## **Chapter 2955 Vicious Cycle**

Recognizing someone's true nature wasn't always straightforward. When Delmont formed a bond with Sage, he soon regretted not seeing through his facade.

Over time, Sage's opportunism and greed became apparent. Despite being his sworn brother, Delmont attempted to steer him towards a better path.

Having amassed wealth working for Tigre, Delmont contemplated leaving to embrace a simpler life back home.

Remaining with Tigre posed risks, and given Delmont's understanding of his character, potentially leading to betrayal or worse.

Delmont held reservations about Sage's intentions, knowing the complexities of their past interactions.

Despite offering genuine advice, Sage's allegiance to Tigre strained their relationship.

The news of Sage's visit stirred unease rather than excitement in Delmont. He questioned Sage's motives, wary of potential ulterior agendas.

Within Thorneville's intricate web of interests, Delmont couldn't dismiss the possibility of hidden intentions, given recent events involving Isambard.

Considering Sage's ambitious nature, Delmont deliberated before making a decision.

He signaled to the sentry, "Allow him entry."

With a nod from their leader, the sentry hastened toward the main gate, granting Sage entry into Thorneville.

Outside the gate, Sage waited anxiously, flanked by five thousand heavily armed soldiers, all loyal to Tigre and expertly trained by him.

Despite Sage's confidence in their concealment, the thought of being discovered by the villagers made his heart race. Thorneville was their territory.

If Delmont became suspicious and organized a search, their cover would be blown, risking exposure.

Sage knew his soldiers could handle Thorneville, but the real threat lay in being caught in the crossfire if conflict erupted, endangering his life.

Sage's heart raced as he awaited the sentry's approach, his resolve battling his nerves. With a gulp and a steadying breath, he faced the impending encounter, his determination shining through despite his subtle trembling.

As the sentry neared, Sage braced himself, but relief washed over him as the message was delivered. "The chief wants to see you," the sentry announced.

Sage grinned in response, reassured by Delmont's summons. "Knew he wouldn't keep me waiting," he remarked, feeling a surge of confidence.

With newfound determination, Sage made his way toward the village, passing by the bustling terraced fields where recovering villagers toiled.

The sentry's face lit up with pride at the villagers' industry, but Sage's expression darkened. The absence of Night Vines meant a disruption to Tigre's profits—a setback that could disrupt their entire enterprise.

Without the lucrative trade in Night Vines, the flow of commerce would falter, jeopardizing their arms trade and creating a detrimental cycle of economic decline.