My Vampire 861

My Vampire System Chapter 861: Chapter sides

As soon as the ceremony was over, the people at the plaza square started to leave the area. They were all heading back to either their homes or to the inner castle areas.

All of them had only one question on their mind.

'Who would be the next King?'

With all the vampires being under certain families most of them had their personal bias, but fortunately this decision wasn't up to them. It was down to the family leaders to decide between, just as it had always been the case in the past.

They used the King's castle as their meeting place. The one in charge of that was the one who had been in charge of the ceremony, which was none other than Dwight.

In past generations it had been relatively easy to decide on one person, as oftentimes one leader had managed to earn the respect of all of his peers. However, over time the families ended up split into two sides. Rather than growing closer together over time, they had somehow grown further apart.

Dwight was slightly afraid that both sides could end up having a conflict, but there was a good reason why he was confident that nothing would happen... at least not until the new King had been agreed upon by the rest, giving him more time.

The reason was that Dwight was the one who would keep the Absolute blood control book until that happened. With only him knowing the location.

All of the leaders with their Vampire knights entered the council room and sat down at their respective seats while their knights stood beside them. The tension in the room was a little unbearable for Quinn.

Sometimes when entering they would look towards him in disgust. Others would be talking to each other, but there was no sound at all, and this time they weren't only looking at him. Still, he did receive the odd stare now and then.

When everyone was seated, Dwight came out on his own, standing behind the seat which was reserved for the King. It was a little odd just seeing Dwight, but there were still the Royal Guards in the room which would listen to his command until the next King was chosen.

"It's time for me to explain a few things, as not everyone here has been through a change of the crown. Those of you new to this listen very carefully as I don't wish to repeat myself. if I need to then it would just prove that you are incompetent to take such an important position." Dwight stated firm and strongly.

"Each of you will have the option to speak or remain silent. If you choose to speak up, then you should use the time to either present your case to the other leaders why you think you would be best suited for the role of King or you can explain why you think another person who you think is best suited for the role. Please make note, that at this point and time you will merely state your opinion. It will not be counted as your vote, but merely you speaking your current set of mind!"

"Once everyone has spoken, you will have a week to consider who to vote for and everyone shall return here once again to cast their votes. Now this next bit is extremely important, so listen up. Things have changed slightly compared to the past. Now to obtain the seat one MUST obtain seven or more votes from the council table! And one is able to vote for themselves."

"If the voting is inconclusive and a majority vote is not decided, then we will have to default to our old tradition. A leader can challenge another in a sacred duel to claim their vote!"

'What?! How stupid is that?!' Quinn screamed internally about this nonsense way of handling things. 'What's the bloody point of us voting in the first place then?'

'For a long time tradition in the past had stated that the strongest vampire should become leader. This was because it was something that pleased the public. The vampires would at least be willing to follow who they believed as the strongest.'

'Besides, a good King should have been able to get the other leaders on his side beforehand, don't you think? If the leaders agreed together on one person who was most suited for the role, then the vampires in their families would naturally comply, believing in their leaders' decision. In the end this was decided just as a way to stop arguments, and two sides from clashing. All families at one point or another had agreed to these rules.' Vincent explained.

'If it comes to that, if one side can't get the majority vote, then does that mean Bryce would become King, just because he's stronger than all the other leaders?' Quinn asked.

Vincent chuckled internally.

'Only if he wins against the person he chooses. Theoretically, if he chose you and you beat him you would get his vote. Essentially the duel is also a double edged sword because then you would also obtain his vote after beating him. So a leader must be confident if it comes to this.'

"Okay, we will now start with the first leader, who I believe doesn't need any extra introduction." Dwight said, taking a seat next to the king's throne.

When one was ready to speak, they would stand up and state their point and as the first family leader, Bryce got the first chance to do so.

"Us vampires have lived on this planet in hiding for far too long. We hold such great power yet for some reason we force ourselves to live in the dark. We now have technology better than anyone else in the other worlds! With the help of our rings we can even walk under the sun, yet we still continue to stay here!"

"I, for one, want a better life for our race! Where we don't have to worry about limiting the amount of people we have! Where we don't have to hide in fear! Do I want war? No! Of course, I don't want that! I understand that some of you like your life here, and I'm not against that, however, you all saw that it was the humans who attacked us first!"

Saying this, Paul looked down with his head in shame.

'We weren't the aggressors, we were attacked the moment we came on this planet.' He wanted to argue, but he understood his best course of action was to keep his mouth shut.

"They have come for us once, so who says they won't come again? Just like the previous King I want peace, but that can only be achieved if the humans want peace as well! If the humans decide to wage war against us, then our race will need a strong King who can lead them, not one who will bend over to every single one of their demands! If you will have me, I shall be that person for you!"

After Bryce had finished speaking, there were many at the table who nodded in agreement.

Since the order was that of the families once again, the next person to make their case was Cindy Cha. She stood up, fluffing her black dress a few times and cleared her throat before pleading her own case.

"I believe we can all agree that the previous King did a great job! Our lives have gotten better under his rule, and I believe that we can continue to improve our lives WITHOUT getting involved with others! I would like to become his successor and continue his ideal."

"There are many beautiful people, even in the Human World that should not perish. Just as there are bad humans, there are bad and ugly vampires as well. We're no better than them, we are both just different. I feel it's a shame that there are vampires hurting each other even at this very moment. I agree that if we were attacked we should deal with it appropriately, but just the same way as if other vampires were attacking us, like we have been doing."

With that Cindy sat back down, and those on her side nodded.

As they went around the room, the third leader Suzan forfeited her claim to become Queen and instead nominated Bryce. She wasn't the only one, as the new sixth family leader Jake Muscat, the seventh family leader Kyle Dawn, and the eighth family leader Jill Snacker all did the same.

All others had nominated Cindy so far, which was the expected result. Unless anything unforeseen happened, Cindy would tie with Bryce, making his vote indeed the tiebreaker.

Finally it was Quinn's turn to speak. He stood up but froze for a second as he hadn't actually decided what to say. Dwight made it clear that whatever Quinn said today wouldn't be counted as a vote, but if

he didn't clearly state which one of the sides he supported, in the weeks time it could just make matters worse.

'If I don't give up my vote now, will Cindy think I'm going against her? I'm sure she might understand that I don't openly want to antagonise Bruce..'

"I, at the moment, remained undecided and would like to hear out the rest." Quinn stated.

"That is fine, Quinn you may sit down."

At this moment, Quinn didn't even want to look at Cindy or the others for their reaction, but the hearing continued, and as expected the two sides were equally split down the middle.

"So we have heard from everyone here today. In a week's time an actual vote will be cast, and I have to warn you Quinn. During that time, if you are not able to come to a decision regarding your vote, either side could challenge you to a duel to force your vote." Dwight reminded him.

When the meeting left, there was one person standing there more confused than ever at what he had just heard, and he felt like he had figured something out.

'I knew there was something up with that hag!' Peter thought, clenching his fist as he stared towards Cindy. During the meeting he had realised something, that might change whose side Quinn would be on...

My Vampire System Chapter 862: Clever Peter

Quinn was starting to doubt his earlier decision. Perhaps it would have been wiser overall to openly nominate Cindy. At least that way he would have the backup of the leaders on Cindy's side and they would be sure to protect him.

However, Dwight's words kept ringing in his head that he shouldn't trust anyone!

Honestly, before he cast his vote for anyone he would prefer to find out the truth about who was behind the attacks. After learning what happened to Kazz, he wasn't so sure it was Bryce anymore.

At the end of the day, he had made his decision of not nominating anyone and he would have to live with it. Unfortunately, this meant that now it looked like both sides were after him and his vote. As they left the room, Cindy gave Quinn a quick glance before she turned her head almost immediately.

"Maybe we should wait for the others to leave first." Paul suggested since, once again, all the attention was on their group. Dwight had already left the room, looking as if he had something urgent to do. If Quinn was to wager a guess, the Royal Knight might be hiding the book in a safe place.

The tenth family waited a couple more minutes after the last leader had left, before they stepped out of the room, only to have someone attempt to grab Quinn. Thanks to his quick reflexes he knocked the hand away and took a few steps back.

"What are you doing?" Quinn asked, as he identified his attacker.

"I thought we had made a deal?" Cindy's sharp tone accused him.

'Leo' was furious. The second family leader had already attacked him once, and now she had attempted to take out Quinn as well! He was ready to leap off his feat, the only thing keeping him back was the knowledge that Quinn wouldn't want him to act in this way.

"Quinn, I need to tell you something about her!" 'Leo' blurted out.

However, Paul was the one that now grabbed his fellow Vampire knight and pulled him to the side.

"Let's go for now. Whatever you need to say to him don't say it here. There are too many ears including hers." He whispered.

Worried that there might be a big fight about to happen, Quinn peeked at those behind him.

"Head back to the castle for now, make sure everything is okay there and report to me once you reach it. Move now." Quinn ordered.

The two of them moved quickly, leaving Quinn with an impatient Cindy who was still waiting for an explanation from Quinn.

"Don't look at me like I'm the bad one here. I wasn't going to hurt them and just wanted to ask you what the hell you were thinking! You better have a very good reason for doing that. I've already fulfilled my end of the deal. Did Bryce make you a better offer than us? Or did he perhaps threaten you?"

"Aren't you doing the same thing to me now?!" Quinn accused her as he stood his ground. "Let me tell you, I don't like being threatened!"

Cindy, hearing these words could tell Quinn was serious. From this breath interaction she didn't feel like Quinn could be convinced through threats of action. No, the person before her was stupid and fearless. Only that type of person would have attempted to save Fex's life at his execution.

"Looks like he didn't get to you. Still, in case he does, you should know that our side is plenty strong as well. I kept my word, Quinn Talen, I hope so will you." And with that she walked out as if nothing had happened.

'Yeah, seems like Peter was dead-on about her being crazy... didn't even let me explain myself properly. Will it really be alright if I vote for her?' Quinn wondered.

'Of course you can, but then get ready to be asked for a duel from them to get your vote. I'm pretty sure both Bryce and Cindy believe they can take you on. Even if you win, you would just be faced with another duel after.' Vincent explained.

Waiting a short while, Quinn wanted to stay clear of Cindy and any other leaders who might have stayed behind for some 'talk'. He was ready to do his own investigation and find out if Leo and Silver had found out anything. Just as he was about to contact them though, once again another leader came out of the works, this time being Muka.

"Quinn, I was surprised you have chosen not to vote for us. Is it because of Fex?" Muka asked him directly. "Personally, I don't think you made a bad choice. With Bryce holding Fex then it is something he could use against you. Switching sides might even appear worse."

"But even now, Lee has still chosen to side with us, despite what is happening. You need to harden your will. This week will be tough for all of us and will be the last time anyone will be able to make any moves. As the tiebreaker, you should be extra careful." Muka cautioned. "Oh and in regards to your other demand, I have a list of the criminals that you are free to take. Would you like me to send them to your castle?"

Thinking about it, Quinn wasn't so sure if it was a good idea to send vampire criminals to where his family resided at the current time. According to Vincent it was hard for vampires to actually punish each other due to the family bonds and with Punishers no longer being a thing, the only thing they could do was lock them up. Unless their crimes were so grave.

For this reason, none of the leaders really minded handing them over to Quinn. At least that way it would be his family's problem to deal with them. No, what Quinn was afraid of was that some of them might add a couple of spies into the mix, who might attack the tenth castle from within.

They had few people in the first place, and he doubted the other families would help them keep control of the captives.

'Leo, Silver, you will just have to wait, I promise this will be better for us.' Quinn thought.

"Would it be possible if you could take me to them instead?" Quinn asked. If he could meet the criminals and cast his Shadow eater skill on them, it would increase his powers before meeting up with Leo and Silver.

"That is not a problem, please follow me to the tunnels." Muka stated, a bit surprised.

Back at the castle, everyone had already arrived, including 'Leo' and Paul. They made sure that everyone was there safely and once they were inside, Peter took off his disguise, a small grin indicating he was happy to look like his regular self again.

There was no one missing which was good, and it didn't look like anyone had been hurt by anything.

"Do you mind telling me what that was all about earlier on?" Paul asked Peter. "With Cindy?"

"Oh." Peter replied. "Sure, but I just need to check something first."

Walking off, before raising alarm, and accusing a leader, Peter realised he needed to make sure he wasn't jumping to conclusions. Now it was time to verify his conclusion, and for that he needed one other person.

Walking around, Peter eventually found Layla. The two of them had been in the second castle together a while ago.

"Do you mind if we talk somewhere quite together?" Peter asked, and the two moved to one of the empty storage rooms, with the door closed behind them.

"Don't worry I'm not going to do anything to you. I wouldn't touch Quinn's girl." Peter commented.

"Who said I was Quinn's girl!" Layla's face went bright red and her voice became high pitched.

"Look, I don't care if you have the hots for Quinn or Vorden. What I do care about is making sure they're okay. Do you remember when we were at the second family leader's place, and we stumbled across their meeting room? Do you mind describing to me each person you saw?" Peter asked.

Layla, went ahead and described every single person and once she was done, it was just like Peter had thought.

"What's wrong?" Layla asked.

"The thing is, all those that you mentioned just now voted for Cindy in the meeting room. However, I saw that Cindy would continuously have meetings with the same people over and over, and those

people were involved. That makes sense, but what confuses me is that there was one person that always met up with Cindy... but she voted for Bryce today. I know, she's up to something." Peter stated.

My Vampire System Chapter 863: Catching up

After figuring out that Cindy may be up to something, Peter had stormed out of the room before even thinking about his next set of actions, or talking it out with Layla.

"Wait!" Layla shouted, but Peter had already closed the door behind him, not listening to what she had to say.

She thought about what he had said and wondered if it really was a big deal. When Layla had gone over to see Cindy, she had been nothing but nice to her, and she still believed that Peter was a little out of order.

'The leaders see each other all the time, and maybe the other one was just visiting Cindy trying to convince her? Who was the leader that Peter was going on about anyway?' There were times when Layla had chosen to stay in the room while Peter left constantly to spy on Cindy.

Layla still didn't have a clear idea which leader Peter was exactly referring to.

'Arghh! You can't just run out like that and not say anything. Now it's going to drive me nuts!' Eventually Layla left the room as well in search of Peter, as she couldn't leave him be, but he was nowhere to be seen. The castle was vast after all.

Eventually, after some time wandering around, she spotted Cia instead, who lately had been doing her own thing more often than before. When the two of them met eyes, Cia gave a brief wave. The interaction between the two just seemed a bit off compared to before.

'Didn't Cia meet with Cindy as well? Maybe she can give some insight?'

"Hey, you met with Cindy along with Nate recently, right?" Layla asked. "Do you mind if the two of us talk about it, it would also be nice to catch up as well. It's been a while."

Cia had no problem and agreed to have a chat. The two of them went off for a short walk while talking with each other, and eventually Layla popped the question about Cindy.

"What did you think of her, when you saw her?" Layla asked.

"She seemed nice, actually she was really nice to me. I didn't really see any problems with her. Why, is something wrong?" Cia asked, knowing full well the question wouldn't have been asked for no reason.

Layla took a second before thinking about what to say. She was still deciding whether she should mention it or not, but looking at Cia, she could see the good friend she had made in the last year. The two of them had even gone through many trials together.

"It's about Peter, he thinks that she may be up to something because he saw her with one of the leaders, but I'm really not too sure myself." Layla said.

She was expecting a response, but Cia had just remained silent, deep in her thoughts for a while.

"So... you think somethings up as well?" Layla asked.

"No, no not at all. I was just thinking about something unrelated. I'm sure it's like you said, just an over reaction. Anyway, I'm feeling a little tired so I'm going to go ahead and take a nap." Cia said. Soon after, she quickly took off down the hallway to where her room was, but once she had lost sight of Layla she no longer headed towards her room. Instead she was heading out of the castle and planning to meet a certain person.

'Is Peter planning something, if so I should at least inform Cindy of it, right?' Cia thought.

Being escorted by Muka through the underground tunnels, Quinn was staying cautious. Muka was the leader that had access to the codes that allowed him to travel between each family area, and it certainly was something that would be of use if one was to attack the other families.

No matter how nice Muka was to Quinn, he couldn't clear him off as one of the suspects.

After walking through a maze of complex tunnels, they eventually came to an area Quinn had never been to before, even the tunnels looked slightly different and were wider than the last before.

"Criminals imprisoned for petty crimes are kept near my castle at the moment, but for those who have committed crimes that are more severe, they are sent here." Muka said, as he unlocked another one of the tunnel's locks.

The tunnel led them to the surface, and when they got out, Quinn could see that they were now standing in front of a castle that had clearly been left untouched for a long time.

"The fourteenth castle." Quinn blurted out.

"Yes, before criminals would be brought here regularly. I don't know if you know much of our past but there is a reason why executions aren't done by certain families." Muka started to explain.

Of course, knowing about the reason why Arthur was made punisher in the first place, Quinn knew about the original vampires.

The two of them carried on walking through the abandoned castle, eventually coming across several more locks. Whenever Muka would open these doors, he would use a specific glove.

'Is this to do with his ability, does it allow him to unlock all the doors or something?' Quinn wondered as he watched.

'No,' Vincent replied. 'The ninth family's ability is a little unique, let's just say an element of luck is involved.'

As usual, Vincent liked to speak to Quinn in riddles, even if Quinn thought it wasn't the appropriate time for it.

The two of them didn't enter the castle's numerous rooms but instead arrived in the inner castle area, where there was a large square building in the centre. The outside had no windows at all and there was only one entrance at the front, with the same lock system the tunnels had.

"I know you didn't get a chance to look at the reports, but the criminals in here have been here for a long time. And trust me, if they are in here they have done terrible, unspeakable crimes." Said Muka.

"Then why did Fex receive such a harsh punishment?" Quinn questioned.

"A lot of that was pushed through Bryce, as stated I felt like he had an ulterior motive back then just as he did now. At the same time, the difference was his crimes were to do with the leaders, whereas crimes composed of just vampires between themselves aren't as publicly punished as others."

Eventually, Quinn and Muka had entered the strange building, and walked past a variety of different types of creatures in cells. There were many creatures that Quinn had never seen before.

"What are these?" Quinn asked.

"When the punishers left, some of the subclasses that are uncontrollable were kept here, and in some instances they could be used for fighting. Don't you remember when Paul's men came and how they sent an army of Wendigos? Well this is where they kept them."

"Do you have an interest in these creatures as well?" Muka asked.

"No, these are just wild beasts." Quinn replied.

The truth was, he couldn't use the skill shadow eater on anything but other vampires.

In front of the two, there was a cell and inside there were ten vampires, whose eyes appeared dead. They had no reaction whatsoever to Quinn or Muka entering. They sat there completely still and lifeless. They looked hungry, it was clear they were only living on the minimal amount of blood to survive.

"Did you want me to bring them over to your place, or is there something else you wish to do with them?" Muka asked.

"I just want to make sure, you stated that these criminals have already been told that they will live here forever, suffering. There will be no punishments for what I do to them..." Quinn stated.

Muka was now wondering just what Quinn was trying to do before answering, but the deal had already been made and no one cared what happened to these criminals.

Seeing how weak they already were, Quinn had no need to do anything else.

"It's up to them what they want to do after this." Quinn said as he threw both of his hands together and activated the giant shadow eater skill.

They didn't try to run, and they didn't try to fight back as the shadow monster gobbled them up. A few seconds later and screams of pain were heard from them all. Not looking at them, Quinn turned around and was ready to head back to his castle.

[Shadow eater skill successful]

[100 MC points has been added]

'I need to catch up to Arthur.' Quinn thought.

My Vampire System Chapter 864: Moving forward

For a second, Quinn thought it was a shame that there weren't more criminals in the cells, but that thought quickly left his mind, and he felt a little sick. Vampires seemed to be quite law-abiding, considering how many were in the cells. He understood why based on the strictness of some of their rules. It seemed like it was ingrained in their culture to follow their leader's orders. Some not even having a choice with the bond.

Still, just like with any society, there would be those that broke the rules.

One of the agreements for Quinn's vote was to hand over any criminals that hurt the tenth as well. Ever since then, there didn't seem to be a single incident. At least that's what the reports said. He didn't know if they were listening to their leaders or they were keeping it a secret from him.

He was hoping he could somehow utilize this as well, but there was no such luck.

As he walked away, he could hear the screams of those behind him in their cells, crying out in pain, feeling like the sun was burning their skin. However, it soon stopped. He was unsure if Muka had decided to give them a quick end to their suffering, which was unlikely, or if they had taken their own lives. The fact that this was more likely was more upsetting. They already looked on the brink of death, but had hung on for some reason, yet the punishment Quinn had given pushed them over the edge.

'They were criminals. They had already done bad things.' Quinn repeated to himself.

'Sacrifice the few to save the many.' Vincent said. 'It seems you are starting to understand the way the leaders on top have to start thinking. Yes, every person is important, but at some point, you really do just have to look at them as numbers.'

At the moment, Quinn had a total of 300 MC points to use his shadow ability, and that was just from ten criminals. Seeing this number, Quinn could only imagine how many MC points Arthur must have gathered.

He had been doing this job for a long time, and it was clear he had used the shadow eater skill on a lot more than just ten vampires. He had even seen him use the skill on one of the leaders, and it probably wasn't the first time either.

'Will I be able to get strong enough in time?' Quinn questioned himself, but it was the only thing he could do.

Heading back to his own castle, Quinn could tell that his mask was receiving a call. Now that he had told the others to keep in contact with him more, he no longer kept it in his dimensional space, and instead by his side. When someone was trying to contact him, similar to an old mobile phone, it vibrated.

'Speak.' Quinn said bluntly, not in the best of moods after what he had just done.

"Quinn, it's Peter. I wanted to tell you something. I couldn't find you, so I went looking for Logan, who contacted you. I was worried that she might have gotten to you already." Peter explained.

"She?"

"Yes, the second leader. I don't really know the details of the deal you made with her, but it would be best if you didn't work with her. When I stayed at her castle, I did a little snooping. She would meet with the other leaders frequently, and today, every single one of them she met with voted for her, but there was one leader she would always meet on her own and more so than the others."

It wasn't enough to go on, but at the moment, Quinn was looking for any leads, and after seeing how she had acted and how she was fighting over the position with Bryce. It would make sense if she attacked Kazz as well, although Fex was still a mystery.

"Do you know who that leader is?" Quinn asked. Thinking maybe Cindy wasn't behind it all, but this person who had switched sides, someone else who had a deciding vote other than Quinn could be.

"Yeah, it was another female leader, the eighth leader," Peter said. "Be careful."

'The eighth leader Jill, but why would she attack the tenth family?' Quinn thought.

However, just like Muka, who could utilize the tunnels well for a surprise attack bypassing the other leaders, Jill was also one of those with an ability that would help her.

She was in charge of all the communication between the leaders and important figures, so she would have had the best idea of what was going on. And while she could listen in on all the conversation happening, the same couldn't be said for the other way round.

'Don't forget there is also the possibility that there is more than one person behind this Quinn.' Vincent stated. "We can't be thinking so limited.'

'But then why would Jill vote for Bryce? Unless Bryce and Jill are working together and he really did go against his own daughter.' It was giving him a headache. There were two people involved that could probably give him an answer.

One of them being Fex, but he had his memories removed, and the other being Kazz. Using the mask, Quinn went ahead and requested to contact the others, and eventually, Nate had answered.

"Is this Quinn?" Nate asked.

"Yeah, how are things going?"

"Ham eventually found a way towards their base, and he thinks we're heading in the right direction. He was right, it really is far, and we're moving a bit slow since he's the one that has to direct us. If anything comes up we can contact you."

Listening about it, it didn't seem like if Quinn joined them now, he would be any help, nor did they need him there. His time would have been better used elsewhere, and he knew just the thing.

"Good, because I think I'm going to be a little busy on my end of things," Quinn replied, ending the call.

Using his shadow travel, Quinn first stopped by at the royal guard contact he was to use to contact Dwight. He delivered the message giving the information that he had found out from Peter. Maybe with his own research, this clue would be something that would put the pieces together for him to have for a suspect. It was clear Dwight was keeping some things from him, he must have found out things on his own by now. After the information was given, Quinn headed back to the tenth castle, and the first thing he did was enter the reputation shop on his system. The front towers by the inner castle area were upgraded to level four.

Then at the two other gates, that were connected to the other castle. Quinn placed two more towers and upgraded them by one level. Finally, in front of the castle, Quinn placed another gargoyle looking statue by the side of the door.

At this point, all of his reputation points he had earned were spent.

"Whoa, look at that, the tenth's just gone and made more of those tower things form before." A vampire pointed out.

"Are they preparing for something? Why would he build such things in his own castle area? It's like he thinks a war is going to happen or something."

"Well, they did get attacked not too long ago. Maybe he just wants to make sure it doesn't happen again. I guess the leader really cares about his people."

'Quinn, are you preparing for something, I feel like you're doing this now for a reason.' Vincent asked.

'Leo, is away and he's quite the strong force we have lost. I want to make sure while everyone is here, if I can't get to them and something happens. Then at least this can delay them.'

'You sound like you've already planned to do something?'

'Of course.' Quinn replied. 'I can't just stand here and wait a week for them to do what they want and come to me. Hopefully, Leo and Silver can save Fex, but with his memories gone, that won't help us at all, but there is one person that Bryce has been keeping away from the others, and it has to be for a reason.

'So, I'm going to sneak into the first leader's castle, and ask Kazz, what happened that day.'

My Vampire System Chapter 865: An obsession

It had been days since Kazz's beaten body was found pinned up on the back of a house down a dark alleyway, and yet there was still no news from the first family about the incident. Was it pride, anger or something else that made them hide this information?

But what concerned Quinn more than any of these things was that no one had seen Kazz either. Covering up what happened to her was one thing, but as a vampire, healing wounds were easy as long as they had blood. Which meant Bryce was hiding something by keeping her indoors.

With the other group approaching Fex's location, Quinn believed finding out the truth might just help them out or clear them of a danger they might be running towards.

'Are you sure you want to do this? If you get spotted, then there will be serious punishment.' Vincent said worriedly. 'A leader sneaking into another leader's castle, they are bound to think you are up to no good, especially with everything going on.'

'There are two reasons why I think it will be okay.' Quinn replied as he took off his clothes from the ceremony. They were beyond uncomfortable and would make him stand out if he was caught. 'When Muka made the suggestion, part of the reason I didn't want to go was in case it was a set up. It's been a while since then, so he probably thinks I'm no longer going to do this.

'The other thing is my shadow cloak ability. Yes, it can still be detected from others like leaders and knights, but getting past regular vampires isn't really a problem. Third, even if I do get caught, I won't look like myself.' Quinn said, looking in a mirror.

In the reflection, Quinn didn't look like himself at all. Instead, he looked like one of the vampires from the settlement. Someone who was from the first family, but not part of the inner circle. Normal flat black hair, with a regular face, and was kind of plain looking.

"Perfect, Peter's soul weapon really does come in handy for situations like these, and with Logan's spray, I can't tell the difference between my own smell and others," Quinn stated, looking proud of himself.

'Let's just ignore the fact that you said two reasons and stated three. Maths really isn't your strong point is it?' Vincent commented.

Quinn was no fool that his actions might lead to something big, but everyone seemed to be making big actions before him, and to match them, he needed to make movements as well.

Before leaving, Quinn met up with Paul and gave a stark warning.

"You need to prepare them for the worst soon, with the king's election coming up next week, I'm sure the other families will make their move, or if someone doesn't get the result, they wanted this whole place could turn into another vampire Civil war, and our group just isn't strong enough.

"What I want is for the tenth family, is to just not get involved with outside affairs. We will stay here, make a stronghold and protect everyone within. Whenever I can, I'm going to keep improving everything around this place."

With that, it was time for Quinn to make his move. Using the shadow cloak while in the vampire world practically made him invisible. It was easy for him to move through his own castle area, and beyond without being spotted.

Of course, it would have been fine for him to just use the disguise but he wanted to see how well his shadow cloak would work. Once in a while, there was a vampire in the settlement that had better senses than others and would look towards Quinn's direction, but they would ignore him when they saw anything, to them it was just a feeling something was there and they weren't certain.

'Looks like this will work out after all.' Quinn thought.

Eventually, Quinn reached the first castle area, and the first thing he noticed compared to the other castles, was the amount of guards standing by the gate was three times as much as by the others.

'Maybe he is accepting someone to make a move?' Vincent thought.

'Well, he wouldn't be wrong, or it just means he has something to hide.'

Instead of going through the front gate, Quinn decided to scale the walls instead. The shadow cloak would remain active as long as he didn't use any other skills or got hit while doing so. The walls were also filled with guards but there were far fewer and with Quinn's speed once scaling he was able to jump right down into the inner castle area, allowing the guard to just feel a slight breeze.

The guard had turned its head and looked down where Quinn had landed, but could see nothing, just like the vampires with keen senses in the settlement.

'You will have to be careful now.' Vincent warned. 'In the inner castle area, and castle there will be vampire nobles, and those with better senses than most.'

'Don't worry, even if they can sense me they won't see me.' Quinn said, as he started running through the area as fast as he could towards the castle. Heading up to the front door would be a problem, especially with the special lock that was designed but for Quinn it was easy to enter through other ways.

Swirling around to the side of the castle, where no one could be seen, Quinn quickly changed skills from shadow cloak, into his shadow travel which allowed him to go through and under buildings, then when past the wall it was a simple as just getting out of his shadow, and putting the shadow cloak on again.

'Muka was right, you do have the right set of skills for a job like this. You know if all else fails and you want to just make a good living, you should become a thief or something.' Vincent recommended.

'Ah yes, doing everything I can to become a great infamous thief of the world, that's a brilliant idea.' Quinn replied, while he continued going through the castle.

All of the castles were large, and there weren't actually many vampires in either of these castles. This was something Quinn noticed when visiting the others. This would be a big help for him.

'Now it's time to search for where Kazz is in this place.'

While going around in the castle, Quinn made sure to not be seen. Using the cloak and hiding in places. His senses were better than theirs and so was his hearing. So whenever he could hear someone approaching , he could act before they could. Using a number of his shadow skills to avoid being seen.

What Quinn did notice though, was all the paintings on the wall seemed to be of one person. The person looked similar to Bryce but not quite the same.

'He has a lot of paintings of this man, do you think it's his father?' Quinn asked.

'I'm not sure, Bryce is even older than I am, but I can't remember him being close with his father.' Vincent replied.

As they continued to search for Kazz floor by floor, they still saw more great paintings of the same man, proud and strong, and then entering one of the rooms using the shadow, there was a shock at what he could see, it was a room full of paintings, but not just any ordinary paintings.

While the others showed the man in his glory with a gentle smile or defeating creatures and beasts, these ones looked as if it was drawn with blood, and the paintings were melting.

Trying to make out one of them, Quinn could see that it was the same man from all the other paintings, standing on an execution platform and standing by his side, was Arthur.

'This isn't his father. It's his grandfather.' Quinn said. 'Remembering Arthur's story, about how he thought the ones that had attacked his friends were the first leader. Now that we know it's untrue, it means that Bryce's grandfather was killed for no reason.'

Looking around the room, Quinn could see even more terrifying paintings. It was a room dedicated to Bryce's grandfather with his death.

One had a rolling head, the other as if his grandfather had been raised from the grave. Quinn had seen his fair share of death by now, he even had blood on his own hands, but this room felt different and was starting to get to him.

Everywhere he turned he could see Bryce's grandfather decapitated in some way, or being tortured and Quinn eventually had to leave the room.

'Why would Bryce have a room like that?' Quinn wondered, but with all the paintings around the castle of him and no one else, it felt like it was beyond just a liking for his grandfather.

Sticking to the task at hand, Quinn continued, and eventually, he had arrived at a room that appeared to be locked, it wasn't just a simple lock either. There were certain rooms in the castle that were locked, but they looked like they mostly led to either a weapon storage room or research lab, but here it was in the middle of what looked to be sleeping quarters.

Using the same shadow skills as before, Quinn entered the rooms and when he rose from his shadow, he had hit the jackpot, he could see Kazz from behind standing staring out of the window.

'She looks fine, so why lock her up?' Quinn thought, as he slowly approached her.

"Kazz, I don't mean to startle you." Quinn said in a soft gentle voice.

Kazz turned around, and when she did, she had tears in her eyes.

"Why....why have I been locked up in this place....did I do something bad?" She asked.

Seeing this, Quinn was slightly confused by her reaction and her tone of voice sounded like that of a young girl. It reminded Quinn of the first time he had met her.

"Kazz, are you okay..did something happen?' Quinn asked.

"I, who are you....are you with that man?" Kazz said, pointing behind him.

'What's she pointing at?'

When Quinn turned around. In a dark corner of the room, sitting down, was a man with a cane in his hand.

My Vampire System Chapter 866: A Showdown between leaders

The doors from Kazz's room were seen flying into the hallway, not looking like they were once before. They had been crushed to pieces and following soon after them, was Quinn with both of his arms held up in a cross position.

'Damn it, this old bastard. Does he really have to be the type to attack first and ask questions later!' Quinn thought. 'You think a leader would be more sensible than this?'

'Quinn, look at his eyes! This isn't an attack that was rationally thought out.' Vincent warned. 'It's one driven by pure anger and hatred.'

It was so sudden the attack. Before Quinn could even see who it was, Bryce had moved from his seat and thrown out a punch, but it wasn't any regular punch. It was surrounded by the blood hardening, making it stronger than usual.

Although Quinn didn't have time to raise his shadow, he did have time to cast himself with the second stage of Qi, minimising the attack's strength.

[-5HP]

[Quest received: defeat the first family leader]

[Reward: instant level Up]

[?????]

'Really system, you think I didn't know this was going to be a hard fight!'

But it did tell Quinn one thing, it was a fight that he could win. At least the system thought so.

"I saw how you came through those doors. The trail of shadow you left behind as you rose." Bryce said as he walked through the broken doors into the hallway.

"But, I've never seen you before, a face I don't recognise, but it doesn't matter because you carry with you that power." The anger in Bryce's voice was felt and heard as the cane in his hand could be seen vibrating.

"Are you someone that kid trained? No, you're too strong. You blocked my attack, which can only mean a few things. You're either someone working for Arthur who is still alive from back then, or you're the tenth leader himself disguised." Bryce started unsheathing his blade from his cane and pointed it towards Quinn.

"You should learn to control your heartbeat because it seems like one of my guesses was correct!" Bryce shouted, swinging his blade, but Quinn was just as fast as he used his gauntlets to knock the attack away. More swings from the sword came, and Quinn continued to block them with his gauntlets.

'I can't just keep blocking!'

Eventually, Quinn got the timing down of the attacks, and managed to raise his shadow to block one of them, and at the same time with his hands free. Threw out his fist towards Bryce's stomach. The attacks landed but Bryce was also able to block it with his sword, only sliding him across the floor down the hallway.

'I can do it, I can keep up with another leader!' Quinn thought to himself. 'Even though my gauntlets are at the emperor tier, with my shadow and second stage of Qi, I can block his attacks.'

'I wouldn't be celebrating just yet.' Said Vincent. 'Bryce is considered one of the strongest vampires for a reason, and he still has a lot to show. He hasn't used his ability, or blood weapon just yet and look at your gauntlets.'

Looking down at his hands, Quinn could see that they were severely chipped and scratched, with each attack they were getting hurt, despite coating them in second stage Qi.

[Durability 90%]

'If I continue just blocking the attacks with my gauntlets, they are going to eventually break, and I can't use my shadow for defence either. He's only punching now but with stronger attacks my Mc points will go down to zero in no time.'

Kazz had rushed from the window in her room, and was now by the door peeking around the corner looking at the two fighting down the hallway. She didn't know why but when looking at the old man fight, a pain was felt in her chest.

'Are these two fighting over me, but why?' She wondered.

"Fast and skilled. I can't believe that you are the tenth leader." Bryce stated. "I waited here for something to happen, I thought someone would come back to get the job done when they hadn't killed Kazz. Maybe they were hoping for me to react or do something, so instead, I did the opposite. I made it so no news would leak out about her, and I knew that would worry whoever had done this, and they would come back eventually.

"What I don't understand is, why the remnants of the punishers have chosen to team up with the other side. Are you with the bloodsuckers, or with Cindy?" Bryce asked.

He swung his blade again, this time throwing out a blood swipe with it. It was a skill that looked almost identical to Leo's. Knowing full well its power, Quinn avoided it but then could see that the real blade from Bryce was coming soon after, this time coated in red blood.

Activating his gauntlet's active skill, Quinn summoned the red fire blade of energy out from the top of his gauntlets and coated it with the second stage of Qi. The two blades collided, and Quinn was able to stop the sword. For now, this solved his problem of his gauntlets being damaged since the blade worked based on his gauntlets active skill. But to keep the blade out, Quinn would have to use his Qi, which was draining his energy quickly.

That's when Quinn noticed a smile on Bryce's face.

"You think you stopped my attack?" He said.

A few seconds later and stinging pain could be felt through his armour and shoulders. Two large slash marks were seen on his body, and blood started to pour from his wounds.

'But I blocked the attack, so how did it still hit me?'

'You fool, haven't you seen his ability many times before, it doesn't matter if you blocked his attack or not, or if you narrowly avoided it. Just don't get within the range of his sword, this battle will have to be a long-ranged one if you plan to win." Vincent advised.

Bearing through the pain, Quinn gritted his teeth, and turned the pain channelling it into anger, he wanted to pay back for what Bryce had done.

"You know, if you would let the two of us talk it out, then maybe you would realise I didn't come here to fight!" Quinn shouted. He used all his strength and focused his Qi on the flame blade from gauntlets, and swung Bryce's sword to the side.

Then throwing out the shadow, he created a path. Luckily Bryce was close, and the area was narrow, so it had hit him, slowing down his movements. If he wanted to get away, he would find it difficult now. Then with all his energy, Quinn reached out with his hand in the shape of a claw, swinging it like a wild animal, but as soon as it got close, it felt like multiple attacks were hitting the outside of his gauntlets. Strikes from Bryce's ability were hitting his hand, trying to move it away. It slowed down his own hand, but in the end, his fingertips managed to graze Bryce's chest, just drawing blood before he stepped back away from Quinn.

[Left gauntlet durability at 70%]

'Damn, I only managed to graze him, and my gauntlets are already so damaged. I'm getting pretty tired using all this Qi as well, but the shadow managed to slow him down, and I can hurt him.'

There were still blood attacks Quinn could use as well, but with a fight like this, Quinn wanted to be cautious about how much blood he used, and still knew Bryce hadn't used everything he had just yet.

However, Quinn was suddenly surprised as he could see Bryce holding onto his chest, and his face showed great pain. Even though he was trying to hide it.

"You, what the hell is this!" Bryce shouted and soon after screamed, continuing to hold onto his chest.

'He's in pain from a little scratch like that, but how?'

Looking at his blood-red gauntlets, Quinn realised what had happened. Since returning, this was the first fight he had with a vampire. Fighting with the gauntlets before he forgot they had this effect. What was hurting Bryce right now, was the Blood fairy's blood, from Alex.

My Vampire System Chapter 867: First generation Blood weapon

The blood running through his body was spreading, and the pain continued, but it looked like Bryce was trying to do something as he consciously had his hand held over his chest.

"Your little tricks won't work on me!" Bryce shouted.

The wincing and sounds of pain soon stopped, as Bryce pulled his hand away from his chest and the infected blood could be seen floating mid air. It stayed there slightly above his fingers, out from his body and soon the wound started to heal again.

"You have some nasty tricks up your sleeve. Blood like this, is it blood of a fairy? Who the hell are you!"

'Did he just use blood control, to take out the blood?' This was another reason Quinn hadn't been using his own blood attacks. Whatever Quinn could do with blood, Bryce could do it as well, and thanks to his blood control, it was better and stronger. However, Quinn did have Qi to equalise that out.

Bryce quickly pulled out one of the flasks he had on him, and threw out the blood onto his sword and soon, it started to glow. It looked like the sword was pulsating, as if alive wanting more of the delicious blood it had just tasted.

'Blood weapon!'

"Quinn get out of here, that's the same blood weapon that's been passed down between the first generation family," Vincent warned.

Quinn quickly was thinking about what to do, as Bryce lifted the sword, and dropped it into the ground. When it touched the floor, it looked like it melted, disappearing. Out of the sword as it melted, blood started to cover the whole area. The surrounding area quickly was encased in it, including the floor, the sides and the top of the hallway. Just in case, Quinn had covered his feet in the shadow, so it didn't directly touch the floor.

The area was small, but it reminded Quinn a bit of his shadow dome.

'Reflective blood weapon skill, activate.' Bryce mumbled. He raised both hands, and threw out a blood swipe towards the top of the wall. When the attack hit, it had bounced off the wall, growing in size and looked as if it was moving faster. It bounced off the ground next, and the same happened again.

' In this space, his blood attacks are reflected each time gaining power from the blood area he has created. The attacks are a bit random, but it just makes it worse for you.' Vincent explained.

Bryce then started to fire out a flurry of blood swipes, and now tens of bouncing blood swipes at such a speed were bouncing around all over the small area. He peeked behind him, and several blood swipes were already surrounding the back area.

Quinn used his flash step to dodge one or two of the tracks, but it was tiring him out, and eventually, he was hit by one from behind.

[-10 HP]

But he couldn't stop and continued to move on, that's when he heard a scream. Not being able to control the attacks meant that Kazz was being hit by the blood attacks as well.

Unfortunately for Kazz, the blade had gone right through her arm, and it had been chopped off.

'This guy, does he really not care about her!'

Seeing more blades coming towards her, Quinn started to run forward, and with both his palms held out, he fired blood spray. It wasn't enough to destroy the attacks, but when it would hit, it would alter their path slightly, causing them to go off course to a different direction.

He wouldn't be able to keep this up forever, as with each blood spray his HP went down quickly..

'We have to get out of here!' Quinn thought, and he had finally reached Kazz and held her hand.

[30/100 HP]

There were now too many blood swipes in the area, but before they could do anything else, Quinn held out his other hand, and closed it into a fist.

[Skill activate, Shadow lock]

The two of them disappeared, avoiding all of the attacks.

At that moment, Bryce had stopped. The attacks from his own blades continued to reflect off the walls and even attempted to hit him, but thanks to his ability, he was able to block all the attacks with ease that came towards him.

At the same time, the red energy from the walls seemed to dim, they fell from the walls, and all started to head towards one spot in front of Bryce, eventually forming the sword he once had.

Bryce, walked up to the severed arm on the floor.

'Where did they go?' He thought as he started to sniff the air. 'They are no longer here. Their entire presence has disappeared. Is this the same skill as the other punisher used. If so, it means he will return to this very spot. You can hide, but you can't hide forever. I'll be waiting for you right here. I promise I will get rid of all the punishers!' Bryce said, stabbing his sword into the ground, where the two were last seen.

"Man, your dad really doesn't care about you, does he?" Quinn said, scratching his head.

Kazz was sitting on the floor, holding her arm from where it had been cut. It looked like she had been by a few of the other attacks as well. Seeing her like this, Quinn couldn't help but feel sorry for her, even despite everything she had done.

Growing up with a father like that must have been tough. Quinn had seen Bryce not care for lives before with the blood dome, but never thought he would treat Kazz like this.

Her arm would heal though, and even now, the end was no longer bleeding. She started to look round the room, and noticed that they were in a dark space, one that was completely pitch black with no end in sight.

"Where are we?" She asked.

"This is part of my ability, don't worry, we're safe here, at least for now," Quinn stated, but he didn't sound too sure himself.

Kazz didn't say much and continued to look at her arm, until she eventually spoke.

"So it's true, that man really is my father.." She said. "If that's the case, then why...why does his eyes look so hollow when he looks at me?"

Looking at her, Quinn could tell she was upset, but didn't really know what to say, he didn't know what the problem between the two of them were, and he wasn't going to act as councillor trying to fix them. As much as he wanted to help her, he had his own problems to deal with.

"Kazz, I know I don't look like it right now, but it's actually me, Quinn. I heard you were attacked, and I was wondering if you knew who. Maybe if we figure this thing out, I can explain it to your father, and he'll stop attacking us." Quinn pleaded.

But there was just silence and sobbing from Kazz, but Quinn was not in the mood for her to act like this.

"Listen to me, Kazz!" Quinn said, shaking her by the shoulders. "What happened to Fex, were you with him, were you alone, was it one of the other families?!" Quinn continued.

"I don't know!" She screamed back. "I don't know anything! I can't remember anything, and then the person who calls me father did this to me!" She shouted, lifting her arm up. "I want my family, where is my family!!!" She continued to scream and cry.

Through her few words, Quinn had picked up something she said, that she couldn't remember anything.

'Wow, you really don't know how to treat people, can't you see she's having problems. 'Vincent started to tut. 'Calm her down and get a clear answer from her.'

It was stressful, being attacked by one of the vampire leaders and thrown into such a situation. Quinn was still in fight mode when talking to Kazz, even though he no longer needed to be.

He knelt down by her side, and lifted her head up slightly.

"Kazz, I'm sorry, I know this must be hard for you. You said you can't remember anything. Do you mean you lost your memories?"

She nodded slowly and continued to sniffle.

'So is it like Fex, did whoever did this to Kazz also do this to Fex, but why? Why the need to remove both of their memories. Is this why Bryce wouldn't let her out, to try and catch the person responsible... and now he thinks it's me.'

'Damn it! the two of us shouldn't even be fighting, but he will only suspect me until I find out who is behind this.'

Standing up, Quinn had a determined look on his face.

"Kazz, if we want to find out what happened to you, we need to get out of here. They kept you alive for a reason, and you're not the only one this has happened to."

"We're going to get out of here?" Kazz replied. "But what about that...that man. Isn't he going to attack us again? He's seemed to be really strong."

Kazz was right, Bryce was strong, but during the fight, it didn't feel like he was impossible to beat. Not like another person he had faced before.

"Don't worry, it's simple. To get out of here, all I need to do, is kick your old man's arse!" Quinn said, clenching his fist. 'I'm a leader too, and I'll show him the new tenth leader isn't going to just take a beating.'

My Vampire System Chapter 868: The showdown's end

Standing in the hallway, Bryce didn't move from the spot he had last seen Quinn and Kazz. He stayed there, still as a statue. Eventually, there were those in the castle that had heard the commotion going on. They ran up to where they could hear all the fuss going on, only to see the hallway partly destroyed and Bryce standing there, with no injuries on his body.

"Sir is the first castle under attack by someone?!" The vampire in front of the others asked.

Bryce didn't look away from the spot while giving a reply.

"Leave this place, and if you hear anything, do not come back to this place. Make sure everyone stays away from here."

The vampire guard gulped before ordering the rest of his men to do as they asked.

'How long will I have to wait?' Bryce thought.

At that moment, a black shadow portal started to appear. Bryce gripped his sword, ready for what was to come. He swung right at the shadow as soon as he saw a red gauntlet appear from it. A loud clang was heard as the two objects collided. However, unlike before, the clashes of power weren't equal and instead, Bryce's hand was flung backwards, nearly chucking his whole body with it.

Coming out of the shadow was Quinn and Kazz. She quickly headed back into the room and stood behind the door peaking at the fight that was about to happen again.

"You know, you are so predictable. I knew you would be out here waiting for us." Quinn stated.

Bryce was a fast one to act, and it appeared like he had some knowledge about that shadow. So Quinn assumed he would be waiting for him. Knowing Bryce would be there was advantageous for Quinn. In the shadow space, he had enough time to gather energy for the hammer strike, and time it so when he appeared out of the portal, his fist would collide with the sword.

'Quinn, if there is any time to beat Bryce, then it is now. It looks like he only prepared one flask of blood for himself, so he can't activate his blood weapon again.' Vincent explained.

For Quinn as well, he had consumed blood from his own flask to restore his HP, and he still had his trusty blood bank in case of emergencies.

'Your ability is annoying, but I can attack you from far away as well!'

Quinn threw out his blood swipe, quickly grabbing it with his shadow creating the blood scythe. Swinging it to his side, it scr.a.p.ed across the side of the walls. The hallway was large but not large enough for Quinn's attack to build up its full momentum.

Seeing the attack from so far away, Bryce was able to block it easily lifting his sword. However when it hit, it was more powerful than he had expected.

'Blood hardening, blood swipe!' Bryce activated two skills, casing his sword in blood and then throwing out a swipe later on to throw the scythe away.

'That's the same attack that silly boy used!' Bryce shouted with anger.

He started to swing his sword through the air at a rapid pace. Quinn couldn't even count how many slashes he had done. What was strange though, was it looked like he was using a regular blood swipe, but when the sword swung through the air, the blood swipe would be created, but it didn't move away. Instead, it stayed there, floating in the air. Now in front of Bryce, were around a hundred blood swipes floating there in place created from his sword.

'Blood control, move!' Bryce commanded, and all of the blood swipes were now heading towards Quinn.

'If I block this with my shadow, even with the extra MC points I have it will just use them all up. I have to do something else.' Quinn thought.

Waiting at the right time, for all the attacks to come his way, Quinn held out his hand again, and clenched it into a fist.

[Shadow lock]

Taking himself in the shadow space, he waited a few seconds. All the attacks had collided into the spot where Quinn was or into each other. The dust and rubble from the attacks made it hard to see, but soon Bryce could see that a figure was still standing there.

Quinn had come out from the shadow lock, timing when the attack would be over.

[Shadow path activate]

Activating the shadow path skill, it threw a trail of shadows across the floor. Bryce seeing this from last time, wasn't going to let the shadow touch him, knowing it would slow him down.

He jumped to the side of the wall, digging his feet in, and started running fast towards Quinn.

'I knew you would avoid it, I never expected you to be hit by that slow skill.'

[Shadow hop]

Sinking into the shadow unearth his feat, Quinn had reappeared right at the end of his shadow path and now was directly behind Bryce. Immediately he performed a blood crescent kick. Quinn grabbed it with his shadow, swinging it with his full power creating more momentum. It had hit Bryce, chucking him off the wall and onto the floor.

Not letting him rest, Quinn jumped towards him lifting his leg above his head, and created another shadow scythe with his leg, hammering it down with an axe kick towards Bryce again.

The strike hit the ground and caused the whole floor to rumble, even though it was made from the hard black material the vampires used, it felt like it couldn't take much more punishment from a fight between two leaders.

The vampires inside the castle were starting to worry. Someone who was fighting against Bryce lasting this long, they just couldn't imagine, and they could feel the power of the fight, but they would follow their leader's orders and not get involved.

When Quinn had moved his leg, he could see Bryce had avoided the axe kick, but he was hurt and bleeding from the attack earlier, standing off to the side.

'That wound, it's just going to heal again, and I can't keep all these attacks up for much longer. If I want to beat him. I'm going to have to use my gauntlets like before!'

Rushing in, Quinn needed to only worry about Bryce's ability, it would hurt him, but he needed to get hurt to hurt his opponent.

He was at the mid-range level, and holding out his hand, Quinn fired a blood bullet towards Bryce. It had worked against other leaders in the past, and he thought it would do the same now. With Qi, it would be hard to heal.

However, Bryce had moved his sword and body in a strange way, he spun his body, and with the side of his sword, had flung the bullet right back at Quinn, hitting him in the knee.

"Arghh!" Quinn screamed but gritted his teeth.

[-50HP]

Bryce had used the force of his own attack against him, and made it greater than his own.

[Blood bank activate]

Activating the blood bank, he needed his knee to heal in time as Bryce came forward swinging his sword from above. Luckily, Quinn's regeneration with the blood was fast, and he was able to stomp his feet in the ground, and punch the sword away that was coming from above, what he didn't expect though, was a kick from Bryce to follow after, hitting Quinn right in the face.

[-20HP]

Stumbling down, with his hand touching the floor, Quinn had spread the shadow around the two of them. It was risky as Quinn's shadow MC points were low, if Bryce attacked the shadow now, he would have none left, but allowing it to touch Bryce would slow him down.

Lifting his own leg while falling to the floor, Quinn had hit the back of Bryce's head, then using all of his Qi, encasing his gauntlets in them, with the second stage and powering them with the first stage. Quinn threw his fist forward piercing right through Bryce's stomach.

Ripping through the clothes, Quinn could see that Bryce also had been using the blood hardening skill through his whole body, but it seemed useless against Quinn's Qi covered attack.

As Bryce was about to fall on top of him, Quinn had sunk his body through the shadow and hopped to a different place.

He looked at Bryce on the floor sweating and in pain and...he wasn't getting up. Walking up to Bryce, Quinn wanted to make sure that Bryce was dealt with, so he would no longer cause him any trouble.

"Please, please don't kill him!" Kazz pleaded from the side.

Looking at her, Quinn wondered why she still cared for him, even though she had no memories of this man, and how he had treated her. Was it because they were family, or the vampire bond? But her eyes filled with tears said it was something much more than that.

Kicking Bryce with his leg, Quinn moved him so he was now lying on his back instead of on his belly. His face was full of pain, and the wound around his stomach wasn't healing like before. Bryce had his hand over the wound, as if he was trying to remove the poison again.

At that moment, Bryce chuckled, and started to laugh.

"Haha, you really are the kid. The tenth leader, I lost to you!" Bryce said. "The vampires really are doomed having lost to the punishers and vampires."

Touching his face, Quinn realised what had happened. When Bryce had kicked him in the head, the mask had broken and fallen.

"Listen, old man, I never wanted to fight you in the first place, but you were the one who attacked me without asking questions. I just wanted to ask Kazz who the heck did this to her. I'm looking for the people who attacked my people, and that's all that I care about."

Quinn looked at Kazz one more time, and looked back at Bryce, before deciding...to walk away.

"Just remember, I spared your life when I could have killed you. I'm not the one behind all of this, and you should treat your daughter nicer. If I was her, I wouldn't save you right now."

[Quest complete]

.....

My Vampire System Chapter 869: One more trump card

'It looks like I'm finally strong enough to face the leaders...but I'm still a long way off from facing Arthur.' Quinn thought.

[Quest completed]

[Instant level up reward received]

[You are now level 41]

Seeing his reward Quinn was actually a little upset. Because whenever he experienced an evolution reset, the first level was always the easiest to level up because of the low amount of exp points required.

Since it got harder with every level, he would have prefered this kind of reward at a much higher level. Still he figured he shouldn't complain about it. For now, he decided to put the stat point into his strength bringing it up to 65.

From the fight, Quinn learned that as long as kept his beast gear on, he could pretty much keep up with a leader's speed and their power. Of course, Bryce's natural attacks might be a little bit stronger but Quinn had Qi to make up for that.

He would just have to be careful to not allow his Qi to run out, fights between vampires could be long and tedious. The more strength he had going for him, the less he would have to compensate via Qi. Of course when he added his Qi to the mix, it would also result in a bigger bang, making for a huge impact.

That wasn't the only reward Quinn received for defeating a leader though. Unlike the previous one, he was very pleased with this one.

[Blood control +30]

[Total Blood control 44]

It was a huge boost to his Bood control, which he had only been able to improve slightly with Fex' help. Quinn had seen Bryce do some amazing things through Blood control, such as leaving the blood swipes in mid air or moving them all at once, and removing the fairy blood from his body.

The usefulness of this stat was apparent. However, it wasn't all good news, because at the end of the day, Quinn, after going through a tough battle like that, hadn't discovered much.

The only thing he could confirm was that Bryce most likely wasn't the one behind the attacks, as he was also looking for the person who had manhandled his daughter Kazz. There were also no signs of Fex anyway.

'Those paintings were pretty creepy, and his blood weapon was really strong. If he had more human blood, or humans around to sacrifice, I wouldn't want to fight him again.' Quinn thought.

'Yes.' Vincent agreed. 'The one thing you have been able to rely on so far, is that the others might understand some of your shadow abilities and skills, but not all of it. After having fought you once, it won't be the case anymore. The next time the two of you fight, might have a different outcome.'

'Well, let's just hope I don't have to fight him again.' Although Quinn was afraid due to what had happened to Bryce in the past, it was unavoidable as he was a shadow user.

Bryce continued to lie there in pain. He could tell that whatever was affecting his body wasn't enough to kill him, but it would prevent him from moving for a good while. However, he didn't have to wait too long. Kazz eventually approached Bryce herself, and opened up the flask.

As she opened the lid and tried to pour it into his mouth, Bryce placed his hand on the flask stopping it. He couldn't move well, yet he had summoned the will to not receive help.

"Where did you get that?" He asked.

"Why do you ask, when we both know you won't like the answer? It was from the man who just left. He gave it to me so my arm could heal quicker, but I didn't use up all the blood. It was my own decision to give you the rest, so please." Kazz pleaded, as she tried to pour it in his mouth again.

This time Bryce didn't resist and accepted the blood. Looking at Kazz, he could see she was still healing from some of the wounds, the worst one being the one on her arm.

'I didn't even realise I had hit her.' Bryce reflected.

As soon as his tongue tasted the red liquid, he could tell that it wasn't enough to heal him. The fairy blood in his body was still affecting him. Still, it did provide him with an energy boost, allowing him to deal with the rest himself. Placing his hand over the wound in his stomach, he closed his eyes and focused on using his Blood control.

He could feel the two different blood types and started to pull the fairy blood cells away from his own and eventually, it all formed into a small ping pong sized ball of blood. Letting go it dropped onto the floor, finally allowing the blood to start healing him properly.

'That kid... he was the tenth leader after all. Was he hiding his strength back then?' Bryce started to think back to the last time he had seen Quinn fight. 'No, that's impossible, Vadeen would have killed him if it wasn't for Arthur... So how the hell did he get that strong so fast?'

'I was unprepared, I thought if any of the leaders came, my blood weapon would be enough, but I didn't expect him to come and be that skilled. Look at me lying here making excuses, no matter what a loss is a loss.'

Eventually Bryce had restored enough energy to move around. He knelt up and looked at the hallway they were in. There were scratches all over the castle. Huge slash marks in between doors and partly broken floors and ceilings.

'That kid, I can't think of him as a fake leader anymore.'

"Bring me your arm, Kazz." Bryce told her, and when she came over with it, Bryce slashed the skin off where it had healed up, and placed the seared part against hers. Then using what blood left in the flask poured it on top.

He placed both hands on the wound, and Kazz could feel that Bryce was doing something, moving parts of her blood inside to speed up the healing process and once he let go, her arm was all healed up again.

She moved it a couple of times, and it worked just as if nothing had happened. Usually it would take a while but she felt like it was back to how it was before.

"Thank you...er...father." She said bowing down, not really knowing what to say.

"It looks like you forgot your manners along with your memories as well." Bryce stated. "In this castle you are my Vampire knight, and I am your leader. As such, you should always address me as your leader, in a respectful manner and comply with what I ask, do you understand?" He asked.

"Yes, yes master." She quickly corrected herself and bowed down. She thought that maybe now that he was no longer fighting, this person who was meant to be her father would treat her like one, unfortunately, it appeared to her that the two of them didn't have that kind of relationship.

"When the two of you were alone... Did he speak to you? Ask you about anything in particular?" Bryce wondered.

"Just like you, he wanted to know about what happened to me. Who it was that attacked me. However, since I can't remember anything I was unable to answer him. Only... there was one thing that was different. He also asked about someone called Fex, it seems like he cared for that person, and was more worried about him, and... I recall he mentioned that I wasn't the only one that lost my memories." Kazz answered.

"I see, well I guess we are both looking for the same person in a way, so we shouldn't have to clash with each other again." Bryce concluded, finally standing back up.

"Wait, Sir, can I ask, he said I was with Fex at the time! Can you tell me why we were together? Maybe it will help me remember something."

"I doubt you will, but fine." Bryce sighed. "You see you were assigned a certain task before you disappeared. I had asked you to bring the boy to me. According to my sources, he figured out how to create and control a blood weapon. I wanted to ask him personally, just how far he had developed the technique or if he had told anyone yet."

"Can I ask why?" Kazz, pushed a little further.

Bryce turned around and gave her glance, before turning away.

"Because I wanted to know if it was similar to the blood weapon summoning technique I already know. Perhaps it was similar, or maybe even better." Bryce stated, holding his chest.

If the fight was to continue, there was one last trick he had up his sleeve.

'You should always have some trump cards, and stay ahead of your opennents.' Bryce thought.

My Vampire System Chapter 870: Silent steps

Silver, Leo and Nate had been following Ham for a while now, the truth was when Quinn had last called, Nate wasn't completely truthful about the situation they were in. It was true that Ham had recognised the way he had come from and they were heading towards the direction, but the reason they were slow was mainly due to the frequent breaks Ham would take.

"Do you even care about your master at all!" Nate loudly complained. "This is the fifth time we've stopped because of you!"

The group was waiting by a large rock along a river. Ham laid on top of it lying on his back, with his belly pointing upward.

"Of course I do!" Ham shouted back. "But do you want me to tire out like I did before? And if I pass out, what happens then, then we have no way of finding them."

While Nate and Ham were bickering backwards and forward, Leo started to walk upward against the stream of water. He could hear the sound of the crashing water getting stronger, and as he fine tuned his senses further he could hear water crashing down violently.

"Ham, did you not mention that the cave was in some type of water fall?" Leo interrupted the two. At the moment, Nate had grabbed Ham with both hands by his belly, and looked like he was about to chuck him a mile away deep into the forest.

Meanwhile, Silver stood there frustrated with a vein bulging out of her forehead, but still hadn't interrupted the two just yet.

"Yeah, when I came out of the cave, it was from behind a waterfall." Ham replied.

"It looks like we're close then, you might not have to lead the way anymore." Leo stated, and now the group was following him.

Rather than move up the river, the group was moving through the forest by its side. The reason for this was that the base was apparently filled with Crazed Bloodsuckers according to Ham. Moving through the river would just make the enemy aware of their position.

Their footsteps were light treading through the forest, as they attempted to make as little noise as possible. At least most of them, Nate was the one who was having the most trouble and would constantly step on twigs and leaves now and again, eventually Silver had enough. She turned around and grabbed Nate by the collar pulling his face next to hers.

"Look, I stayed silent when you were taking out your anger on Ham, because I partially agreed with you, but if you make this much noise and they find out that we are coming, and it affects finding my brother in any way. I will kill you, and make you bring him back from the dead for me!

"Now do something about those footsteps of yours!"

Although Nate was a skilled martial artist, and could perform complicated footwork, something like treading lightly was never his forte, which was why he had gone for the hardening ability in the first place.

However, right now, he couldn't really think straight, as a beauty like no other was right up in his face.

Letting go, Silver stood there waiting for Nate to do something, if he didn't, she wasn't going to let him come with them. No matter the reason Quinn had asked them to take him.

'Man, she's serious, I don't want to be left out again.' Nate thought, then came up with a brilliant idea.

Activating his shadow, he placed them on the soles of his feet. He attempted to walk, and when doing so, it made his footsteps almost silent. Nate was talented, so he had more Mc cells compared to the others when it came to using the shadow.

Still, he didn't have the best control or skill, but doing something like this was achievable.

They continued to move along the river, and eventually the others could hear the sound of the water fall as well.

"It's here!" Ham shouted, and Silver, near enough pulled Ham from the sky and almost ripped out his wings.

'Oh, right don't say anything, but I miss Fex.' Ham thought, on the verge of tears, if he knew his tears could make no noise at all he would have cried there and then.

What they didn't know, was even though Leo told them to stop, it wasn't because the enemy was near, just that he could sense them from far away. He gave a hand signal to tell the others to wait there for the moment while going in on his own.

Silver, and the others agreed and stayed.

'Wow, she's letting him go on his own?' Ham thought. 'I've never seen Silver trust someone so much. This bald guy must be quite special if she trusts him. She nearly does everything herself.'

Just on the outer edge of the forest, Leo could see that there was a large lake where the waterfall would fall into. On the outside there was no one, but on the inside it was a different story.

Returning to the others, Leo and the others went further back, just far enough so no one could hear.

"So is this the right place?" Nate asked.

"Yes, it has to be." Leo answered. "So far while running I have only been able to sense the presence of beasts. Yet here, I can tell in the cave that there are the same creatures that attacked the tenth castle. What you guys call bloodsuckers."

"How many of them are there?" Silver asked.

"There are around fifteen or so in total. If this is their base, it seems like most of them were used in the attack on the tenth castle. Also, although the bloodsuckers are strong there is no one outstanding. However, there is one inside that is just as strong as you." Leo stated while looking at Silver. "Not just that, but they don't have the same presence as the bloodsuckers, they feel like just another vampire."

"Could you tell if Fex was in there?" Said Nate.

"No, but Ham confirmed this is the place. My aura couldn't reach that far, so there may be more inside the cave then what I could sense, and that might be where Fex is." Leo explained.

Hearing that there might be someone as strong as Silver, perked up her ears a bit. Yes, she wanted to save her brother but at the same time she wanted to find out who was responsible, and she was hoping this vampire that was with the blood suckers might be an important figure, possibly a vampire knight of one of the other families.

Nate pulled out the mask and attempted to contact Quinn. This was the protocol for when they reached the cave like Quinn had asked. It rang a few times, again and again, but there was no answer.

"Should I try someone at the castle, maybe they know where Quinn went?" Nate asked.

They tried calling the Castle, and the one that had answered was Paul. Paul informed them that Quinn had gone off to do something, and maybe he was too busy to pick up at the moment.

"Should we wait for Quinn?" Nate asked, but he could see the look on Silver's face. Now that they were here, she wanted to rush in and try to save Fex, to see how her brother was doing.

"I believe we are strong enough to take them on." Leo suddenly said. "Due to my ability I have a good idea on their strength. I will take responsibility for this. Quinn will not be needed. Also, we don't know when Quinn will be free and the more time spent here, could mean Fex is closer to his death."

Nate didn't like it, he could imagine an angry Quinn telling him off, but telling off Leo, that was something that was hard to imagine.

"Well, you're my vampire knight right> so as long as you say so, then sign me up." Nate cheered.

With the three of them ready, it was time for them to act.