

BEYOND THE BLAZE

#Chapter 25: FALLEN - Read BEYOND THE BLAZE

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Akirion found his way inside the yard and he was still undercover. He hid himself without saying a word. He watched all the blood thirsty humans. He saw their moves, the way they searched the house and the way they were moving around searching for him.

'Sir, I don't think there's a kid here, maybe this guy lives here alone.' said a soldier who searched almost the whole mansion and found nothing.

'No, I heard some reports, that he lives with a kid in here. Remember, our group is a bunch of spies, so the reports were flowing in like water in a river into the sea.' Haruto said, in order to continue the search.

'By the way, where are your guys Sir? They are not here, they should be helping us in searching. Or they just ran away cause all of them forced their way into the dark's mouth.' said another soldier, mocking the ultimate weapons. The other soldiers laughed.

' So you are tired already that you can't continue searching this house, now you want them to help you? Now who told you that they ran away, they must be searching more than you guys. Those two are mostly experienced. You are spies, use your skills to find the kid and his parent who are hiding in this house's hidden corners. Here's a clue, search for secret passage or something like that, you'll find them if they are in the house.'

'What if they are not in the house?' A soldier asked Haruto.

'It will be worth it.'

The soldiers researched the house again.

'Fools, no one is there, you'll scour the land, until exhaustion etches it's mark on your weary faces.' Akirion mockingly said, hidden in the woods. Akirion silently laughed at the soldiers who searched the house again and again coming up empty handed with nil to show.

Meanwhile the two ultimate weapons with Thaneiros. Kragg ran to attack Thaneiros, but Thaneiros did his ugly tricks in the dark, appearing and disappearing. Gideon saw that Kragg was playing with fire and said....

' Ohh dear, I wouldn't do that if I were you. (Kragg continued with his attack and Gideon continued saying,) Ohh fool, what does he think he's doing, being controlled by anger, he can't attack that guy head on.' Gideon realized that Kragg's life was in danger, he tried to help him, but his feet were too short and he felt as if he was slow like a tortoise. Thaneiros launched an attack and cut Kragg's back with a sword. The two weapons opened their eyes widely, the other one surprised of something he predicted and the other one was in pain.

Kragg screamed in pain and by that time, their allies heard the screams.

Before they heard someone screaming.

' Sir, we've searched the whole house, there's nobody inside, and we didn't locate any passage or tunnel. I guess the guy visited somewhere and survived the war with the skin of his teeth.' a soldier said bolstering the idea of nobody was in the house.

' Grrrrr, great , alright, we got nothing to be doing here. {Grrrrrrrr, damn you ghost of steel, no matter where you run with the kid, I'll find you.}' Hurry up and call up those two and let's leave from here before we get spotted by the castle sol..... (Haruto said, with anger and frustration on his face but his face got surprised by the scream that he heard before he finished his sentence.) What was that? He asked.

'It was like someone screaming.' Ryder fortified everyone's thoughts, because they all heard it but they weren't sure.

'Yeah true, I guess general Ryder is telling the truth, I heard the same thing.' A soldier added.

' So what are you still waiting for?!' Haruto angrily asked. 'Go check it out.' everyone's eyes were at the gate, all ears, waiting for another scream again. The soldiers proved to be moving slowly in fear.

Suddenly, they heard some clashing swords sounds.

Meanwhile;

When Kragg got sliced in the back , he got down on his knees, Gideon ran to help his ally. Gideon started clashing swords with Thaneiros. The fierce fight once again started. Kragg got back on his feet and attacked Thaneiros, helping Gideon. The two overpowered Thaneiros and he started to dodge going at the gate.

'Those are sword sounds, aren't they.' Haruto asked.

' probably, but the only question will be, who is fighting, fighting with who.' Ryder replied.

'Yeah, nice question, but we can't have an answer until we see t.... '

' Don't tell me...!'

' what now Ryder?' Haruto asked, surprised by Ryder's reaction.

' Don't tell me those two started fighting!'

' Yeah, you got a point, they are both fighters and they are underground fighters. Maybe they had some past grudges.' Haruto added a point.

' Let's go and check, this is not a place for them to be fighting over some old grudges. So we are supposed to stop them.' Ryder said.

Suddenly, Thaneiros went in through the gate followed by two fighters. Haruto and his group stopped.

' Who's the old guy.' a soldier surprisedly asked.

' Ohh dear, is that the ghost of steel?' Haruto asked.

' He looks pretty old.'

'Yeah, it can't be the ghost of steel.

'Yeah, but look at his moves.'

' Wait, he's old, because his story is more of a legend so that could be him.'

' Master?' Akirion asked himself in the woods and one soldier quickly looked at the woods but he didn't see Akirion.

The two weapons got super serious with fighting. They gave Thaneiros, completely a hard time. They didn't give him a space to breath.

Thaneiros started doing his in and out style, just like a dying park light in a horror movie. After some attacks , Thaneiros managed to land some attacks on the two guys and he didn't stop. After some time, Kragg saw his trick and....

'wahaaaa'. Kragg jumped to the air, doing his martial arts sound, facing Thaneiros in the air. Thaneiros didn't have a chance, Kragg got from the ground ready to strike, so he kicked Thaneiros down to the ground and Thaneiros landed on his stomach like a tripped baby. He started moving on his stomach like a snake and Kragg, wanted to make a final strike...'Master?' but Haruto stopped him on time with just a hand sign.

{phewwww, thank God that moron was stopped on time.} Akirion silently said in the woods.

'You are the ghost of steel aren't you?' Haruto asked the fallen Thaneiros. Thaneiros proved to be ignorant. Haruto stepped on Thaneiros' back and asked again. Thaneiros proved to be deaf so, Haruto landed a punch on Thaneiros, and Thaneiros spat blood from his mouth and his teeth were rose red with no sign of white.

'I'll ask again, are you the ghost of steel?'

'If you know me then why are you asking me, bothering me during my good night. What do you want!?' Thaneiros, replied, facing Haruto with a scary eye. Haruto shaked in the inside and didn't show the shaking on the other side, he showed only bravery and arrogance but while his intestines were vibrating in fear. Kragg noticed Thaneiros' scary eye looking at Haruto. He thought of shutting it. He kicked Thaneiros' eye. Haruto stopped him from continuing. 'Grrrrrrrr' Some chill, relaxed air blown with a little bit of tension of cold. Another soldier felt the cold and started rubbing his arms.

{Calm down Akie, I know it's hard to watch}. Look at this weakling, attacking someone who's not fighting back.' said Thaneiros who was laying down on his back, looking at Kragg.

'Shut up old man.' Kragg with his open back and pissed face, he shut Thaneiros' words.

'Where's the kid, and don't waste our time.' Haruto asked.

'The what, you came all this way from where ever you are coming from just to ask me about a kid, there's no kid here.'

'Don't play with me old man, where's the kid?'

'Great, you are not understanding my language, there's no kid here, let me go slower, the-re is no ki-d he-re, understand?'

'Don't play dump gramps, tell us, where's the kid.' Ryder, intervened. '{grrrr, who are you calling gramps, slim fit?}' The crazy chill air, turned into chilly because it sent some more cold to the humans.

{Calm down Akie, don't do it, they'll just give up, don't do it, for your own skin.}' (Thaneiros silently said, as if he was talking to Akirion but only to himself, but with some wishes that Akirion would somehow hear it) What kid, I don't know anything. Ohh, you mean the kids that I train? Mhh, it's night time, not day time, they are only found during day time. I'll like to ask a questio....'

'We don't want your crazy question old man, tell us where the kid is.' Haruto said. The air's tension got worse.

'I'll ask, what's your kid's name, he didn't come home? Did you notify the RPU? They help in such matters.'

'His name is...grrr just forget it, we want the kid that you live with.'

'What, what do you mean? I live alone, not with a kid, the kid that I lived with, not the kid but kids, I sent them to another tutor because I wasn't able to train them anymore.'

'Grrrrrrrr, stop TELLING ME YOUR FAKE STORIES!!' Haruto gave Thaneiros a punch on the face. The air turned into a wind, colder than before.

'Ouch, what did you do that for? I told you the truth, I live alone, before, now and tomorrow, I'm all alone.'

'What's that'

'GET AWAY FROM MY MAASTERRR!!'

Chapter 26: TRUTH

'Sir, I guess he's telling the truth. He received many hits but he's still continuing saying that he lives alone, we should hurry up and move out.' Ryder said and the cold air got a bit warmer. '{Sup with the atmosphere, it was getting colder by a second now it's getting warmer. , what's up?}' Ryder realized something that a few of them thought of.

'No, we should continue the torture'. Haruto said.

'What?' Akirion got surprised. And it got more colder.

'Ohh yeah, why not, let's continue until he tells the truth!' Kragg happily said, in order for revenging his back scar.

'{What are they up to, Master told them that he lives alone, Why do they want to continue the torture, are they even human? I should do something to save my master at any cost.}' Akirion silently talked, while hidden behind the woods.

'{Akie I know it's hard, but don't do anything stupid that would land you in wrong hands, and by that time, you will stay with them until your last breath...}' Thaneiros got cut by Kragg who kicked his head before he completed his sentence.

'HEY OLD MAN, TELL US THE TRUTH, WE ARE NOT PLAYING HERE!' Kragg confidently shouted at Thaneiros.

'{What truth are they curtain of? I don't understand, now they are pissing me off, they should be gone by now.}' Akirion continued to be silent in the woods.

The cold got worse, another soldier started shaking.

'What's wrong?' Ryder asked the shaking soldier.

'{wait, is he for real, he doesn't feel that cold? Or I'm sick?} Ohh it's nothing, it's hard to watch while I know that the RPU will be here soon.' a soldier gave a point.

'You are right, we should get out of here before they show up.

'{Yes, Yes leave, you've hurt my master a lot, I won't forgive all of you, I'll be coming after you, one by one, be careful not to die during that time.}' Akirion blabbered to himself quietly wearing an angry face, staring at the them.

Ryder went to Haruto and told him the idea of leaving.

'No way, he should tell us the truth, we aren't living without the kid, so, you, tell us the truth!' Haruto held Thaneiros' hair and started hitting the face with his punch.

The wind blown, it got colder and colder by a second and they started shaking.

Their mouths started breathing the visible breath.

'Ohh god, it's cold, never new that the nights are this cold.' another soldier spoke and he heard no reply from the other shaking soldiers.

The three interrogators , Haruto, Kragg and Gideon continued asking and torturing Thaneiros as if they were hitting a donkey. They completely ignored the cold at first. After sometime, Haruto started hitting Thaneiros in order to feel warm, but the cold kept on rising. The temperatures were very low and the wet tree leaves started to turn white. The soldiers felt as if they were freezing. They couldn't even open their mouths after sometime.

Haruto ended up giving up on hitting Thaneiros, because his hands were cold enough that he felt pain when hitting, even hitting a bit and Thaneiros' blood was like, almost freezing. Haruto ended up saying;

'Seems like we were wrong, but tell us the truth old man, where's the kid '.

'I-I don't know what you are talking about'.

'Let's go guys, and the mission is not over yet '. The soldiers turned, heading for the gate, but Gideon and Kragg stood behind.

'Hey you two, let's go, there's nothing to do here!' Haruto called the two warriors but they didn't shake.

Gideon was thinking of his favorite hood that was cut into a short funny thing by Thaneiros and on the other side, Kragg was ruminating about the pain he was feeling on his back and it was all because of Thaneiros.

'{ really, they are planning to let this old man live? Not on my watch, I'll play cool.}' Kragg and Gideon silently said at the same time. They continued by asking Thaneiros.

' Tell us the truth, where is the little kid?!' the two asked at the same time. Haruto and the crew looked at the two who surprisingly spoke the same words at the same time.

Suddenly, Akirion was no longer in the woods. The bigger tension came from the house side and everyone got some scary chills.

A black like black cloud appeared in front of the house. The atmosphere changed but the cold remained the same. Everyone's body got disturbed by the look of that thing. The scary black shadow, kept on moving slowly, they didn't locate the core with their normal human eyes. The only person who knew, was Thaneiros.

' Ohh great, I didn't see this one coming.' Thaneiros said, laying on his back.

The blood thirsty humans didn't understand Thaneiros at all, cause they couldn't even feel their bodies.

Their bodies continued shaking, but that time, they were not shaking because of the cold, the disturbing dark shadow made their bodies stagnant, without any movement.

After some minutes of being stagnant, the soldiers broke the seal of quietness by saying.

'Wh-what's that?' another soldier asked, in a terrified and surprised state. But the other terrified soldiers didn't reply. The two weapons were also terrified because that thing got all of them stagnant, terrified actually, in explicable.

The shadow was an intense aura, that was only seen when it was close.

'W-w-wh-what's that.' the terrified Haruto asked.

'Truth? Truth? Truth?' a youngling or a female voice echoed the word truth, and the bunch of thirsty humans were mouth dry, they were all terrified and surprised.

'Truth huh, okay, I get it. But.....(the place got completely quiet, listening to the upcoming words. Surprisingly, they spotted a young kid, moving towards them, coming outside of the dark shadow which they saw from the beginning.) GET AWAY FROM MY MAASTERR...!!' Akirion shouted but his shouting was cut by something.

'shhhh!' Kragg jumped on Akirion's back and got everyone surprised including Akirion. Everyone got a question like <'when did he get there, because he was with us a second ago'.>

Akirion slowly looked at Kragg with some scary blue glowing eyes.

'Hi , little man. {Ohh god this kid is really cold, he's as cold as a corpse , and what's up with this tension I'm feeling.}' Kragg got terrified while holding Akirion. Akirion got in an eye contact with Kragg, and Kragg's shaking body, couldn't resist the tension that it was feeling.

'{ohh damn, who's this kid, I can't feel my body, it's like vibrating and feeling pain at the same time, it feels like my body is going to be tone into shreds.}' Kragg blabbered in the inside and ended up jumping off Akirion's back and collapsed down after having a scary eye contact with Akirion who was angry. His angry face changed his face appearance and it was like another character.

'WHAT!' everyone said at the same time, surprised , as Kragg collapsed as if he didn't have a spine.

When Gideon saw Kragg collapsing without any energy, he feared for his life just like how his body was trembling when Akirion appeared. So he held Thaneiros as a hostage.

' What's going on here?' Haruto surprisedly asked, but he got no response.

' D-d-do-don't come any, any closer because I will, I will kill him for sure.' Gideon stammered in fear while his sword on Thaneiros' neck.

' Let's see you try.' Akirion scarily said and he was certain that Gideon won't make a move.

'{Is that even the Akie I know? He looks different, and his aura, it's terrifying.}' Thaneiros silently said, confused whether it was the person that he knew.

'I I will kill him!' Gideon said.

'I warned you, to GETT AWAYY FROM MY MAASTERRRRRR!!!' Akirion shouted and in an instant, Gideon's head was rolling on the ground, the blood spraying the land. And Akirion was behind Gideon's body and it followed the head , falling down.

'Whe, when did he get there?' Ryder collapsed, his head spinning, feeling dizzy.

'This kid is a monster, ATTAAAACK!!' Haruto commanded his spy soldiers to attack on Akirion.

Akirion put his trust on his sword and applied his swordsman skills into defending himself and his Master. He ran faster than the speed of light and attacked 5 soldiers in a row at once. The soldiers cried for their lives but only Kragg head them.

Kragg saw the amazing sword fighting on the kid and his energy was refilled. He stood up and defended the other soldiers. He blocked Akirion's attacks. They started to exchange blows, blocking and attacking.

'{Wow, this kid is genuinely strong. His skills are equal to mine? Impossible!}' Kragg applied his martial arts skills and kicked Akirion away. Akirion landed badly on his back and spitted blood.

' Ohhh yeah, my kick is a world class kick, it's very strong, if I get you with one actually hit, it will probably break bones either for a kid or elders. All of them, hahaha.' said Kragg, happy for the strike.

There was a bit of hope in Haruto's eyes, and he was happy, thinking that he will be capturing the kid.

'Don't kill the kid, we need him breathing!' Haruto , happily said.

He casted a fire magic spell.

'I call it FIREARROW.'

Chapter 27: Last words

Akirion's mouth was covered in blood. Thaneiros felt bad for what happened. He blamed himself and silently said;

'Akie, no, wake. Ohh god, why did I receive that title if I don't protect, I can't feel my body anymore. I need to do something.} He closed his eyes and didn't know what to do. His hurt old body wasn't in a good state to fight back, his back, front and, I can say his whole body was in chaos. The pain that he felt was like many people running inside, creating a lot of chaos, and the pain didn't stop on Thaneiros.

'mhhh, I guess I should normalize my kicks, now the kid is not waking up and I saw him coughing blood, did I just kill the target?' Kragg said, while happy but surprised.

'If the kid don't wake up, then you won't get paid.' Haruto said some hurting words.

'Ohh great, what have I done, I came here for money and I killed that money.....!' Kragg blamed himself.

'Ohh my , thanks for referring me as an important thing. You came all the way just for me, wow, I'm flattered.' Akirion woke up, wiped off the blood on his mouth and started his speech.

Everyone got surprised, all of their mouths were open as if they were in a choir rehearsal.

'Hey close your mouths before a fly get in.' they did as they were told and surprisingly , they started looking around whether a fly was around or not. Kragg got more surprised by the kid's actions. He didn't look hurt, or something like that, he was jumping around showing that he didn't have a broken bone.

According to the ways of martial arts, when a person gets hit by such a kick, he or she should be paralyzed, lose strength and collapse.

But Akirion was in one piece, with less than one bone broken. He was still in a good state.

'Sup? I can't believe it, the old man fell down and never got the strength to get back on his feet, but the kid... he's jumping around as if nothing happened, is he for real. Was I inaccurate when I made that hit? But the kid is stretching and warming up, hitting the air like nothing happened, is he really a human....?' Kragg spoke with a low voice that only a few words were heard by someone who was a meter away.

Akirion replied Kragg's question.

' Ohh, you are still on that? Okay let me explain what happened. (Kragg got really surprised on how Akirion heard him.)Your kick was ineffective, it was like a woman's punch.....' Kragg got pissed.

'The what...?' Kragg angrily asked.

' Yes, woman's punch. Like an untrained woman's punch. ('Grrrrrr' Kragg got more pissed.) Ohh don't be angry martial artist, I'm just telling the truth. Let me tell you how you are supposed to kick. ('Huh?' Kragg got surprised and his ears were on Akirion's upcoming words and everyone around was all ears too.) Yes, you were suppose to kick as if you were kicking a rock.

'Ahh' the others got more surprised about the rock talk. And Akirion continued his crazy provoking speech.

'{never been a teacher but I'm not gonna lie, this is great. I'm enjoying myself, teaching something that I don't know hihihi.} Have you ever kicked a rock before? (Kragg denied using his head.) Ohh, good for you, today you will, see that rock over there? (pointed at a rock in the middle of the yard. It was around 30 meters away.) Go and kick it.'

Kragg turned his body towards the rock and the others opened their mouths, dumbfounded.

' {The what, is Akirion for real, where did he learn th....? Ohh I see, he wants to toy with them.}' Thaneiros silently said, cause the mouth wasn't working.

'Hey, what did I say about the fly.' Akirion said to the blood thirsty humans who were left dumbfounded and they quickly closed their mouths.

Kragg headed straight for the rock, asking himself about what happened.

'Im sure my kick was accurate , that kick should have broke one or two bones. But, the kid is normal, what's going on.' Kragg kept on ruminating about the kicking part while he went towards the big rough rock that nobody will ever think of kicking it.

'Wait, he's going straight to the rock. What happened to him, he started listening to my words? Maybe I'm a good teacher. And he didn't see my funny trick. (He had a flashback of what happened during the kick. **During the kick.**

When Kragg landed a kick, Akirion's hands hardly blocked the flying kick and the speed of hitting down on his back forced him to cough out blood.)

Present

'Lucky me. (Akirion got an idea of having Kragg as his body guard cause Kragg was listening to every word he said.) Mhh, that's a good idea, let me try that, ...or maybe not!' Akirion saw Kragg getting ready to kick the rock, but before his foot reached the rock , he stopped and asked himself;

' What am I doing? What was I about to do? Or did I lose it? But no, that kid!'

Kragg turned around angrily with his eyes on the small boy, Akirion.

' You.... son of a.. grrrrrrr'. He ran straight to Akirion with his face in scary lines, illustrating that he was really mad.

Haruto saw that Kragg was running for an attack so, the silence broke in Kragg's allies.

' ATTACKKKK!!' Haruto yelled and the remaining soldiers ran to attack just like Haruto said.

'Ohh dear, guess who's pissed, and those controlled fries are coming. I'm doomed ain't I.' Akirion said, with a very relaxed voice, as if there was no trouble on his face.

Akirion released a large amount of aura and the attacking soldiers held their hand brakes but Kragg didn't care.

'HEY HEY, STOP RIGHT THERE!' said Akirion in the middle of a dark scary shadow (intense aura.) surprisingly, Kragg stopped in an instant when he was like halfway. And Akirion continued saying;

' where do you think you are going?'

Those words echoed in Kragg's mind. He shook his head , scowling.

'Why are those words echoing in my head? And why did I stop, he told me to and I did. No! I'm me, I can't be controlled by a kid, not iN A MILLION YEARS!!' Kragg screamed louder, and Akirion looked troubled. Haruto repeated his command and the soldiers did as they were told and Kragg, attacked too without holding back. That time, Akirion's words were not going to stop him because he was mostly pissed and he didn't want to hear anything, that's what he told himself.

'Oh- o , I'm doomed for real this time huh? Okay, plan b is coming in.'

The intense aura got more than before, and the running soldiers started trembling. They didn't believe what they saw around Akirion. As for themselves, in them, they didn't tell themselves that they were scared, only their bodies got scared. While running, they couldn't even feel themselves, some of them fell down in fear.

'{oh no, what is he up too, if uses a lot of arcana he'll collapse anytime soon and it'll take the whole half a day to reload. I need to help him.}

Thaneiros started moving trying to get up. Akirion witnessed the moment and then faced the soldiers before he helped his master.

' Let's see **PLAN B!** Akirion said with a scary young voice.

He casted a fire magic spell.

'I call it **FIREARROW**, any last words??' Akirion said, while shooting at the soldiers who were still attacking him.

Boooooom, the place got white, all the terror from the soldiers turned into begging for lives.

The collapsed Ryder got attacked by sleepiness and slept. He dreamt a scary nightmare about the ghost of steel. And woke up at the moment when the soldiers were being fried.

' ha, ha, ha' Ryder, woke up, panting, frightened by a crazy nightmare, without knowing that in the real world was a nightmare and what he had when he was sleeping was a dream not a nightmare. He asked a question;

' what's happening?' he questioned while looking at the sky and he saw a light, like a lucky star, coming at him.

'Wow, a lucky star, let me make a wish, I wish....!' He said, without knowing that it was Akirion's firearrows. Lucky for him, those were his last words. The others didn't get the chance of saying their last words. So he got fried because when those arrows touch a human body, they burns it until the body become ashes.

When Haruto saw that he was next, he ran for his life, going straight to the gate, which was some meters away. Lucky for him, Kragg attacked Akirion before Akirion launched the attack on Haruto. Akirion was forced to dodge the attack and went to Thaneiros who was trying to wake up in order to help Akirion.

' Don't worry, I'm fine, and you will be fine too.' Akirion said to Thaneiros.

Chapter 28: The climax

Akirion shot an ice arrow at Haruto's leg, and that made him lose his running strength and he crashed to the ground. He started crawling on his stomach like a snake , with every inch a battle towards the gate.

Meanwhile.

The place got dark in Kragg's eyes as if his eyes were closed. Surprisingly his buttons were wide open but he saw nothing. ' Any last words??' Those words resonated in Kragg's mind but only a shook saved him.

"Anything wrong, warrior? " Akirion asked from curiosity.

"Shut up!"

"Ohh, okay, I was trying to be....."

"I said shut up!"

"Okay then, I thought maybe you will have some nice and sweet last words, but it seems like you will die angry."

That time, the blackness in Kragg's eyes thinned, revealing fragments of reality like shards of shattered glass.

"Shut up you little.... Who do you think would die quiet, by the way, what did you do to my vision.?"

"What? Me? I didn't do anything!" Akirion's eyes clouded with puzzlement , his words stumbling like uncertain footsteps.

"Don't be dumb! (Sighed) Just forget it, I'll kill you now, as long as I get a glimpse of your shadow, I can finish you."

"Ohh, guess who's up for a fight with a 10 year old, isn't that embarrassing?"

"Just shut up!"

Kragg charged forward, with his sword slicing the air with a deadly intent of finishing Akirion with a single blow.

Akirion fiercely smiled, staring at Kragg who was seen as slow as a tortoise.

"{Sup? Why is he that slow? He's a fast person but now his super slow, haaa, what's going on, and his wierd question about his vision, I did nothing, but I feel like something is wrong.}"

"With this speed, I'll get him for sure!" Kragg pumped his fist as he charged towards Akirion in a speed of a cheetah but in Akirion's eyes, he was slower than a chameleon.

Akirion thought of charging against Kragg to make the final blow. Kragg's eyes caught a glimpse of Akirion's swift motion and Akirion's sword cried in agony as it sliced Kragg's arm.

Kragg got astonished by the flashy movement he saw. "Whoa, he's fast! And, my , my ARMMMM!" Kragg's voice yelled in pain as he saw his arm bouncing on the ground, covered in blood.

"Ohh, I missed! Sorry to cause you pain before you die, I'll try to be quick, please close your eyes."

"{ Wait is he really a kid? The way he's moving his tongue it's like an old man but he's just a ten year old just like he said.} W w who taught you to be heartless kid?"

"What."

" You heard me. For someone at your age should be scared of killing, but you..."

"But me?? Just forget I asked, you are the ones who taught me."

"What?"

"You don't get it? Okay, I was my parents' good boy, but that good past got shattered like a mirror when my parents left, so I can't even see my good self in that mirror anymore, only a lot of pieces of me that I can't combine. So I told myself that I'll protect my loved ones, and that includes slaying all my and their enemies and I guess you are included."

Kragg gasped in fear, watching Akirion's eyes clouded with hatred and blazed with anger.

"W w what do you mean...?"

" I'm sure you have a question mark in your head but it's easy to understand."

"What's the meaning of that?"

" You should be begging for your life, but it's obvious that I won't hear your sorrows. So, you should be spitting out your last words." Akirion's footsteps thundered towards Kragg, his sword sparkling in the dark, piercing the air and the bitter chili wind howled around them heightening the tension.

"Now it's time to face your end , ready or not, hear I come!"

"Grrrrrrrr, you! Do you think that you can put an end to Kragg the gr....." Kragg's voice turned into silence , his head divided into multiple pieces falling like coins into a beggar's tray. The neck sprayed blood like a farmer watering his garden.

"{Wow, his sword skills got better, he finished a warrior just like eating dinner?! I should be careful around him too, cause he turned into a complete monster. Wait what is he....?" Thaneiros witnessed Akirion shooting his firearrow at a lifeless body.

"All done, only you..." Akirion scarily mentioned, staring at Haruto with a scary glowing blue eye.

Haruto gritted his teeth forcing himself to stand, despite all the pain he was feeling in his leg. He put all his strength into being on his feet, running away from the scary Akirion. Akirion felt some people around the gate and he let Haruto bump into them without separating his body and soul.

Meanwhile,

"{Wait a second, I'm not feeling any pain, really? So I was laying here for nothing? No!}" said Thaneiros. He had a flashback of the time when Akirion dodged Kragg and jumped to him.

After realizing that his old body was no longer screaming in agony, he stood up on his feet and watched Haruto bumping onto the soldiers, the RPU soldiers.

Those soldiers saw Akirion and Thaneiros' eyes scarily glued at them. They feared to say a word cause Thaneiros was a well known scary man around Elysia, even though he wasn't attacked. So after being attacked he would be unstoppable. So they got scared that he will mix them up with the attackers and they will be in hot soup.

They only checked the house's status and the surroundings and saw Kragg's lifeless body burning as if it was fueled before getting burnt. They embarrassingly turned back and held Haruto captive and went with him.

Akirion heavily sighed and dropped on the ground, his eyes heavy with fatigue. Sleepiness flooded his eyes and his strength was also consumed during the fight cause using arcana is the same as using energy so it left him utterly spent.

Thaneiros chuckled , feeling proud of Akirion for ending the war and also fulfilled his words of protecting his loved ones.

Thaneiros took Akirion inside.

The air was chilled and relaxing as the sun casted a golden light on the landscapes. Akirion livened up, as always and did his morning run. That time he was back to be a commendable boy. He passed through the ashes of the burnt bodies. And his mind was flooded with ruminates. Thaneiros got out of bed too, with an intent of cleaning the yard. He didn't want Akirion to see the cremains but he was astonished by seeing Akirion doing his morning run.

Akirion pretended as if he didn't see the cremains but his heart was screaming. The uncontrollable tears filled his eyes and he was forced to stop running. His knees shook under his body and crazy memories flashed into his head but he told himself that he was protecting his loved ones. He got rid of the ruminates and his heart calmed down and he was better.

Thaneiros saw the scene when Akirion was bent down. He left his work of getting rid of the cremains and rushed to the ruminating Akirion.

Thaneiros found him calm but tears all over his cheek. Akirion felt happy when he saw his master, that's when he hugged him. Thaneiros took him inside.

"Master, there's something I want to tell you." the master sat down and listened.

"Yes, tell me, what's the problem!"

"I'm sorry for yesterday, I was well taken by my own thoughts , I don't know, maybe I even lost my feelings."

"It's okay, I understand where you are coming from, but you don't really need to plead for forgiveness. You said you were going to protect your loved ones, and I guess I'm included ..."

" Of course you are master".

"Okay , then that surely means that you were driven by anger, after you saw what they did to me. The cold that was rising by a second was trackable straight to you."

"That's why I'm pleading for forgiveness master, I did wrong, I let my feelings consume me and I was definitely swallowed by anger."

"It's okay, just like I said, I understand where you are coming from. I forgive you if you want me to forgive you."

"Thank you Master, my heart feels at ease." they both had a warm chuckle in their faces and heart.

Akirion's smile turned into sadness. Thaneiros caught a gaze of Akirion's smile fading. He got curious...

"Are you okay."

"No master, I'm not okay. (The air barely got through Thaneiros' throat. His eyes got wide open and he thought that Akirion was still haunted by the memories of the last night. He thought maybe his head was echoing with horrific reminiscences.) I'm totally confused. Remember last night, when that warrior guy said that I was messing with his vision? (Thaneiros nodded like nonverbal person.) I didn't do anything, but he showed that there was something going on in his head, the way he shook his head totally came with the same idea that the guy was suffering from brain effect."

"I see. And I'm going to go along with the guy".

"What?!"

Chapter 29: BEYOND THE BLAZE and the red eyes

"Yes, why would I go with you if I'm confused too?"

"So master you, you are living me al..."

"No, I didn't say that. I'm also confused. My mind is racing an endless race. First question, why did that guy follow your orders?"

"Ohh that, I'm also in the dark on that."

"Exactly, you know nothing but you did it. Secondly, how did I get strong just after you touched me."

"Ohh that's easy, I discovered that technique through my dreams. It's called terraverde and it's for healing. It can move plants too."

"What?"

"Yes, it's a good skill. It's for healing the wounded only."

" Then why didn't you show me?"

"It's a healing spell, why and how would I show you if there's no wounded person?"

"Mhh, you got a point, okay."

They finished their boring talk and Akirion went outside. As soon as he stepped outside, he realized that the air was in a different shape. He gasped and his heart raced, beating as if it was going to come out. A dark big scary cloud with red eyes loomed before him, and the two eyes were pointing at him scarily. His skin got wet as the sweat broke through. He recollected the last time when he saw it and then he retreated, and went back to Thaneiros.

Akirion reached out to Thaneiros with a dull face.

"Anything wrong Akie."

" Ahh, actually.. no. I have a question."

" Okay, fire it up."

"Do you have any knowledge about the dark cloud with red eyes."

"What's that? Sounds scary, red eyes and a cloud? It sounds childish and on the other side, it's a bit....."

" Do you know anything, yes or no."

" No, wait yes. I guess I've heard something about that, it's either, reading or someone told me, I can't recollect".

"Ohh, what do you remember, anything? It will be helpful".

"Slow down, firstly tell me what happened, where did you get that question?"

"Ahh, I'll love to keep it a secret until you tell me something that my two orbs would love to hear and my brain should be able to access it, process it and store it."

"Aww man, really, it sounds like an amazing topic but you are keeping it to your chest."

"It's for your own safety I guess, so, please help me, any ideas on where you heard something like that?"

"Disappointingly no." Akirion sighed and lost hope, but a glimpse of happiness caught up when Thaneiros opened up.

"Hey Akie, I guess I have something, around one of the magic books that I have, it's difficult to know where it was in."

"That's helpful master, keep going, search every corner of your brain, maybe you'll get something". Akirion forced Thaneiros to keep on searching.

"Yes, I guess I know where I read it. It's called the book name is called BEYOND THE BLAZE , I know it for sure, there's even a picture showing an enormous black cloud with some eyes."

" where is the book master?"

They went to search for the book.

Meanwhile, the royal family altercated over the situation about Haruto. The King stayed quiet, deep in thoughts, while Kaid was busy blabbering while his sister Fiana trying to defend the ghost of steel's attackers.

"See dad, I once told you that your guy Haruto will surely betray you, look now...." Kaid attacked his father.

" Excuse me, so are you trying to say that Dad was supposed to hate those guys? Let me tell you something, those guys are powerful, and they always help out in many investigations. Elysia is quite because of...."

"Ahh, ah, ah, don't you lie infront of the royal crown, the RPU always helped out, and they are trustworthy, not like your Haruto guy, who lied to the King himself. Now you are defending them, is your head functioning normal Fiana?"

" Here we go again, you are trying to start a fight with me huh, you want to quarrel like 2 year olds? Sorry, I'm not up for it, I'm a grown up not a 2 year old."

"Then get married if you are that old?!"

"The what? No way, there's no guy who's good enough to marry me, right Dad?" The King remained silent.

The King felt betrayed. He reminisced about old times with Haruto. Haruto and his team catching culprits and his spy team was the best at retrieving the hidden truth.

The king's eyes were filled with tears as he thought of Haruto's loyalty that turned to dust.

"Wait, is Dad crying". Kaid felt bad.

"Kaid, it's all your fault".

"What, me? What did I do ".

"Blamed father's favorite person, of course."

" I didn't do that ".

"Kaid, you did , Haruto was on your mouth all alo..."

"Shut up! " The King's voice boomed inside the royal walls. And the two bickers shut their mouths as if an invincible hand was holding their mouths with their eyes filled with fear and confusion. The king continued saying;

"I don't want to hear that name inside of these walls, that guy should be dead, honestly, tomorrow it's his death day. I won't spare his lowlife. How dare he lie to me, me!?" the anger of the King filled the the whole castle with the blazing anger.

His eyes were burning with anger, all the hatred and betrayal were located in those tear flooded eyes .

Meanwhile.

Akirion and Thaneiros roamed around their library, where it was hard to breathe,with thick air, filled with dust. They made it upside down, searched as if they were on an adventure.

Akirion's eyes scanned the book shelf and his small fingers trailing over the spines of the books, while Thaneiros muttered to himself fastrated with the lack of progress while searching every corner of his head in order to get some ideas about the book.

They spent hours, all because it was important to Akirion, he didn't give up, he sat on a pile of books to find the only book.

Thaneiros felt tired, but as long as he was helping Akirion, he didn't find the time to rest.

After some time, Akirion caught a glimpse of a unique book he never saw with a corner of his eye. His heart pounded for a second, when he saw the letter B, which was the start of the name.

Akirion's face loomed with a smile when he touched the book with his only two hands, and read it with his two buttons. Thaneiros saw Akirion's face shining with a smile, he got surprised for a second but he realized what Akirion was doing.

"Wow, what a smile, what's up? You were emotionless a minute ago when I looked at your face, but now I'm facing a shiny sm...." Thaneiros gasped in happiness, his face loomed with a warm chuckle when he realized that Akirion was holding the book that caused all the search.

"I've finally located our treasure, what do you say master, we open it and see what's inside or I locate my patience and wait for the auspicious time."

"Let me see it." Akirion handed the big heavy book to Thaneiros, and that brought some flashing memories about the book in Thaneiros' brain.

That time, they unlocked a quest for searching for the page. Akirion preferred to go page by page in the book without the contents page.

They searched, unveiling some unknown things until they found the page, Akirion gulped when he saw the cloud in a picture.

"This is the one, this is the one master."

"ohh yes Akirion, now it's time for you to spill the beans, you've seen that I know something about the cloud, so it's your turn to answer my question on how you know about the cloud because it's a bit disturbing for me.

Thaneiros closed the book and Akirion who was ready to uncover the truth behind the scary cloud, felt disturbed, after searching for that page for a long time.

"Master! What have you done? That page was hard to find, remember?"

"Calm down, you only have to tell me, I'll deal with the page after."

"ohh, okay then, why wouldn't I tell you? Here goes my secret that nobody knows about, even my late parents. It was five years ago, can you imagine how tall I was. I forgot my toys outside, so I was forced to go and get my comrade outside. After I picked up my toys, I saw a dark scary cloud, that made my heart skip for a second, it's two red eyes were piercing through the dark enormous cloud. They were staring right straight at me and that got me soaking wet of sweat for some minutes. I ran back to the house and I hid what I saw from my parents.

And today, after that conversation, when I stepped outside this house, I again, saw the same cloud, dark, scary and the red eyes were located in that cloud, glowing, and starring right straight at me."

"That's scary enough, I can't even imagine how it felt. Okay just like you think, it's time to reopen our treasure." Thaneiros opened the page at once and it got Akirion astonished because he was thinking that it was going to take time to reach the page.

"Hey Akie, I guess it will be better if I read it because we will both like to hear what it says."

" Okay Master, you can read it, I'm all ears."

"Okay".

Thaneiros read the book, and he was surprised to uncover what it meant. Akirion opened his eyes wider, in surprise, and he realized something about his parent's death.

It said that when a person sees that cloud, he or she would have been blessed, because there's no normal person who can see the cloud. And it also uncovered some scary and unpredictable scenarios. It said that the cloud is a notifier of danger, and it also mentioned that the danger occurs after 5 years.

"Ohh dear, so that was the danger!" Akirion emotionally said.

Chapter 30: New school

The day turned into darkness, with no training for the day. Surprisingly, they received no visitors.

The next day when the darkness faded, Thaneiros and Akirion continued their training, with everyone happy as always.

That continued for 5 years. Akirion trained the following:

Meditation and concentration - in meditation, he trained to keep his cool and concentrate on things that are in his face.

Balance - he stood on one foot and he then stood on top of a rock after he was more experienced.

Magic - he continued his magic training and even got more skills, from his dreams and also in reading Thaneiros' books.

Combat training - he continued training with Thaneiros.

The City developed a lot during those past 5 years, the magic schools were built, and they gained a bit of technology. The empire demobilized for some unknown reasons, the Elysian spies didn't locate the course of the sudden change and there was less tension in Elysia. Only the monster tension was left. People lived in terror, frightened about the monsters, unknowing when that incident will befall them. The houses were full of prayers that the darkness would pass without any incident. The citizens wore some fake smiles, to let the day light pass, with no King to ask or report anything to.

The King lost his life 2 years after Haruto was given a death penalty. The city was full of lamentations and tears streamed down the faces of the crowd, after the King lost his breath. The son was left uncrowned and Elysia was left without a King. The city walls craved for a king but nobody was there to stop their cravings. Their questions were replied by other citizens cause the Prince or princess didn't want to appear in front of the crowd.

After Haruto attacked the neutral land, and also lied to the King, he was executed as he was judged for a death penalty. The king was filled with anger and hatred, he destroyed the underground society, which was good in spying. Mika and the others got jobless because of the despicable Haruto, who was driven by the love of using a kid as a weapon.

Elysia established magic school all because they agreed to let the magic users live along with none magic users. The reason is that, the prince (Prince Kaid) manifested some magic powers before the King died. It was impossible to kill the Prince, that's why they ended up allowing the magic users to live. After sometime, history readers recollected some books about magic, and they found a way to create a school and teach magic users on how to control their powers. A big crowd of magic users was seen at the school gate, in order to be enrolled. The school instructors found that students under 15 years were more receptive to magic training, as most of the 15 and below manifested the powers. It was mostly rare to find elders with magic.

For elders over 20, the school offered an intensive program to master magic control within a few days. Once they mastered the control of magic, they were discharged, as the instructors preferred to focus on younger students who showed greater enthusiasm for magic. Eighteen months after its founding, Akirion enrolled in the school.

At first, Akirion and Thaneiros studied the school, searching for dangers. With a question like, 'what if it's a trap to organize all magic users and finish them at once. But they saw the safety of the school after their brains were leaking the good information as those brains were full after all the research.

Present day.

A female voice echoed behind Akirion when he was on his way to school.

"Hey Akie, wait up."

"{Ohh great, sup with her? Calling me Akie, only my family members are allowed to call me that.}" Akirion silently said and she ran to Akirion who pretended as if he didn't hear anything.

She caught up to Akirion, panting, after having a struggle to catch up with him.

"Why didn't you wait for me?"

"Didn't hear you, and greetings."

"Good morning Akirion."

"Good morning, Elina, how are you?"

"I'm good, thank you for asking, it's rare for you to ask all that." Elina had a beautiful warm chuckle on her face and that caused Akirion to blush under his serious face.

"Mhh, really? Which means it's your lucky day."

"Mhh, yeah, I guess. By the way, why are you so cold, you are always serious, ever since you joined the school, I never caught a glimpse of your smile."

"Good for you, by the way, what are you always searching for on my face?"

"A smile of course ". Akirion gulped, hiding his emotions from everyone.

A younger girl ran in a flash behind the two and she stopped when she caught up on Akirion and Elina.

"Hey, Erlin". Akirion greeted Erlin.

"Hey love birds."

"I told you already that we aren't lov....(She then saw Akirion's face a bit reddish.) Wait, did I see you blush Akirion?"

"No"

"You did "

"No, your two buttons deceive you"

"If you say so."

"Hahaha, why do you call them buttons" Erlin curiously asked.

"Ahh, I guess her eyes are round like buttons."

"Hahaha, so funny, did you hear that sister, hahaha, my stomach hurts I can't stop..."

"Shut up Erlin, you are embarrassing me."

"Don't worry sis. By the way, why are you always with this guy? Ever since he enrolled, you've been with him?"

"Ahh let's hurry up we are going to be late".

Elina cut the story short and changed it to a school time story.

They arrived at school and dived into their time tabled subjects. The day flew by without any one paying attention until they heard the dismissal bell. They were surprised to hear about the bell, thought maybe they were dismissed early.

"Wait, is that a dismissal bell?" A student surprisedly asked.

"Sup, are we going home early today?" Erlin asked in astonishment.

They all dismissed in chats and laughter, the noise fading, leaving the school quite, with no one to utter a word and make noise.

Elina tagged along with Akirion as their homes were on the same side, Erlin was also next to them in order to go with her sister. The darkness rolled over and it was swallowed by the light at the beginning of the day. Akirion got ready for school, Thaneiros preparing for breakfast.

"So, how's is school?"

"Same as always Master, but there's this one, she always wants to interact with me, is that even necessary?"

"Of course, that's friendship, she wants to get rid of your loneliness as you are saying that she's the one interacting."

"But the schools opened half a year before the King was announced dead, and I took the whole 18 months without stepping foot there. After I did, she gave me a half a year of peace and then she started interacting with me, ignored her sometimes, but she never gave up and now, she's still doing the same.... not the same thing actually, she's worse. Now I've got no way of avoiding her."

"Good for you, you got a girlfriend so quickly? I'm amazed, which means you are really handsome!"

"Huh, what do you mean girlfriend? She's not even my friend."

"Okay, I heard you, maybe she wants to be your girlfriend, you know, lovers."

"What?" Akirion's face turned red as he heard about lovers, he started thinking about somethings and that's when he shook his head to get rid of all the weird thoughts.

Thaneiros saw him shaking his head, that's when he asked;

"What's wrong my boy?"

"Nothing, really, only you, who've been saying all those weird stuffs."

"Me? Really? I didn't say anything wrong, I was only saying something normal, it always happened. If you went to a general school you could have known all these things better."

"Enough!" Akirion's voice echoed in Thaneiros' big house. "There's nothing normal there, even though I don't know it, I think it's ridiculous."

"Ohh, guess who's blushing, hahaha?"

" I'm not!"

"Okay, blushing boy." Thaneiros mischievously tease Akirion. Suddenly Akirion took his bag and ran out.

"I'm out, see you later master!" Akirion left the house and went to school. On his way, he met up with Elina.

"Ohh you are early today?"

"{Wow, he's open today, let me go with the flow. } Yes, just to keep my punctuality. And you are also early just like everyday."

"Yeah, just the same always me."

"{Lier, today you changed.} Oh, how are you today?"

"Same as always, how are you."

"Today I'm superb, I mean that I'm super happy?"

"Why is that?"

"Don't you remember the competitions?"

"What competitions?"

"Huh?" Elina got super surprised.

"Ohh those, I'm not joining those".

"What do you mean you are not joining?"

"{How am I supposed to tell her that I'll be leaving my master's house anytime soon?} Ahh, I'm not that strong, and I'll make my team lose if they choose me and the good part is, we are going to do a qualification test today and I'm sure I'll lose."

"What's good about that? You should join, you'll enjoy it."

"No, I'm powerless."

"Don't look your self down, you are powerful, maybe more than us." Akirion gasped.

"No I'm not."

"Hey there love birds, wait for me."

They stopped and waited for Erlin.

"{Sup with Akirion today, is he happy, wow look at that smile, it's my first time seeing that. He's smiling at Erlin?}"

"Good morning Akie."

"Morning, Erlin."

"Hey Erlin, what did I tell you about the love birds thing?!"

"Sorry sister."