

The Crafts 302

Chapter 302: A Mission Can Never Go Smoothly

"My lord, it would take us thirty minutes to get to the location." A middle-aged man bowed towards a young man before him. The young man had stunning facial looks, and a white shoulder-length curly hair that gave him an almost ethereal look. Even on Erete filled with so many good-looking people, very few could actually match up to him. He had an imposing bearing formulated from the dignified aura that radiated from his body. Even a blind man could tell that the young man was from a prestigious background just by the sound of his composed footsteps. "Noted. Stay on alert for any suspicious parties and prepare for a battle." The young man said with a calm yet serious look on his face. He was William Ernst, the eldest and only son of the vice city lord of Blue Springs City. As the eldest child and only son of the vice city lord of Blue Springs City, William managed to skip a selection trial which other descendants partook in and became the legatee of his father. This meant that from a young age, he already received all the most valuable training and resources his family could provide him. He was also with great talent, and together with the resources and training he received, it became easy for William to grow stronger ahead of his peers. At an age when others struggled to get into the third or fourth level of the Apertures Opening stage, William was already at the fifth. However, his personal strength was just one factor that made William a capable individual. The others were his connections and personal hands. It was thanks to one of them that William discovered the formation of the Heart of Silver. 'Whatever is forming there, we need to get it' William thought as his eyes turned cold. Just like the mysterious group and Lucas, William Ernst—the son of Blue Springs City's vice city lord— had discovered the formation of the Heart of Silver a while ago. However, unlike the mysterious group, he didn't figure out the truth that long, only finding out roughly a week ago. Hence, it was impossible for him to have locked down the region right away. In truth, the Heart of Silver only began to show off signs of formation around two weeks ago. It was during that same time that its energy signatures could barely be sensed if one happened to be just close enough. The mysterious group had been tracking the flow of Erete's world source for a long while and they just happened to have stumbled upon a clue that led them to the lode which they named, 92B-Delta lode. Lucas had the system, whose sensory range and abilities were without comparison. As such, these two sides managed to discover the Heart of Silver right as soon as it began coming to shape. On the other hand, William was just lucky enough to have one of his men stumble upon the position and sense something extraordinary taking place. What's more, the man was lucky enough to do so when the scout from the mysterious group that was on guard at the lode, had taken a potty break. He wasn't too sure about the situation and had returned to William to report about it. Following that, William sent him back with a few helpers in tow. The second time the man came over to confirm the situation with the new helping hands, they were spotted by the scout on duty. A fierce fight broke out as the scout had been ordered to silence anyone who noticed the abnormality. Of the four aides the man brought with him, two of them had died, one was injured, while the scout barely escaped with his life on the line. After that battle, the two sides became aware of each other but didn't know their identity. However, it was easier for the mysterious group as they were in the dark, while William's team could be somewhat termed as being in the light. Due to various factors and reasons, William couldn't mobilise his forces to seize control of the site especially since it would

alarm his father's rivals and his as well. So all he could do was wait until the day the creation of the Heart of Silver was completed. He would then compete for it with the mysterious organisation. This was deduced by one of the men he sent who happened to be an expert when it came to the study of energy and matter. According to the expert, today was the d-day. In order not to miss out on anything, William led his men into the Millennia Mountains with one goal; to destroy the other side and take whatever it was that started this all. . . . Twenty minutes of flight went by without Lucas clashing with any avian desolate beasts. It wasn't that he had not encountered them, but the Terino Grand Ghost's stealth mode was very effective in dodging most. As for the few desolate beasts that spotted him, depending on the situation, they were either rapidly taken down by the shuttle's attacks or Lucas had escaped from them using its superior speed advantage. After the somewhat uneventful twenty minute ride, the directional guide suddenly disappeared. Lucas took control over the shuttle from the AI as he realised that he was within one hundred kilometres away from his destination. He flew on slowly for fifty more kilometres before landing the shuttle in a hidden cave atop one of the mountains. The shuttle could not be stored in his inventory, so Lucas' only option was to park it somewhere safe. As for why Lucas didn't get closer to the one hundred kilometres mark, it had to do with the second limit of the directional guide [1] and also, his suspicion that there might be another party aware of the Heart of Silver. If Lucas were to go on flying with the shuttle, not only might he not find the location of the Heart of Silver, but he could potentially alert the possibly existing other side. Even though there was no evidence or clue to suggest that someone else knew of the Heart of Silver, Lucas' experience with the system's missions was more than enough for him to know that the mission could never be rosy. 'The directional guide's last hint was moving forward. That's westward in the south. There are not many possible locations for the Heart of Silver to be found in. But then again, this map isn't so detailed and the information on it is limited.' Lucas perused the map while the shuttle flew towards the target mountain. A slight frown was on his face as he realised that this mission would be more stressful than expected. But then again, the rewards were quite worth it. Even though the system was somewhat stingy with the mission rewards, just having the Heart of Silver alone was marvellous return. Just as Lucas thought of this, the shuttle suddenly rocked aggressively. It was almost as if an earthquake had occurred, but this was illogical as the Terino Grand Ghost flew in midair. "What's the problem?" Lucas hurriedly asked as he changed the display to show the outside. "We're being attacked by a Rotter-Bear." The artificial intelligence replied. "I knew things could never go smoothly for long."