that'll be the only way that the land can have true peace.

Riou and Jowy are about to settle things, when suddenly Gordon appears with a group of crossbowers and shoots against them. Nanami will jump in the way and avoid the arrows, but the last one hits her and she falls to the ground.

=====
MINI BOSS BATTLE: GORUDO (4500 HP | 125000 Potch | Knight Armor)
=====

Another easy fight, since Jowy is way too strong, it'll be hard to kill him before you attack, but since his not your team anymore, just defend.

You'll avoid the M-Knights attacks most of the time, easily killing them all. About Gorudo just use Forgiver Sign and attack, he'll fall in a short while.

=====

Jowy will apologize to Nanami and she'll ask you to call her "Big Sister" one last time. Say it, and after her last words Nanami will pass out.

Shu will come and order the soldiers to burn the flag and call a doctor, the flag will be burned and the Highland armies will retreat.

You'll be at the gates of L'Renouille, but before you enter, let's do some last things:

- You can go to Rockaxe castle and get a Thunder Rune from Gorudo's room, which is located to the right of the corridor where you fought him.
- In Muse City, go to the Armor Shop and receive a Silver Armor from the lady at the balcony.
- Still at Muse City, go to the Rune shop and talk to the runemaster on the second floor to receive a Flowing Rune.
- Travel northwest of L'Renouille to find Sajah Village. In there, you can buy the Golden Hammer from the Item Shop Rare Finds and sharpen your weapon up to level 16 at Tessai's Blacksmith Shop in your headquarters.
- Pick up all of your "Stat-Raising Stones" and use them on Riou.
- Don't forget to bring some Clay Guardian and at least 3 Sacrificial Jizos.

=====
L'RENOUILLE
=====

Good Treasure Chests : Stone of Power, Stone of Defense, Wind Amulet
=====

As you get inside Highland's Capital City, you'll encounter Lucia and have one last battle against her.

=====
BOSS BATTLE: LUCIA (6500 HP | 50000 Potch | No Items)
=====

My Stats:

Riou - Level 58

HP 600/600
MP 9/5/3/1

STR 157 EXP 221
TECH 175 PROT 131
MAGIC 145 M.DEF 145
SPEED 193 LUCK 170

H * Violence
RH * Bright Shield
LH * Double-Beat

ATT 327 DEF 234

My Equipment:

HELMET
Wind Hat

ARMOR
Silver Armor

OTHER
Speed Ring
Winged Boots
Tempura [5] -> Change for more Medicine

Twin Destiny Fang
Level 16 ATT 170 M
RUNE * Exertion
=====

The queen of Karayan is back and stronger than ever. She's now able to attack thrice per turn. She still has the 3 same attacks and can deal quite some damage.

Start the battle with Forgiver Sign (if you have it), that'll deal 2000 damage right away. Heal whenever necessary, and when the Violence Rune activates, bombs away !!

In case you're having problems with her fire spell "Explosion", attach a Fire Sealing Rune on Riou, but it will NOT work with the "Fire Shuriken" spell.

Lady Teresa will come inside and speak with Lucia about her father's murder. Lucia will then let you pass.

Choose either the left or the right path, fight through the Highland guards until you reach Han. He'll stop you from going on and starts a duel with you.

O-----O
 \ One on One Duel - Han Cunningham \
 O-----O

You have to be careful with Han, as he's very strong. This time, Defend and use Wild Attack whenever you see fit, as only attacking may not be enough.

Han will ask you for your name and say it's last words. Carry on.

This place can become very confusing if you don't know where you're going, so the best thing to do is to ask the guards (I'm kidding, I'm kidding ^-^).

Don't worry, eventually you'll find your way, and while you're searching, you'll find some good items and level up a few levels, especially against the Highland guards.

When you're near the Blight Family throne room, save at the journeyman crystal who'll also heal you (nice ^-^ !), then head up to meet with Seed and Culgan. They won't let you pass (big surprise -_-'), and fight you.

=====

BOSS BATTLE: SEED & CULGAN (4200 HP & 6800 HP | 130000 Potch | No Items)

My Stats:

Riou - Level 61
HP 620/620
MP 9/5/3/1

STR 163 EXP 691
TECH 180 PROT 135
MAGIC 148 M.DEF 149
SPEED 196 LUCK 174

My Equipment:

HELMET
Wind Hat

ARMOR
Silver Armor

OTHER
Speed Ring
Winged Boots
Mega Medicine [3] -> Should be Enough

H * Violence
RH * Bright Shield

LH * Double-Beat

ATT 333 DEF 238

Twin Destiny Fang
Level 16 ATT 170 M
RUNE * Exertion

=====

This two make a very good team. Seed uses dancing flames and a Magic Sealing attach, enabling everyone from using magic for 3 turns. Culgan can use Thor Shot, Kindness Rain. They can also unite, Culgan will electrify Seed and he'll attack you.

They can do a lot of damage and even attack each twice per turn, making a total of 4 attacks, but as soon as the Violence Rune activates, you'll do so many damage that it'll even hurt Beast Rune from afar in the throne room ^-^.

=====

Seed and Culgan will then let you pass (like they had a choice), and they'll both remember all the plans they had for their country.

You'll see a scene where Jowy is enjoying his last moments with Pilika and Jillia, then he asks her to take Pilika and flee to Harmonia, so they can have a new life, a peaceful life.

Back with Riou, go forward and you'll find Leon Silverburg, who'll make a blood sacrifice in order to unleash Highland's True Power and Demon...

=====

BOSS BATTLE: BEAST RUNE (200000 Potch | No Items)

Right Head (4800 HP) Left Head (4800 HP)

Rune (3300 HP)

Right Paw (5700 HP) Left Paw (4500 HP)

=====

My Stats:

My Equipment:

Riou - Level 67

HELMET

Wind Hat

HP 649/649

ARMOR

Silver Armor

STR 166 EXP 10

OTHER

TECH 185 PROT 140

Sacrificial Jizo -> Change for Clay Guardian

MAGIC 153 M.DEF 155

Sacrificial Jizo -> Change for Medicine

SPEED 175 LUCK 179

Sacrificial Jizo -> Change for Medicine

H * Violence

RH * Bright Shield

LH * Double-Beat

ATT 336 DEF 219

Twin Destiny Fang
Level 16 ATT 170 M
RUNE * Exertion

=====
Woohoo, you've reached the final boss ^-^, hurray !! But this puppy is no such thing as easy, in fact, it's the most difficult boss of this challenge.

Beast Rune can attack thrice every turn and has a lot of different attacks, the Right Head uses physical attacks, the Left Head magical attacks, the Rune uses a "Magic Wolf Soul" spell, the Right Paw revives fallen parts and the Left Paw uses status inducing attacks (we're doomed 0_0).

Well, not really, the trick is using the Violence Rune, which will enable Riou to kill each part in 1 attack (4 tonfa hits).

Start the battle by using Forgiver Sign (no problem if you don't have it) on the Right Paw dealing around 4000 damage, almost killing hit. Then in the next turns, keep attacking in this order: Right Paw, Rune, Left Head, and Right Head (if Left Paw is the only one alive, you win the battle because it only uses status inducing attacks, making it impossible for you to lose).

When the Violence Rune activates, forget about healing, attack that part of the Beast Rune to kill hit (you have 1 Sacrificial Jizo for each of the three most dangerous parts, Right Paw, Rune and Left Head). After only the Right Head and the Left Paw are standing, go pick up Clay Guardian and then Medicine, or just wish for some luck and finish the Right Head in one blow.

=====
Riou will walk to the throne room and find Jowy's jacket, then the castle starts to shaken and Riou will escape to his friends who are waiting outside to hear of his triumph.

In the morning, Riou will meet his companions together with Lord Makai and Lord Gustav and create a new country, one free of hate, anger and envy, one where people can live united in peace.

=====
----- THE END -----
=====

Congratulations, You Have Completed The "Riou Only Challenge", You Are Truly a Suikoden 2 Hardcore Player And True Fan, Congratulations Once Again !!!!!

=====

=====
7) Credits
=====

Here are the ones that I'd like to thank for their help and support on the completion of this guide, in no particular order:

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=====

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