

BEYOND THE BLAZE

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Chapter 11: The swordmaster

The underground society continued its search; they searched almost every corner of the Great Elysia, but they never found the little guy.

'MY NAME IS AKIRION T...'

'What are you doing here? This is not a place for charity and orphanages; this is a young people's sword training place.' the master of the place said.

'I know that, sir; I want to train myself too.'

'Ohh, that's good for you (Akirion's eyes were filled with happiness, but...), you can train yourself all you want, but here, I train people; they don't train themselves.' Other kids started laughing at Akirion.

'Ohh, sorry, I said that by mistake. I meant to say I would like you to train me.'

'Oh okay, where are your parents , who will pay for your training here?' Akirion's eyes were filled with tears; they started flowing nonstop like water in the river. Every kid started to feel so emotional after they saw Akirion crying. 'Hey, what's wrong? Did I say something wrong?' the master emotionally asked.

'No.'

'Then why are you crying?'

'Ahh, sorry' (he got rid of his tears). 'Just that I—I lost both my parents yesterday, and I'm all alone, but I can train here, and then I'll repay you in the future?'

'Ahh, sorry kid, but no...' Akirion turned back crying.

'Hey Mika, any news?'

'No sir, nothing yet; they are still searching.'

'Good! Please find that kid soon.'

'Okay, Sir!'

The mission continued; the soldiers searched a lot of places.

'WAIT!' Akirion's eyes opened in happiness; he turned around to see who said that, and he got rid of his tears.

'Yes,' he said in happiness.

'I've thought of something.' Akirion's eyes opened wider, and he got extremely happy.

'Yes, yes, tell me, what did you think about Sir?'

'Lyricos, come here.' [New character alert: >Lyricos<] (He called one of his best students.) "Do you see this boy? I want you to fight with him, got it?" He said that to Akirion.

'Yes, sir.'

'Wow, such confidence you have there, young man. By the way, stop calling me "Sir" always; my name is Thaneiros.'

'Okay, Mr. Than, Than...Thanei...'

'Hahaha, it's not that hard, Thaneiros, Tha - nei - ros, but you can call me Master even though you haven't succeeded in beating down my number one boy.'

'OKAY, MASTER!'

'Hahaha, okay, okay, here.' (He gave Akirion a wooden sword, while Lyricos was carrying his.) 'Now to the stage.'

The two went to the stage, and the others tagged along to support their friend. The fight started. Lyricos then called Akirion to attack first and also called him 'Boy.'

'{Huh, he called me boy? What is he, anyways? I'm supposed to win though, so I'll have to clear my mind.}'

Akirion ran to attack, and they started clashing swords (wooden).

'{Wow, this kid is good; he's fighting like a knight, a real knight. Even though he's not that powerful, he can defeat Lyricos because I was going easy on these kids, but it seems like the one who was training him was a pro, and he or she could have gone hard on the little kid...}.'

'Master? Master?' One student called out to his master, who was lost in thoughts.

'Mhh'

'What were you thinking about, Master?'

'Nothing really.'

'Ohh, okay, there are people at the gate.'

'Ohh, okay, TIME OUT YOU TWO?' The two stopped; Akirion went to the other side, while Lyricos went to his friends.

The master made his way to the gate and saw.... [Comment what you think he saw before you see below]. His eyes widened in a bit of fear, and he was forced to open the gate because he was already at the gate.

'{Wow, this kid was thoughtful; he locked the gate on his way in because I'm sure it was open. That's why he saw us. This is my mansion; what are they doing here?}'

'Sir, they didn't find anything; there's only one mansion left, and it's a private property; no soldier is supposed to step foot inside. "The guy is a swordmaster; he can definitely cut their heads off."' Said the assistant, Mika.

'Okay, okay, you can leave now; make sure they search that place.'

'Okay, sir, I'll send the command.'

'Good.' Mika gets out of the office.

Meanwhile, two of the training students went to Akirion; they started chatting with him.

'You traitors! You chose the newbie over me?!' The angry Lyricos said.

'Wait, you too? I hope I didn't destroy your relationship with that guy.' Akirion curiously asked.

'Naa, don't worry about him; he's always like that.' One of them replied comfortingly.

'I'll kill you during the second round, newbie, mark my words. Nobody takes my followers away from me, mhh.' He looks aside angrily.

Meanwhile,

'What can I do for you soldiers?' Thaneiros asked the people who were knocking.

'Sorry to disturb you, sir, we are searching for a kid. I heard that he got powers. I guess you know the king's order?' One of the soldiers replied.

'Hey, slow down. Firstly, tell me who you are.'

'We are the RPU...'

'Huh?'

'Residents Protection Unit, in short, no, no, in full, I mean in full. RPU, in short, hehe.' He breathes heavily, afraid of Mr. Thaneiros.

'Wait a second, all of you are searching for a young kid, and you are all from the unit?'

'No, those 5 guys behind are in the underground society, and the 5 of us are from the unit.'

'So, why didn't you reply to my other question?'

'Huh? Sorry sir, I have an ear problem; I didn't hear the full question. Sorry.'

'Okay, so all of you got ear problems, huh?' They all nodded, agreeing that they got ear problems.

'Okay, I'll ask again. (They all nodded in fear.) So all of you here are after the same kid?'

'(They all replied together) YES.'

'But different missions,' another soldier added. 'The underground wants to capture the boy alive, and the 5 of us are following the king's orders to kill anyone who got super powers.'

'Wait, the King said that? Okay, do you know the kid that you are here to kill?'

'We aren't here to kill,' the underground soldier said, but the unit soldier started a quarrel; some wanted to kill, and some wanted to capture alive. Thaneiros closed the gate on their faces and said,

'Come back when you are serious; you should know something that you are searching for, and the ones that want to kill a poor kid, I'm coming with my sword.' All the soldiers left Thaneiros' house running for their lives.

'{Thank God I found a place to spend the whole day doing something; only a roof is left}.'

Chapter 12: NEW HOME

Thaneiros went back to the house and continued the fight.

Akirion and Lyricos continued the fight. It was a very big fight for the ten year old boys. The wooden swords kept on clashing.

'What's wrong boy, are you afraid?' Asked the mannerless Lyricos.

'What, afraid of you? Not in a million years that I will never live.' Akirion replied.

After some time, Akirion thought of a way to end the fight, not to continue to clash swords as if they are training. Akirion started to use his stamina wisely, he started to run around the ground to confuse Lyricos.

'Ohh, you are really afraid, now you are running away! Which means I win'.

'Ohh great, he's letting his guard down, thinking that kid is running away, poor minded kid'. said the Master. He continued saying; 'It's better not to enterfer, as for now, this fight is over, this kid is well trained.'

Akirion found a space that he needed and moved fast, straight to Lyricos, then jumps up, surprisingly, Lyricos gasped in fear, I'm sure his mouth ran out of saliva, he didn't notice Akirion Jumping up, Akirion landed behind Lyricos and landed his sword on Lyricos' neck. The Master clapped his hands with a smile on his face.

'Well-done Akirion, you have passed the test

'Thank you sir, no I mean Master'. Akirion said.

'Okay, Lyricos, I'm sure you learnt a very big, good lesson, not to underestimate people, get that?'

'Yes Master!' Lyricos boringly replied.

'Now it's time to resume the training session.'

They resumed their training for the day and in the evening, the other kids started departing from the place.

'So what happened to the swordman's house?'

'They didn't get in Sir, I heard them saying that they left the house running and the swordmaster said that he will come out with his sword to slaughter them, mostly, he was saying it to the unit who wanted to kill the kid ...' Mika was cut off by Haruto's question.

'Wait, the unit?'

' Yes, they said that they met the RPU army at the gate so they had to proceed too, and as for the swordmaster, he said that the underground should search for someone they know not they don't and as for the unit, they can't kill an innocent kid.'

' Understandable, so what are you thinking?'

'Nothing really, just givi.....'

' No, of course not, we can't just give up, do you know how important that kid is, do you? I'm sure you don't, now get out of here '.

'I wanted to say, giving it some good thoughts will be better, not giving up'.

'Huh? Okay I hear you, now, leave, I need some space.'

' okay Sir.'

She left, on a bit of anger and happiness.

'Hey Akirion, I'll be locking the gates now, you should be going home now.'

'...' only silence came from Akirion, and then he helplessly moved slowly to the gates.

'{Wait, this kid said that he lost his parents yesterday, and he got no one, according to the dirt, I guess he was telling the truth and as for the way he ate, surely tells his story without even telling anyone.} HEY AKIE! '

' YES MASTER?!' (wiping off his tears)

' {Huh, he was crying, poor kid,} COME HERE QUICK!'

Akirion went back running.

'Yes Master.'

' Would you mind coming inside my house, it's a bachelor's house don't judge hahaha.'

'Okay' Akirion happily agreed to go inside.

Thaneiros started to prepare supper and Akirion was busy exploring the house, checking out many piles of books.

'Wow, so many books you got here Master, it surely means you are a reader.' Said Akirion, admiring his master's books.

'ihm , I surely read a lot, it's my own type of entertainment, I prefer reading to sleeping without doing anything to spend the time, I always wake super early if I sleep super early.'

' Ohhh, I see, it's better you got that entertainment, it was going to be boring living alone, cause you said you were a bachelor when I got in , so I can't picture that life of being alone and nothing to entertain you.'

' Yes it's boring to be alone, so, reading books is a better way to get rid of my boredom.'

'I see '.

' So, how do you get rid of your boredom?'

' Ahh, it's hard to say this, before my parents died, I used to spend the day training with my father ,then when the night time comes, I'll really be tired, so I'll bath, eat and go to sleep.'

'ohh! That's good. So how about going to bath right now?'

'Me?'

' Yes , Just like you are used to, you can use the bathroom. By the way, do you know how to wash your clothes?'

'Ahh , yes?'

' Good, I don't have clothes for kids, I'll let you use my t-shirt, for the night, your clothes will be dry by tomorrow morning, so you can wear them then , in order to go to training, until I get to buy you some training outfit.'

'Ahhh, Thank you? Bu....'

'Just go to the bathroom!'

' okay Master.{ What is he up to, it's hard to understand, he's talking about washing my clothes and then wear his gross big t-shirt, how is that even possible, by the way, is he trying to let me...sp sp spend the night here? Yey , that's great} Okay Master! ' He said that again with a smile on his face, from ear to ear and Thaneiros got surprised.

'Huh? What was he still waiting for? And that smile, it was creepy.'

Akirion found his way to the bathroom, with his heart pounding in happiness. He finished his bath and then washed his clothes, he then put on Thaneiros' t-shirt.

He then went back....

'Wow , nice dress, brother sister Akirion hahaha '.

'grrr, so you made me wear this so that you can tease me, nice plan Master, tch'. He then looks aside with anger on his face.

' hahaha, sorry, sorry, really, I was just kidding. It's just for the night, don't worry.'

They both enjoyed dinner.

'Okay , I haven't told yet, you will be spending the day here tonight , consider it a sleep over.'

'Okay , Thank you Master, I really appreciate it, I didn't have a place to go to today, I'm happy that I can spend the whole night here.'

'(gasped) Huh, okay you are welcome. By the way, you don't have a place to go?'

'Yes'.

'How about your father's house?'

'It was all burnt down in front of my eyes.'

'Okay, tell me, what happened to your parents?'

Chapter 13: What is he

'That's definitely hard to witness, seeing your parents' house burning like nothing'

'Yeah true.' Akirion starts crying.

' Sorry kid I didn't want to make you cry.'

'It's okay, it's not your fault Master, by the way I can even tell you what really happened right now.'

'No, no , absolutely not today, maybe tomorrow, let's make it a story for another day. I'm not ready to cry yet hahaha, and you, you have cried enough today, let's save those tears for another day, not today please.'

'OKAY MASTER! Haha, by the way, I'm sleepy.'

'Ohh, almost forgot to serve some food.'

They happily ate like a good family and they both went to sleep.

Thaneiros showed Akirion a room to use and Akirion loved it, he even slept like he was back home.

A new different voice from the voice that sounded in Ch1.

Thundered a very heavy annoying voice from the dark room with a few lighting equipments.

'HAHAHA, I'M FEELING HAPPY TO SEE YOU HERE, CAUSE I DIDN'T WATCH THE FIGHT, SO I'M WAITING TO HEAR THE CLIMAX OF THE FIGHT, I'M SURE HE WAS NOT THAT MUCH POWERFUL, SO I'M GOING WITH MY SOLDIERS, I'M SURE THEY WON. BEFORE I CONCLUDE, I'LL ASK THE QUESTION. SO, WERE THE HERO'S HEIRS DESTROYED?'

'Almost defeated.' An almost hooking innocent voice of a female monster, sounded.

'WHAAAAT , ARE YOU FOR REAL, DID THEY REALLY LOSE TO THE HUMANS.'

'Before we go to that, we have a disaster you aren't ready for Sir.'

'WHAT DISASTER ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?'

'So you didn't hear anything? It's already popular in the human world.'

'SPEAK UP! WHAT IS IT?'

'I don't know how to say this, ahh, The humans got super powers, a lot of them.'

'(he opened his eyes wider in surprise) WHAAAAAAT.'

In the morning, Thaneiros woke up and stood at the door, then found Akirion doing his morning run outside.

'Huh? This kid, is he for real, already up, early this morning? **What is he?**He's really into training for sure. And he's clever, he changed his clothes.....'

'Of course I did (he stops running to talk to Thaneiros), did you expect me to run with that dress, what if someone came inside, he or she was going to laugh at me, surely ,and by the way, (he then continued his running and said;)GOOD MORNING MASTER!'

'MORNING! {WAIT, HOW DID HE HEAR ME, THAT'S SCARY.} (The Master spoke unsteadily to himself quieter, I mean in his thoughts to be precise.) I should get ready too, the kid woke up earlier than me, aren't I ashamed. I should beat his time of waking up, wait and watch. Wait a second, I'm talking to myself, great, if someone hear this, he or she will surely say I'm mad. But what should I do, I'm alo...' He continued talking alone heading to the kitchen.

'{I guess I've done enough for today's warm-up. I should go and get ready for training.

He went back and had a cold bath and then he went to the kitchen and found his Master preparing tea.

'You are done showering?'

'Yes'

'That was fast, okay the tea is ready, sit down and enjoy the soothing breakfast.'

'What, tea as breakfast and you are calling it soothing?'

'Yes of course, try it, you'll love it, you will one day be the first to make tea for breakfast , haha.'

'I doubt that, but maybe, who knows what the future holds, cause I don't.'

'Hahaha, of course, I was going to chase you for the whole day if you said you knew what the future holds.'

'Hahaha, I'll definitely be lying if I say I knew.' Akirion replied with a smile on his face. They drank tea comfortably and enjoyed.

'So, how was the tea for breakfast.'

'I don't know what to say, it was ridiculous in my mind but it changed to be something good, and I guess you were right, it was soothing.'

'Hohoho, look who enjoyed it, it's my favorite. Everytime when I get off from bed, I always drink tea as my breakfast, but when it comes to bread , I don't care, I can eat bread with tea, rice , cookies or any biscuits with tea!'

'I see, so your morning will be good if you have tea before you jumped around.'

'Yes of course, that's my only energy.'

'I get it, I guess we should get ready because the others are starting to come.'

'Sure, let's go.'

'Hello there Mika, sorry for yesterday' Haruto said, but was cut off by Mika.

'Ohhh, good morning Sir.'

'Morning Mika, I'm sorry for yesterday, I was a little bit.... angry , you know.' Haruto confessed.

'It's okay Sir!'

'Please forgive me!'

'I said it's okay.'

'Okay thanks'

'You are welcome'. Easy forgiveness it was.

'So, what is your plan?' Haruto asked.

Plan??! Mika had some question marks, around the question asked by Haruto.

'Yeah, I guess I should be specific. The plan to check that private property, you know, searching the whole house for a small kid.'

'Ohhh that, by the way, the house is full of kids who are training swordsmanship.'

'Ohh okay, so it will be hard to identify the real kid if he's there?'

'Yes, that's why I haven't landed any plans to your ears today about the mission.'

'I see, mmmmm, how about, ahhh it will sound ridiculous....ahhh okay, how about trying to attack the kids, then one of them will try to defend himself with ma...'

'No-no Sir, that won't fit. What do you think the swordmaster would be doing during such a crazy plotted attack?'

'Ohhh, I guess you are right, so what's on your mind Mika?'

'Ahhh, as for me I guess I'm o.....' Mika honestly replied but a new crazy character appeared again and finished Mika's sentence.

'Out of ideas huh? Okay sister Mika, I'll help, how about the guy who kidnapped the kid and tried to sell him as a sl.....?'

'What??! Of course not, why drag a prisoner into this?' Mika, replied defending someone.

'Wait Mika, I guess that's a good plan.' but the Haruto guy kept adding salt to the wound.

'No Sir, don't you think he will try to escape?'

'You'll take some soldiers with you. They protect you and they won't allow.....'

'I don't need protection of course, there are the ones who will need protection not me, I can protect myself. And as for using the prisoner as an identifier won't end well.'

'Why are you saying that Sister general Mika?'

'Stop calling me sister, you fool.'

'Aye, I'm quite, boss lady, but we only have him as an option to get into the house.'

'Wait you two. Mika tell me your plan, if you don't have a plan, we will use Ryder's.'
[Announcement , the new characters name is RYDER.√]

'Really Sir?okay. My plan is to keep on investigating that house, we can try to break in at night, this group got only spies, no fighters, so, we are perfect for the mission.'

'No , I don't think so, general Mika.'

'What now Ryder?'

'Investigating that house will waste time and soldiers, do you know whose house is that? Actually, **WHAT IS HE!??**'

'Of course, one of the kid trainers in Elysia?'

'Wrong, he was called the.....'

'Okay, tell me, what happened to your parents?'

Chapter 14: Welcome to your New Home

'He was called the GHOST OF STEEL! He was part of the night assassins of Elysia, they even helped in wars. That guy is not a guy to play with, if you want to lose your head, go and ask for a dual or just trespass, you will definitely be buried in the following days. So if you want to continue with your plan, then go ahead, I won't stop you this time. The guy is definitely a ghost.'

'Nice story.'

'What? It's not a story, it's real'.

'If it's not a story then, why is he training kids, will parents allow their kids to be trained by an assassin?'

'He's a retired assassin by the way nowadays there are no assassins in Elysia, so he's undercover, I just blown his cover.'

'That's why I said it's a story.'

'It's not, Sir, tell her.'

'What should I tell her Ryder?'

'About the ghost of steel guy.'

'Ohh that, he was famous when I was growing up, many said that when you talk about him badly, he will appear in front of you at night.'

'Huh, are you sure Sir.'

'Yes, maybe those stories were not true, so it's better to say I don't know.'

'Ohh, but I'm scared '

'Why'. Mika asked.

'I blew his cover of course.'

'Hahaha, dumb thing to say in a time like this. Hahaha.'

'Whatever, but my plan wins.'

'What, you want to get the prisoner and soldiers killed, or do you want to lose your head, cause it's your plan, you should be the one to go with them, isn't that right Sir?'

'Yeah you are right. Obviously Mika can't go while she's saying no to the plan, so it will be better if you go Ryder'.

'Me, why?'

'It's your plan of course.' Mika replied quickly.

'Wait wait, not in that house please.'

'You are going there, whether you like it or not, as long as your plan is the number one.'

'What, really? I guess that's why you presented such a dumb idea.'

'Hahaha, of course not '

'Hey enough you 2, I need to think which plan is better.'

'Ryder's plan is good, I guess we can use it, cause spying on that guy will mean, losing soldiers, and we can't afford that obviously.'

'Why did you change your mind Mika?'

'I realized that my plan was definitely bad, that's why.'

'Okay, may please excuse me, I'll like to meditate on the plan then.'

'Okay Sir.'

Haruto left the place, actually, it was where Mika works, her working office I guess.

Thaneiros started the training with his students. They spent the day, many kids dismissed, Akirion followed some, before he reached the gate, Thaneiros called him to come back.

'Don't you think today is the day to tell me your sad story before you go?' Thaneiros asked.

'Ohhh, that, almost forgot'.

They both got into the house and relaxed.

'I guess I should start now.'

' Sure, why not, I'm all ears.'

' I'll start from the beginning; we had a beautiful ordinary night, we were all happy, we even ate our supper happily. But suddenly, we heard some foot steps and also some weird smell, Dad checked outside through the window and he looked surprised after that same look. I started to feel scared too. Dad told us that they were monsters. Mom's body couldn't move, it was like, she was paralyzed. Dad sent me to take his sword, the monsters started to come in, I ran and gave Dad the sword. After that, he told Mom to take me to their bedroom where there was a secret passage that was dug by dad himself. At first Mom didn't want to leave Dad but Dad kept on shouting 'RUN', and by the time when we left him, he was already injured. We ran to the room. When we were inside trying to get into the tunnel, we heard some foot steps coming our way, Mom told me to rush inside the tunnel and run , never to look back. As a good boy, I did what I was told. When I was almost at the end, I noticed that I was alone, she didn't follow me. I saw the end and I got out of the tunnel. I saw the house burning and after some time, the roof was destroyed. That's when I screamed louder than I ever had, and I don't know what happened after that, I know but I don't, I can't explain it to be straight with

you. So I woke up in a wagon, kidnapped by a slave trader, I then escaped, ran around the city and then found this place.!

Thaneiros started sniffing, crying to be precise.

' So that's how you lost your parents huh?'

'Yes.'

' it's super painful. Okay, do you have magic powers?'

'Huh?'

'Answer me!'

'Ah, yeah, I do, I guess. I don't know how to use them though, it happened when people were trying to catch me in front of the castle, so I saw smoke all around me, I wonder how I did it and that's how I escaped.'

'I see, there are soldiers who came here yesterday and they said they were looking for a boy, some said they were following the King's orders to kill every human with magic powers....'

'Yeah, the King said that, I was there when he said that.'

'Ohh okay, so you should be killed then..'

'What, no, please no, the King said that we are dangerous to the public. But I didn't do anything wrong to hurt the public, so why would I be killed while I'm still the same good Akirion.'

'Hahaha, I see. Yeah If you ask me, I'll definitely support you because, they can't kill little innocent souls. So, you almost left today, where were you heading?'

'The streets of course, I got no where to go, I told you I guess. Because I spent the night here yesterday, it doesn't mean you are going to allow me to spend it today.'

'What? Of course you can spend it here.'

'But...'

'By the way, I thought of this, I don't know if you will agree.'

'What is it Master?'

'You to stay here for 5 years, then you will go where ever you want after.'

'That's good to me.'

'I guess I should welcome you'

'What?'

'Welcome to your new home!'

'Thank-you?'

'You are welcome.'

{(The same night, Ryder was walking around in the streets. The streets got completely Black and he didn't see anything, one street light started flickering. He got a bit scared, he stopped for a moment, he saw something black crossing in front of the road. 'Who's there?' he asked, but he got no response. The same black scary thing crossed, his heart started pounding as if it was going to blow out. The same black thing started to go around him, disappeared from the other side and appeared on the other. 'Who's there ' he asked again, but this time, he got a response. 'It's me, the Ghost of steel. You dare to talk about me in public, blowing my cover.' Ryder's eyes widened, the fear filled his whole body, he started shaking, sweating at same time. 'Now it's time to face your reward for doing so, hahaha.' the Ghost of steel said. 'No no please, don't kill me', Ryder said on his knees. The black thing, appeared in front of Ryder and it went fast to him and he....)}

Chapter 15: Visitors

Ryder's legs shook, and he was barely standing. He screamed louder but he got no help. Bad luck for him, the black thing started to approach him and at that time, I'm sure his trousers were wet. A sword came out of nowhere and went straight for his neck, his eyes opened wider in surprise and fear at the same time but he woke up during the scary scenario.

'ha-ha-ha.' Ryder woke up panting a lot, his heart racing as if he was being chased around. Can't say for the trousers, because his blankets were wet. 'It was just a dream, phew.' he said, smiling, he cheered to himself, cause all the of the scary scenario was all a dream, actually he forgot about his blankets at that time, the only important thing that he wanted was his life and he was all happy that it was still around.

'I was now believing Mr Haruto's story, about the ghost guy. THANK God I'm alive, now I have to go to the washroom, what a pain, in the middle of the night? Curse that Ghost of steel dream, now I'll have to spend an hour without sleeping, secondly, my blankets are wet, thank goodness I'm not married, if I had a wife, she was going to laugh at me.' He went to the washroom and he also changed his blankets in order to happily sleep.

In the morning, Haruto executed Ryder's plan to search for Akirion in the house of the GHOST OF STEEL. They took the prisoner, and they got many soldiers to accompany them to the house and also to prevent the prisoner from escaping.

They took their wagons , 5 wagons headed for the house, each wagon had 6 soldiers inside. They put the cart with the prisoner in the middle to watch it.

Ryder spoke to himself in his mind.

'{ Curse you Mika, now I'm going to visit that house of the scary man, that dream also increased the chances of fainting when I see his face. No, I'm a man, I can't faint, how am I going to marry a woman if I faint without being attacked.}' He completely comforted himself.

Thaneiros woke up and started training his students, he didn't actually expect a visitor, but the unexpected visitor visited him, and he said what came to his mind.

One kid notified him that there was a knock at the gate. He took his sword and attended the visitor who was knocking at the gate.

He opened the gate....

' he's opening, he's opening,' the soldiers said.

He got surprised when he saw many wagons at his door step.

' What good have I done today to receive a lot of visitors?' Thaneiros asked a simple question.

A unique, well dressed man came out from one of the wagons, surprisingly, it was Ryder.

'You did nothing '. He said.

'Who might you be? Are you the leader of this group that is getting my door steps dirty?'

Ryder looked at Thaneiros' eyes and thought of replying recklessly but he remembered the dream and also saw Thaneiros holding a sword.

'No, I mean yes, I'm the leader of the group but I'm....we are not here to get this place dirty, sorry sir, we are only here to identify the kid, only!'

'{Wow, he changed in just a blink of an eye, when I was looking at his eyes, I thought maybe he was an arrogant, and violent man, but , his eyes changed from arrogant to.... I don't know.}' What kid are you talking about?' He asked as if he knew nothing.

'Ahh, we think that there's a kid who can be hiding behind your students. And I guess you have seen one of our wagons, it came here, I guess the day before yesterday if I'm not wrong. You told them to know who they are searching for first, in order to identify the kid.'

'No, I didn't say that, I only said that they should know what they are searching for not for them to come back to disturb my teaching session. Now I'll kill every single one of...'

'No no sir, we are going, sorry for disturbing you, but we really need to see whether that kid is there or not.'

'What is that kid like?'

'Ahh, he's said to be around his 10 and he's an orphan....'

'Hold it right there, I don't have orphans in here, who's going to pay for their training session. I only train people who pay me, and mostly, the parents are the ones who pays here, so, there's nothing for you, now, beat it.'

'Sir, we need to...'

'I said beat it.'

'Okay, but it's agent to find the kid...'

'Searching for a ten year old, with 30 soldiers, are you for real, only one man can do such a job.'

'Sorry sir, Thank you for your time.'

They all left with their tails between their legs. They went back empty handed.

Thaneiros went back and continued his class.

'So, what happened?' Haruto asked

'The guy said that he doesn't teach an orphan because orphans won't have money to pay him and he also said that mostly, parents of the kids right there are the ones who pays not kids alone.'

'I see, so did you get in?'

'No, we didn't, he came to the gate with a sword, he didn't allow us to sat our eyes on the students either.'

'I see, which means he was hiding something. We tried the easy way, now we will try the hard way, because the easy way was too soft for him, so the hard way will be good.'

'What are you planning to do sir.' Mika curiously asked after hearing such uncomfy words from Haruto.

'I did nothing yet, so what I'm saying it's just a scripture, it will need to be acted and executed, so I'm planning the scripture, don't disturb me, we are finished, you are dismissed, excuse me.'

'Okay.' Both Mika and Ryder left the room.

'Ghost of steel my foot, hiding my ultimate weapon behind your private walls huh, you are doomed, I'm coming for you.'

'No sir, you can't do that!' Mika said.

'Do what? What are you still doing here? Get out of here!'

Chapter 16: Crazy mind

In the evening, during dinner, Akirion wearing Thaneiros' t-shirt. He spoke about the dreams that he was having for two days.

'I've been having some kind of dreams, I don't understand anything, I'm sure it's something important, I feel like if I try doing something that I saw in that dream, I'll learn something important.' the curious Akirion said, after he saw many things in his dreams. At first, he thought maybe it was his thoughts, but he saw it again.

'It's better that you thought that, you can try it, maybe you will get to know about what ability you got.'

'What ability are you talking about Master?'

'According to the legend, ancient times, humans once had magic, it's not that much far I guess. If I think about it, it happened during the time of your great grandfather or so.'

'Ohh, I see! So how is it connecting to abilities?' Akirion asked because he was all ears, but the story felt short.

'The magic powers that they had were different types of magic, like groups. Many people had one type or two types, it was rare for people to have many abilities or skills.'

'Ohh okay, you haven't said anything about what kind of a skill or ability did those people have.'

'Hohoho, you are really fast, okay. They were 4 main types of abilities, as I said, many of the humans at that time had one or two abilities, so the abilities were like this;

1 fire

2 water

3 air

4 earth

And they also had different ways of using them. First, fire. A fire magic user had to use fire, the fire lit up from his body, but he didn't get burnt, and he was also able to summon fire from this earth.

Second, water. A water magic user used water the same way as fire but different outcomes. I hope you understand what I'm trying to say? (Akirion nodded happily, didn't want to disturb the moment.) Good, the third one was air. We all know that air is all around us, we can't even get rid of it. So these users commanded the air from the world, in order to use it. Last one, the Earth. The Earth magic worked like air, just being commanded, they commanded the ground to move, shake and created rocks or so , with just that ability.'

'Wow, so I can do that?'

'Maybe, If you have that kind of magic powers, you can do something like that.'

'Ohh cool, so, back at the castle, I made smoke, so which group of magic is my magic power in?'

'Huh, smoke, I don't really know, I guess it requires general knowledge. Let's think of something that can make smoke.'

' Ohhh, sure, why not?'

They searching for clues in every corner of their minds to find the idea of what can truly make smoke.

In a dark scary room, a thundering, echoing big voice sounded.

'SO, THE HUMANS GOT POWERS HUH? WE ARE DOOMED!'

'Why are you saying that, they are just humans, what can they do?' A nice voice asked.

'THE LAST TIME, THE LORD WAS ALMOST KILLED BY THOSE HUMANS, SO WE NEED TO FIND A WAY TO KILL THE HEIR BEFORE HE GETS POWERS.'

'It's too late because he does!'

'WHAAAAAAT?! REALLY?! WE ARE DOOMED. WE WILL HAVE TO NEUTRALIZE HIM, ANYTIME SOON, YOU SAID THE SURVIVOR WAS A YOUNGLING RIGHT?'

'That's right.'

'GOOD, YOU SHOULD LOCATE HIM BEFORE HE GETS STRONGER, BEFORE HE GETS TO KNOW HOW TO USE HIS POWERS FULLY.'

'Okay, give me a century, I'll locate him.'

'A CENTURY!?! IT'S TOO MUCH, WE WILL BE ERASED FROM LIVING BY THEN. AS LONG AS HE STILL LIVES AND IF HE GETS TO KNOW HOW TO USE HIS POWERS FULLY, WE WILL BE ERASED FOR SURE!'

'What do you mean sir? I don't understand, a century is not that much remember?'

'NOT FOR HUMANS! HUMANS GROW DAY BY DAY AND THEY FULLY UNCOVER THE HIDDEN SECRETS IN THOSE DAYS. SO IF HE LIVES FOR SOMETIME, HE WILL ERASE US ALL.'

'Why are you saying that, he's just a youngling, we will kill him like an insect, he's a human remember? And we are Monsters, we rule over the universe.'

'NO! NOT WITH THAT YOUNGLING ALIVE, I TOLD YOU THAT THEY GROW DAY BY DAY, SO HE WILL BE TALLER IN JUST A HALF DECADE.'

'Whaaaaaat?! Really? Which means we are in a tight spot, but I realized something...'

'WHAT?'

'He can't use his powers on his own will, he only used it by mistake once.'

'I SEE, THAT'S A RELIEF, WE CAN REST ASSURED'.

'Yes'

'BUT DON'T RELAX, TRY TO FIND THAT KID BEFORE THIS UPCOMING DECADE.'

'Wait a second, humans can't leave for a day without food right?'

'YES, I KNOW THAT MUCH FOR NOW.'

'His parents died.'

'SO HE GOT NO PARENTS?'

'Yes, and he will starve to death.'

'WOW, NICE IDEA , BUT FIND HIM, I WANT HIS CORPSE IF HE DIED!'

Meanwhile

'Wait Master, fire causes smoke right?'

'Good idea Akie, which will mean you are a f...wait, if you mix fire with water, they can be smoke too!'

'Yes!'

'Which means that you can be both, fire and water.'

'Wow, can't wait to even try to test it.'

'Haha, I know that, you can try it whenever you are in a clear place, who knows, it can be dangerous to try indoors just like the king said, magic users are dangerous to the public. So for now, may you please tell me about your dreams.?'

Meanwhile; Mika organized a general meeting for all the elders of the society to help Haruto. Just like Mika saw and heard, she tried to help Haruto to rethink about his idea before he executes it because it can be dangerous, not only for the society but also for the public.

'Sorry everyone for disturbing you today. The way I did this meeting was not good , please forgive me. But thank you for finding a bit of time to attend, I'm truly happy that all of the elders appeared. I'm Mika, Group A's assistant manager. Mostly, deputy. Many of you know me, so, I'll just jump to the case.

I'm the one concerned, I'm sure you all know the guy called, THE GHOST OF STEEL.(The elders started mumbling some unknown words to each other) Sir, Mr Haruto is planning to declare a war against the guy.'

'WHAT?' Many elders asked the same question, they got surprised, they even asked if the guy was getting enough sleep, and also, if he was fine. But Mr arrogant Haruto replied positively and showed that he was fine, but the elders were left with a question mark, on why and how did he plan to attack such a neutral, retired assassin, who is now training kids to use swords not assassination processes.

'You won't understand if you are not in this state, we are in the middle of searching the heir, I'm sure you all know what I mean,(the elders proved to be all ears, listening to Haruto's story) Okay, so my research proved that the heir might be hiding behind those

private walls, and and the Ghost guy is not allowing us to see the heir or to verify whether the heir is there or not.'

'I see my friend but that doesn't mean you should attack him, and I'm not going along with you, you should know that. I know the guy you are talking about, the guy is a monster.' another elder said.

'Not anymore. I know him too, I don't actually need your help, I can do that on my own.'

'But you will be risking someone's life, getting a lot of soldiers killed, just like Mika said, you will be putting the public in danger because you'll make the guy go berserk again, and we can't afford that, the guy is a monster. The whole Elysia will be in crisis, chaos. We won't be able to stop him.' a well built elder replied, adding some nice thoughts into the idea.

'He was a monster, the guy is old, I'm sure 5 soldiers of mine can take him down.'

'Haruto, are you sleeping or what, because it's like you are in a dream world, we are talking about a well trained assassin, the city best assassin, he also helped in the last Elysian Big War. He contributed to the positive results too.' Ryota added.

'Really? The guy is old, he lost the vibe, I'm sure....'

'Wait wait, have you seen him?'

'No'.

'Why are you saying that he lost his vibe?'

'Ahh....'

He can't be training kids if he lost his vibe, get that? You are surely dreaming, if you aren't then you are getting mad.'

'Grrr, what did you say, I'm not mad get that, I'll destroy all of you if you look down on me, I'll destroy everything if I want. You guys should be helping me not criticizing me, now you've gone too far, this meeting is over.' Haruto stood up and left.

Chapter 17: Announcement

The meeting was already over, Mika with a sad gloomy face.

'Hey Mika? Are you okay?' a concerned elder asked.

'of course not, Mr Haruto wants to sacrifice my comrades. He can't do that!' her tears followed the words.

' Yeah, you are right. His idea is childish, what if he attacks the guy and then find out that the person he's looking for is not there, what is he going to do?' Shinji asked.

The other elders nodded, showing the good point from Shinji's mouth.

'That's right, it will be a war if he attacks that guy, you'll never know, that guy can be somehow connected with the King.' another elder said his point.

' That's right, he was a war fighter, what if he was on private property for a reason, maybe to isolate him from the public, because the guy was a killer. He was one of the Shadow Assassins. That organization was big and it new it's job. Every one last of the Elysian culprits where hunted down and killed like insects just by the guys of that organization. He was gifted that name, 'The ghost of steel ' all because he was good at following his job, he was a complete shadow man.' another elder explained the story.

'Which means, if he attacks that guy, he will be forced to be in the public, and in public, he will be killing every last one of them.?' Ryota asked a question.

' No, he's not like that. He was a killing machine and he followed orders properly. So, he didn't kill anyone just from nowhere, he killed everyone who was wrong and he didn't kill kids. He loved them, and even called them as Pure souls. I guess that's why he's training kids.'

Meanwhile

'There's a voice that keeps echoing in my mind. Saying;" feel the Earth's pulse beneath you and let the wind whisper guidance to your ears. Feel the fire of your passion and listen to the waves of water crushing, because guidance is there! The elements are the key to success." can you tell me the message from this, because I'm all lost Master?'

'Wait.....! But it can't be.'

' What is it Master '.

' I'm trying to put it together, the last message,"The elements, are the keys to success " can only mean one thing in my head, but maybe two '.

' What is that Master '.

'It's complicated, but..... two options in my head, it's either you got powers of all the elements or you are supposed to try one, according to the message that you heard.'

' Huh?! You were right, it's complicated for sure Master '.

'Do you want to try it?'

'Yes but we are always training here.'

'Yeah I know, but, what if we cut the training hours into two working times?'

'Huh??' Akirion's small head didn't process that.

'I mean, if we train from morning to mid day and then from mid-day, we test your magic powers '.

'That will totally be great, but.... won't training be affected?'

' Yeah yeah, I know, I'm planning to stop the training thing and just live my life freely.'

Meanwhile, the angry Haruto talking alone.

' You'll never live freely with the hero's heir, you, GHOST OF STEEL! Grrrrrrrr, I'll totally finish you, you need to give me the kid or you'll die, you'll have to choose. I'll put you in a corner, that you won't be able to choose. Keep it in mind, I'm coming for you!' the furious Haruto said all those words in anger. Some might say that he said that out of anger or he was blinded by anger.

The meeting was over but Mika was still worried. There must be something that she might have been lying about or hiding all this time because she looked stressed, ever since, the story about searching the ghost of steel's house.

'So, what will you be doing for a living?' Akirion asked.

'Ahhh, I'm a grown man, I'll figure something out'.

'So, how am I going to start and where?'

' Don't worry, you'll see tomorrow.'

' Can't wait to see that tomorrow '.

'Hahaha, that's gets us to a separation , it's time to go to bed Akie.'

'ahww, really?'

'Yes, good night'. Akirion went to sleep and Thaneiros was still sitting in the living room. He started thinking about the visitors that he head recently.

' What are they up to, it's difficult to think about it. Such bad mannered humans, thinking of killing a kid, that's inhumane for sure. They think that they are going to win just by killing the awakeners , the real monsters can wipe them all out in just a blink of an eye but they are troubling the poor human souls. Let me go and rest my eyes for a minute.'

In the morning, Thaneiros and Akirion got ready for training just like everyday.

When other kids came, Thaneiros called for an announcement. His words were expected as follows;

' Morning guys, I got an announcement to make. Today our training session will be ending around midday, you can all have a free day.(Many kids were happy)Sorry to say this but this will be happening everyday I guess.(Awww, the kids said in disappointment. And I'm retiring, I'll be living you to another teacher. He's good a teacher, maybe his better than me, but all I know is that, he was a good kid and I'm sure he's still good. I'm the one who taught him, he knows a lot. So feel free to ask any questions. I'll be going to tell him about you guys in the following days, so keep up the good spirit. Anyone who wants to drop out just like Akirion can also do that. So, I say good luck out there, as for now, let's get to training, Thank you!.'

They started to ask a lot of questions about the new teacher he was referring to, so the training day got damaged.

'{I hope we won't get attacked}'

Chapter 18: New training

Just like they prepared, Thaneiros cut the training hours during midday. He took Akirion out with him to the unknown place out of Elysia, in the northern gate using a wagon.

'So, where are we going Master?' Akirion curiously asked Thaneiros.

' You'll see, be patient, they say patience pays.'

'Yeah but, just tell me a bit.'

'Look outside!'

' haaaa, wow , are we going for a picnic Master?' Akirion asked because he saw a very beautiful place with a lot of green trees around and green grass too. A very beautiful island.

'Huh? (Thaneiros got surprised by Akirion's question.) {Is he for real, didn't we discuss this part yesterday? Ohhh, maybe.} You are going to see, that's why I said that you should be patient.'

' Ohh okay Master, the breeze out here is good. I love it.'

They went further more into the place and in the middle, the wagon driver said that he won't be going further, lucky for them, they were in a place where Thaneiros wanted to

go. Thaneiros booked up the wagon for going back after hours. The wagon driver agreed and left the two in the middle of nowhere, but Akirion was loving the place.

'Wow, this place is beautiful Master.'

'Yeah right?'

'ihmm!'

'Welcome to your new training place '.

'Huh, really, training place in a place like this? Do you want to destroy every one last of these beautiful trees.'

'Huh? Umm, no, why would I do that.'

'You said using magic can be dangerous, so what if we end up destroying trees'.

'Don't worry Akirion, this is the safest place in all the places that you should try your magic.'

'Ohhh, okay, so what are we going to be doing?'

'Testing your magic powers of course!'

'How?'

'Following the words in your dream.'

'Ohhh that, as for today I dreamt a similar dream. It said "good job, all you have to know is that, you should envision everything you want to create or make , you are strong, let the fire in you burn out." That was it.'

'I see it's truly similar but different clues.'

'Wait , you heard a clue there '.

'Yes, so you didn't '.

'Yes, it's blank, not a clue is coming to my head.'

'According to it, it says that you should envision everything you want to do before you do it, I guess that's a clue on how to use your magic.(Akirion's face bloomed with a smile.) As for the other phrases, I guess it's to tell you that you can do it '.

'Yes, I can do it!'

'So now it's time to start, I'll give you one other thing to do'.

'And what is that?'

' CONCENTRATION!'

Meanwhile, Haruto mobilized. He took only one wagon, just for the first attack. Mika tried her best to stop them but he refused until he promised to fire her. That's when she gave up stopping them.

They left the walls, aiming to attack the Ghost of steel if he tries to resist the intrusion. Bad lucky for them, they found no one.

'What do you mean by concentration Master?'

' It's easy, if you really think about those words that you heard in your dream, by the way, you always say that you heard instead of seeing, in a dream, you should see a visual act.'

' But in this case it's different because it was black, and I heard a voice only.'

' hhh, strange, okay let's continue, in those words, you were told to visualize what ever you want to make or create, right? (Akirion nodded) Good, then that's where the concentration method gets in. You should concentrate on something you want to make, in all your visualization.'

' Okay Master, so, how should I start?'

'Okay, let's start with the wind, the voice said that you should let the wind whisper guidance to your ears, so let's start with wind, meditate on the words around you, enjoy, I'll be sitting here.' Thaneiros sat down under a big tree that was there and Akirion was left standing.

' Aren't there any people who live here?' Haruto asked

' The last time when we got here, this place was crowded, full of kids but today there's nothing, not even a bird singing.' a soldier replied.

They looked around the place and found no one, not even a trace.

' Let's go, we will ambush them tomorrow, and tomorrow we are coming with an army.'

'YES SIR '. the soldiers agreed with his plan and then they left the compound. As expected, they left a.....

Akirion meditated, concentrated and felt the cool clean breeze flowing through his body. After some minutes, a slight idea came up and he started thinking about a tornado. After some seconds, he heard the same voice he heard from his dreams. " good job, channel the tornado to your body, feel the tornado around your body." the voice said , meanwhile, Thaneiros started to see a leaf moving around Akirion.

'Ohh, what's that, it wants to be windy today huh, never thought that such a beautiful day like today will turn to be wi...(Thaneiros stopped, he looked around Akirion and saw the wind coming from the ground going up around Akirion.) huh? What an unexpected twist, the wind is starting around Akirion, cool, what a sight, maybe it's the forest's game, who kno...wait a second, Akirion was mediating about wind, let me not disturb his concentration, but, the wind is getting stronger, what's happening, only around him? Wait a minute, don't tell me, that's, that's his magic power, wow, he did it.' the wind continued to go up around Akirion, creating a tornado. It started from small, as a small tornado but after sometime, Thaneiros' clothes were starting to be blown.

' what's up with his tornado thing, it's getting stronger by a second, I'll end up being blown away, I should brace myself. If it's magic, it's super strong!' Thaneiros, held on to a tree to avoid being blown away. Just like he expected, the tornado got strong, if it wasn't for a tree, he was going to be blown away.

After a minute, the tornado was strong. The tree was shaking as if it was going to fall, as for Thaneiros, he was flying, thanks for his hands, his body was pivoted to the tree, but as for the other parts of the body, were flying.

' {What's this power I'm feeling, (he opened his eyes, and he saw a tornado around him.) wow, I'm doing it.' He stretched his arms and he envision something else. A lot of fire exploded in the tornado, and the air was a mixture of fire and wind.

' No no no NO NO! WHAT'S HE DOING, NO NO, HE CAN'T BE.... AHHHHHHH(His hands started to slip away.)'

'Master, I'm doing it! Master?' He didn't find Thaneiros, he looked around and the whole place was surrounded by air and fire,(FIRETORNADO).

Chapter 19: Arcana : new word

Lucky for Akirion, he knew how to stop it because it was going to destroy the whole beautiful island just like the tree that was next to him.

The tree didn't have any leaves and as for Thaneiros, he had some black soot around his body.

'Ahh, sorry?' Akirion wasn't sure whether to ask for forgiveness or something .

'Wow , marvelous! Was that your power?'

'ahhh,{ is he for real? I thought maybe he'll be mad.} Yeah, I guess it was. It wasn't that much hard but the way I did it, I'm feeling a bit awkward!'

' Ohh, that's normal, I read that if a human uses that much of power, he'll run out of **arcana**.'

' Arca ... what?'

' yeah, arcana. It's an element, something that powers up the magic power. It's some sort of energy, if you use a lot of arcana, and that's the same as using your power, it may result in loss of energy, and consciousness too. Don't take it too serious, it's part of my research, I was in love with ancient magic stories , so my theory can't be that much exact!'

'WOW! It looks like you know a lot Master.'

'Or not, it's all because of my previous romantic love with magic stories and staff, so I can know somethings too!'

' That's cool Master! Do you still have those books? (Thaneiros nodded in smile, but his whole face was covered with flame stains.) I'll really want to get my two small eyes on them, maybe I can gain a bit of knowledge too.

' Sure, why not, a lot of books are full in that big house, you'll choose what ever you want!'

' Okay, thank you Master, can't wait!'

'Okay okay, we ain't done training yet, so get back to it, and I'll find some water to clean my face.'

'Okay Master, lucky you, there's a lake over there.' Akirion said, pointing a finger at a big lake, estimation: 5000km or 3107 miles.

Thaneiros went and got rid of the blacks around his body and as for Akirion, he thought of trying the other elements.

After some time, he successfully tried all the elements, surprisingly he won.

'Haaa, I feel like I'm going to fall down.'

"Haha, good job son, you did it, surprisingly, you did all four of them, are you human? Can you say a word or you turned into a monster already?'

'Hraaaa!' Akirion made a scary face and scared Thaneiros. 'Of course I'm still human, I said that I'm tired, I guess you were not listening, you were up to praising the exhausted me, what did you say can be exhausted when you use too much magic powers?'

'Arcana! Wait a second, humans can't use a lot of magic powers because they surely run out of arcana easily and fast, according to the rules, you are supposed to be fighting for your life or you should be dead, why are you still talking? That's why I said that you are not a human!'

'come on Master, I'm still the same Akirion, aww man, I'm tired, I can't even feel my legs.'

'Okay okay, hang in there, the wagon will be....ohh there it is, now we will be heading home, happy?'

'Of course, I can't wait to get in a warm soothing bath.'

'Really, is that the only thing you are thinking about?'

'Of course master, I'm thinking of a way of restoring my ar.....arna.... what do you call it...arca...arcana, yes arcana, I'll have to restore my arcana, and I'll be strong again!'

'Okay okay, let's go now, that guy stopped there, so we are supposed to go to him and he's waiting for us.'

'Yeah ,yeah Whatever, I can't even move.....'

'What, are for real?'

'No I can.'

'Haa, you got me surprised for a second, I thought maybe you wanted to sleep here tonight.'

'No, obviously not, I don't want to be attacked by those monsters.' said Akirion with a ridiculing voice.

They went to a wagon and they went back home. When they reached home, Thaneiros saw that there were some people who were around, and he saw a trace of them.

'{what were they doing here, and it doesn't look like they were here calmly. I should be careful and alert.}'

'Master, what's wrong, why did you stop?'

'Ahh, it's nothing, I was just thinking, that's all!'

'Ohh, okay, see you, I'm off. I should bath or I'll die.' Akirion said, running to the bathroom.

'Die? What do you mean, who told that you are going to die?'

'haha, I was joking. Got ya.'

Akirion had his bath , Thaneiros prepared dinner. By the way, Thaneiros was still lost in thoughts about what were the soldier's trails doing in his house while he swept up his compound.

The darkness rolled through the sky for hours and after some hours the light did it's job. They continued the same training, trying to train Akirion's magic powers to be strong and flexible.

Meanwhile, Haruto just like he said, he went with his soldiers to Thaneiros' house the next day and he found nothing. The third day, he took a break, on that day Thaneiros sent all his students to a new teacher and he was no longer teaching a lot of kids, he only trained Akirion alone in the forest.

The forth day, Haruto went to Thaneiros' house early in the morning, lucky for him, he found the house with only the breezes of air carrying the tree leaves all around the compound.

' The what, does that guy really live here?' Haruto asked, and he continued saying; ' this is the 3rd day coming here and we found no one!'

' But someone lives here Sir!' another soldier supported him.

' Why are you saying so soldier?'

' Look at the house Sir, it's always swept, do you think the house got magic or something like that to sweep it self?'

'Of course not, you are right, which means there's someone who lives here , he's hiding from us. We'll catch him tonight, let's come tonight, we will finish him Today, being a ghost of steel won't work for him, hahaha.' he continued with an evil laugh.

That same day, he mobilized during the day, and by that day, he took a lot of soldiers to get ready for a war. Good luck for him, the King sent for him. For the respect they have for each other, he was forced to go and visit the castle.

'Grrrrr, now my plan is on hold, grrrrrrr, I should be finishing the ghost of steel not visiting the King.' he spoke a lot but he ended going.

'Many colleagues of yours are saying that you lost your mind, you are planning to attack the country's biggest quiet threat ever, are you okay?' the King asked, scared for the public's safety, because the ghost of steel was known for not being able to control his anger, so what if he went rouge after being attacked by Haruto.

'Ahh, it's not like that my King, I'm fine, all good. And don't be scared of that, it's all a rumor.' he added salt to his cooking and the King believed him.

'Okay , I trust you, you can't do anything that stupi.....'

'Well well well, if it's not my father's favorite, the underground leader. Haa, you are saying that it's a rumor my foot, there's nothing like that. Dad, don't be lied to, he's a liar, all of his coll...?' the hating prince was cut off by his father.

'Hey son, hold it, get out of here, I'm busy here.' the Prince left quietly and went to wherever he went.

After that meeting long meeting, Haruto plotted another attack the next day.

'Akirion! Prepare for an upcoming war, make sure you train to the fullest!'

Chapter 20: The crazy mission plotting

The hours went by, Akirion and Thaneiros went to their site and Haruto with his followers created a meeting.

In the morning, at the training site, Thaneiros stopped Akirion from training, and he looked a bit worried, and Akirion read the event.

'What's wrong Master, your face look pale, are you okay?'

'Yes, I'm fine, but I have something in mind that I want to tell you. I guess I've been losing my sleep, so I need to get this off my chest and as soon as possible.' said Thaneiros with a sad gloomy face.

'What's wrong Master, did I do something wrong, am I the cause of your sleepless nights?' Akirion curiously asked and he lost his vibe and he was forced to listen to Thaneiros' sad or unknown story.

'Listen up boys! We need a plan for tonight'. Said Haruto with a smiley face. He continued saying! 'It will be better if we come up with a plan before we attack, so what's your plans?'

'{what are they talking about? Even though I don't know, I have a strong spicy feeling about this, I think he's up to no good. I'm sure it's all about the GHOST OF STEEL!'

OHH DAMN, I HATE THAT GUY EVEN THOUGH I DON'T KNOW HIM, I FEEL LIKE CRASHING AND CRASHING, CRASHING HI...}'

'Hey Ryder , what are you doing there '. Mika asked.

'Huh? Nothing, nothing, nothing, just watching those guys.' Ryder proved to be watching Haruto and his squad.

'Oooooow, your face, it..it looks ridiculous '.

'Huh? What do you mean.'

'Hey fix your face, can't even look at you, fool. You are ugly, and you are increasing it with that ugly face you are making.'

[illegible]

{ wait is he okay? maybe he's angry that I said that he was ugly.} A...are...you.. okay? Sorry if I offended you in any way.(Ryder remained silent.) Hey, are you okay?' Surprisingly, he changed his face to normal, or more than normal and made himself look cute and handsome.

'Of course I'm okay, thank you for asking, my lady!'

'Yooooooooow, what are you doing? Scary!'

'wait ain't I cute?' Ryder made a cute face.

'No! You are more than ugly man '.

'ouch! By the way, what are those guys doing?' he pointed at Haruto and his followers.

'Ohh them? I'm sure Haruto up to no good, maybe he's still continuing his thoughts of attacking the Ghost of steel guy!' Mika, replied with an idea.

'Ohh really, okay catch you later Mika, I got something to do.' Ryder left with a smile on his face.

'Huh, really?'

'Akirion! Prepare for an upcoming war, make sure you train to the fullest!' Thaneiros said his mind, but the little mind didn't understand anything.

'Huh, what do you mean Master? What do you mean by <upcoming war> and, <training to the fullest>?' just like the same curious Akirion, he was curious and didn't know what Thaneiros said.

'Akirion! I'll like you to listen to me, and listen to me very close, here that? Very close!' Thaneiros said with a serious face, with no smiling tooth outside. And the little Akirion got more than confused, he never saw Thaneiros that much serious before, he's mind and heart started racing an endless race. And he said something with a scared voice;

'Okay Master, tell me, what is it? I'm all ears.'

'You have seen your parents die on your watch but not on your sight. You've seen a war, you didn't fight but you fought, unknowingly.'

'Wait wait master, you are too fast, and your words are too long, I'm not catching up with you. What are you getting to, Master?' the known, curious Akirion asked as expected.

'Akirion! I told you to listen very close. So I expect you to do so.' Thaneiros continued with his scary, serious face. And Akirion nodded scarily, agreeing to Thaneiros' words.

'So, one of the days, you are or you will lose someone closer to you again and if you don't fight this time, you will lose a person or get in a place where you will be used as a weapon and by that time, the King will have no choice but to kill you because you will be a weapon, killing people too, so, would you blame him?' Thaneiros asked a question from no where and also wanted a reply.

'ahhh, of course not, but I'll try my best so that, that day won't come, I'll fight if I have to, I'll do everything to protect myself and loved ones at the same time, I'll be a hero if I have to, but not a bad guy.'

'Wow, what a speech, make sure you do that, the clock is ticking, and only a few hours left to the day of either dying or getting yourself victory before you get defeated. You are holding the keys to that.'

'Yes Master, I'll do that, I'll win, never lose, I'll defeat any threat in my way, to protect my loved ones.'

'Hoho, that's the spirit, that's why I brought some real swords today!'

'Okay boys, it's time to plot our attack, we will win for real, whether he has a title or not, we are going to win eventually!' Haruto said with a motivated spirit.

'But Sir.....' a soldier opposed Haruto's motivated spirit.

'But what soldier?!'

'We need...' the soldier got cut by someone who wasn't in the squad.

'..... need a swordsman , someone who is well trained not a bunch of spies like us. Wasn't that what you wanted to say soldier?'

'A..ah.. yeah....'

' Ryder? What are you doing here, don't you think you are trespassing?' Haruto surprisedly asked.

' Calm down sir, I'm with you in crashing the Ghost of steel guy.'

'HUH, really? (Ryder nodded fast.)Thank God we have some running brains in the team. So what's your most brainstormed idea ever?'

'Just like a soldier said,("I didn't say that," the soldier denied.) we need a well trained knight or something like that to help us in fighting the ghost of steel guy, because as spies, we can't defeat him, no matter what the situation is!' Ryder made a point.

' I guess you got a point right there, but where are we going to get the guy?'

Akirion and Thaneiros started training with swords.