

MY SLAYER SYSTEM: RISE TO SUPREMACY

Chapter 11: A New way to level up

It was a new day and Jake as usual decided to wake up early so as to complete his daily quest.

Jake went to the gym for the push ups and other physical exercise. After some time, Jake went for his 10km run. When Jake was done, he heard the ding from the system indicating he was done with the quest for today.

"System, pull up my stats." Jake said to the system.

<User: Jake Lucas>

<Level: 1>

<Combat level: Novice>

<Skill level: Untrained>

<XP level: 20/100>

<HP: 15/15>

<Strength: 20>

<Agility:15>

<Endurance: 25>

Jake sighed in frustration. "Darn it! It's gonna take 10 days before I level up. If it takes 10 days to get to the next level, then how long will it take for me to get stronger." Jake complained in annoyance.

"I understand your frustrations, but you have to understand that gaining strength is not instant. It takes time." Zee said trying to comfort Jake.

"But it's still taking a hell lot of time. How am I supposed to get my revenge on the werewolves if it takes me so long to level up." Jake complained again.

"Just calm down, don't worry a way will be provided for you to level up faster don't worry." Zee said comforting Jake.

Jake sighed and sucked up his complaints and went to his dorm to take his bath. After a few hours, the whole room were all ready for their homeroom class after taking their breakfast.

All of them apart from Jake were all excited for their homeroom class when Kate noticed how sad Jake was, she decided to approach him.

"Hey, what's up, why do you look all sad?" Kate asked getting close to Jake so they could walk together.

"It's nothing." Jake said trying to move away from Kate.

"Common, you can't hide anything from me. I can see it in your eyes. Besides aren't we family? And families doesn't hide anything from one another." Kate said smiling.

Jake sighed and decided to tell her what was bothering him. "I'm sad because of how weak I am. If I'm this weak, how am I supposed to get my revenge on the werewolves."

"I understand but you don't have to push yourself that hard. If you want to become stronger then it takes time, it isn't an instant something." Kate said.

"This girl is quite wise and beautiful. She said the exact same thing I said. You know, it's good you surrounded yourself with sensible people, at least they could drill some sense into you." Zee mockingly said.

"Will you shut up." Jake angrily said out loud forgetting that Kate was beside him.

"Am sorry if I said something wrong to upset you." Kate said trying to walk away.

Jake quickly grabbed her hand to stop her. "No am sorry, I wasn't talking to you. I was.. there's this memory and sound that keeps resurfacing in my mind so I was trying to shut it off and I mistakenly shouted out loud."

"Are you sure? Because it felt like it was me you were referring to." Kate asked trying to wriggle her arm free from Jake.

"No, it wasn't you." Jake affirmed looking right into Kate's eyes.

"She's quite beautiful." Jake thought.

"What did I tell you. I think she will make a great wife for you." Zee said.

Jake had forgotten that there was an AI in his system listening to his every thought.

"Will you two stop getting all lovey dovey like that and move so we could quickly go for the homeroom class otherwise we will be late." Sophia said.

"No we are not in love or anything." Kate quickly replied yanking her hand from Jake's and blushing.

With that, they made their way to the homeroom class.

In the homeroom class, Thompson kept talking about the current world structure and all other stuff that Jake wasn't interested in. After what felt like an eternity,

the class finally ended and they were to head for the training grounds for their physical training.

The whole students did their physical training, and this time Jake was slowly catching up with those in front.

After the physical training, they were finally allowed to spar. Jake paired up with Vynn again and they started sparring. After some minutes of not defeating Vynn, Jake decided to get some rest while drinking water.

But Jake was so annoyed by the fact that he couldn't even defeat Vynn that he threw his bottle and it mistakenly hit a guy that was talking with his friends while resting after the spar.

"Hey! why did you throw a bottle at me. Are you blind or what?" The boy said coming over towards Jake.

" I'm so sorry for throwing the bottle. I didn't do it intentionally, can you please forgive me." Jake apologized.

"Forgive you? Why should I? You threw a bottle at me and now you are here apologizing." The student whose name was Blade said.

"What's your problem? I already apologized so why are you now trying to create a scene." Jake angrily said.

"Oh! Am the one creating a scene now? Fine then no problem." Blade said.

And then Blade walked towards Jake and gave him a strong punch that landed on his face throwing Jake to the ground.

Jake quickly stood up with anger all written on his face.

"How dare you!" Jake said running towards to Blade to get his payback.

But before he could do anything, Sergeant Lee came to interrupt.

"If you wanna fight then do it officially through a ranked battle." Lee said.

"Fine. Let's battle officially." Blade said sending an official request from his watch to Jake's.

When Jake saw the request, his eyes widened.

"How the heck am I supposed to do battle with someone who is currently ranked 180? When I can't even defeat someone who is in rank 199." Jake worriedly thought.

But just when Jake wanted to back down from the challenge, that was when he heard a ding in his head.

<A strong challenger has appeared>

<Defeat the opponent for an instant level-up reward and a free stat point.>

Chapter 12: Ranked Battle

After Jake saw the system notification, His blood started to rush through his body with excitement, he was going to give it his all in this fight.

They made their way to the center of the field, with all the students surrounding them from all angle making a sort of ring. Sergeant Lee was there to oversee the ranked battle so there won't be any casualty.

"So listen both of you to the rules. The rules are; No strikes to any place fatal, you are only allowed to use the wooden equipment of your choice provided to you. And finally, a person can only be declared a winner when they knock out their

opponent or their opponent give up and surrender." "Do you understand?" Lee asked.

"Yes." They both answer at once glaring at each other.

"Do you think Jake has a chance at winning?" Vynn asked Peter and the rest who were grouped at the front watching Jake's match.

"I don't really know. Jake is just ranked 200 while his opponent is ranked 180." Jack honestly answered.

Peter laughed at the others. "Do you think Jake is easy to beat? Especially when he is determined about something."

"Don't be silly. We all know that the odds of Jake winning that fight is very slim." Sophia said.

"You are the ones counting Jake out but am not. I'm sure he's going to surprise all of you." Peter said now focusing on the match that was about to commence now.

Sergeant Lee stayed in between Jake and Blade and then looked to both of them.

"Are you both ready?" Lee asked.

"Yes." They both reply while not taking their eyes off each other.

"Shit shit shit! What have I gotten myself into? How am I going to defeat someone ranked 180?" Jake thought annoyed at himself.

Just then, Lee raised his hand down and quickly swung it down signalling the start of the fight.

Immediately Lee swung his hand down, Blade didn't waste any time charging forward towards Jake with full speed.

When Blade got to Jake's position, he swung his wooden blade diagonally towards Jake stomach. The speed was unexpected for Jake and he was struck in his stomach making him curl downwards from the pain.

Then Blade used the butt of the blade to hit Jake on his head with all his strength, making Jake's face to hit the ground with much force that it broke his nose.

Blade decided to give Jake a breathing space so he could recover a little and then torture Jake over and over, that was the plan.

Jake managed to stand up with his hands on his knees while he was panting hard. And then Jake lifted his head up and on his face was a smile plastered across it.

"I just got the answer to beating you here." Jake said standing up still smiling.
"And that is to use everything I got and also to imagine your face as the one thing I really hate."

Jake shouted while running towards Blade with all his speed. Blade didn't even have an ounce of worry because he knew that there was nothing Jake could do to him.

When Jake was charging towards Blade, he quickly cast one of his skill. <Inspect skill>

And it brought some of Blade's information.

<Opponent>

<Name: Blade Jax>

<HP:15/15>

<Strength: 30>

<Speed: 25>

Seeing this, Jake left the inspect skill active for what he was about to do next. Quickly selecting another skill, Jake was finally ready.

<Melee combat>

Jake ran faster and slashed with his wooden sword but Blade avoided it. Quickly changing plan, Jake withdrew the sword quickly and used the butt of his sword to hit Blade across his face thereby causing Blade to stagger back.

Glancing towards Blade's HP, Jake smiled for the skill worked wonders.

Blade's HP was displaying. <HP:10> therefore, the skill <Melee combat worked causing 5% damage on Blade.>

Quickly not letting Blade rest, Jake used all his strength to hit Blade on his leg toppling Blade down and then he used the sword to strike Blade's head but Blade quickly avoided the weapon by rolling over and then he quickly got up.

Taking a stance, Blade smiled. "You are quite good but too bad you are going against me." Blade said while running towards Jake again and then instead of his weapon, Blade swung his leg towards Jake's head that landed squarely on Jake's head causing him to crash down.

"Have you given up yet?" Blade asked smiling to which Jake struggled to stand up and face Blade.

"I made a mistake." Jake said. "I was weak then and am still weak now but it doesn't matter for I'm going to defeat you no matter what."

Glancing at his HP, Jake could see that he only had one shot at this. Realizing this, Jake took a fighting stance and waited for Blade to come to him instead. Blade not minding this, arrogantly ran towards Jake who still remained unmoving.

After reaching a foot away from Jake, he decided to swing his leg again since it was the part of the body that has a longer reach. While Blade swung his, Jake still didn't move waiting for the leg to get closer to his face and when it did, Jake used all the strength in his hand to stop and hold the leg in the air.

And then Jake used the wooden sword to hit Blade's leg repeatedly in quick succession. And then Jake released the leg and quickly moved behind Blade who was struggling to stand on one leg after what Jake did to him.

When Jake got behind Blade, he mustered all the strength in his body to smack Blade's head with the wooden sword thereby rendering Blade unconscious.

Immediately Blade fell unconscious, their watches made a ding and the ranking system was changed with Jake in rank 180 while Blade's was in rank 181.

Meanwhile the whole crowd were silent unsure how to react because what they were seeing was unbelievable. For the lowest rank to beat someone several ranks above them.

The people most shocked were Jake's friends, they couldn't believe that Jake managed to win the fight. Well except Peter that was, he was the only one who had faith in Jake. After some time, the whole crowd finally came to and applauded Jake for his victory.

Meanwhile, after Jake defeated Blade, he heard a ding in his head but before he could read it, he swayed a bit and was about to fall down but sergeant Lee already anticipating this, quickly came and caught him before he could hit the ground.

Sergeant Lee quickly dismissed the whole class for the day, while taking Jake and Blade to the academy's clinic meanwhile Jake's friends begged Lee to allow them to accompany Jake to the clinic as they were worried for him.

Initially, Lee refused to take them, but after some back and forth, Lee finally accepted to allow them accompany him there.

Chapter 13: A New Quest

When Jake opened his eyes once again, he was met with a scene that was now somewhat familiar to him. The white ceiling, the smell of chemicals was a dead give away. He was once again lying in a hospital bed and so soon at that.

While opening his eyes, his eyes met with that of someone he was familiar with. It was nurse Hayley, checking on him.

"Oh boy, it looks like you like the clinic a lot. This is the second time you are being admitted here in a week." Hayley jokingly said.

"Is everything okay with me?" Jake asked sitting up.

"Yes. Your vitals are normal, everything is ok, you are going to be discharged today after you get some rest." Hayley said.

"Why was I even brought here?" Jake asked then he finally started remembering the events of the duel.

"I was told you fell unconscious after your duel. Apparently it was because of fatigue and bleeding." Hayley answered while going back to her seat to complete the formalities of discharging Jake.

After Hayley left, Jake finally remembered that the system had given him a quest to defeat Blade.

"System! Pull the last notifications I received." Jake said.

<Congratulations! You have completed your quest>

<Rewards: instant level-up; one free stat point to allocate anywhere you want to>

<Congratulations! you are now level 2>

<Rewards for leveling-up: 50XP; One free stats in all attributes.>

"Zee, what's a stat point?" Jake asked.

"A stat point is a point you can allocate to any of your attributes like: Strength and all that." Zee answered.

"Ohh ok. I understand now. But where do I allocate this free point to now." Jake thought.

In order to decide, Jake decided to pull up his status screen.

<Status>

<User: Jake Lucas>

<Level: 2>

<Combat level: Novice>

<Skill level: Untrained>

<XP level: 70/100>

<HP: 20/20>

<Strength: 21>

<Agility:16>

<Endurance: 26>

<Free stat point: 1>

"Wow! This is awesome. I have being given lots of rewards just for completing one quest." Jake exclaimed excitedly. "I think for now, I will keep that free stat point till when I really need it because I'm unable to decide where to allocate it now."

Then Jake's mind wandered towards the duel.

Jake sighed. "I can't believe I actually won that duel. I'm still confused how that happened. But it was very difficult. If ranked 180 could give me such a tough fight then think about the double digits ranks."

Just as Jake finished his thoughts, his roommates entered to check up on him.

"Hey, my man. How are you doing?" Peter asked coming over.

"I'm feeling better now. Thanks." Jake said.

"For real, you were awesome out there. I couldn't believe my eyes, you actually defeated someone who was ranked 180." Vynn said with stars in his eyes.

"I guess you are not as weak as I thought." Sophia said coldly.

"Too bad, because of your win, I have gone from rank 199 to 200." Vynn said sadly while looking at his watch.

"Am sorry. I didn't intend to fight. But don't worry, am sure soon you will be able to rank up and the we could all get to the top ten together." Jake said trying to cheer Vynn up.

"Yeah, I hope so. Anyway can we take you back to the dorms now?" Vynn asked.

"Yes. You can take him now, he's all better so no need to keep him in the clinic anymore." Hayley answered coming over to their side.

After that, they all left the clinic together while chatting happily and with Peter also bragging about not losing faith in Jake.

While they were going, they saw Blade who in turn glared at Jake.

"You think you have won this right? I know that your win was just pure luck and am gonna make sure you pay dearly for making me go down a rank." Blade said while standing in front of Jake's face.

"Hey! Cool it man. Do not start a fight that you can't win right now." Peter said showing his watch to Blade that was displaying the level 7.5 and rank 2.

To which Blade backed off and looked Jake in the eyes while leaving him with one word.

"Watch your back, Jake. I know you are not strong enough to protect yourself and your friends won't always have your back." Blade said walking off.

"He's right you know." Zee said. "You need to get stronger so you don't have to worry about people like him."

"Yeah I know, stop reminding me that am weak." Jake said annoyed.

Just as Jake finished saying the word, he heard a ding in his head then he opened up the system to which he saw a message.

<User has wished to become stronger.>

<New quest: Reach level 3 to unlock a new skill.>

"Woah! this is amazing." Jake exclaimed excitedly in his mind. "Level 3 huh? It's just three days away."

After that, All the friends went to their dorm to relax before they will go to Combat training and Jake was required to come after he was discharged.

When it was time for combat training, they all went to the training grounds for the class. They did their normal physical exercise and sparring with each other.

And this time there were no issues, everyone sparred with each other. Jake sparred with the person ranked 179 but he couldn't win the fight because the person was more skilled than Blade.

After a long day of training, everyone retired to their dorms to get some rest.

Chapter 14: A New Technique

A week had passed since Jake's duel with Blade. He had spent most of the week training intensively. The outcome, He finally leveled up to level 3, unlocking a new skill

<Frenzy Strike: a skill that dealt rapid consecutive attacks for 2 seconds, with a cool down timer of 5 minutes.>

With his new skill, Jake felt a surge of confidence. He imagined himself taking down opponents with swift, precise attacks. However, he knew mastering Frenzy Strike's timing and control was very important. During training, Jake's lack of skill often got the better of him, wasting the opportunity therefore rendering the skill useless.

As the week drew to a close, Jake felt a sense of accomplishment wash over him. He had leveled up, unlocked a new skill, and gained valuable experience. But what he eagerly anticipated was the first-ever combat training session with Sergeant Lee, a renowned expert in hand-to-hand combat.

Finally it was the day for the Combat class but they have to attend their usual morning homeroom class. After getting their breakfast, they made their way to the homeroom class.

While in the class, Thompson decided to teach more about the current world. And it happens that Jake found the class quite interesting.

"So we all know that the world is under attack of werewolves. So today I'm going to be teaching you about the werewolves strengths, weakness and how to defeat them." Thompson said to which Jake sat up to listen properly.

"So first up, we have to know their strengths. Werewolves are physically stronger than us, they have enhanced speed, strength and even Sense of smell. They grow stronger by eating strong opponents, the more they eat, the more they grow stronger and there's no limit to that."

"This is quite interesting. I need to know more about my enemies in order to defeat them." Jake thought.

"So unto the weakness, they basically have only one weakness and that is an injury to their heart. Once you stab them in their heart, they will be defeated. But

it's not going to be easy, because their hides are tough and thick to penetrate. Only someone with a huge number of strength can deal damage to their heart." Thompson explained.

"But if their hides are thick to penetrate, how are we supposed to kill them?" A student asked.

"Good question. It's quite simple actually. That's where beast crystals come in. Crystals that are fished out of the body of a beast." Thompson explained.

"What are beasts or beast crystals?" Vynn asked.

"Well it's not your fault you don't know about it because they are not found on this planet, beasts are found on another planet. So the crystals are what power up the beast, without it, they will lose their lives. So crafting equipment from the beast crystals, can help in penetrating the hide of the werewolves." Thompson explained.

After some more teaching, the class finally ended and Jake received more knowledge about the werewolves and he was one step closer to achieving his goals of defeating the werewolves.

After a few minutes of rest, Jake made his way to the training grounds with Vynn and Peter. On the way going, they were excitedly talking about the Combat class they were going to attend.

"Man, I'm so excited about the class. Finally after so much drill and physical training, we can finally move on to the next phase which is actual fighting techniques." Vynn excitedly said.

"Yeah. I'm so happy too. Maybe after this, I might be able to finally rank up higher." Jake added.

After a few minutes of walking, they finally got to the training grounds and sergeant Lee was already waiting for them there.

When the class was filled up, Lee started the class.

"Welcome to today's class. Today I will teach you a basic form of martial art and you are expected to practice it till next week or till you get it perfectly right." Lee said looking at them to see if there was going to be a protest.

"Great. Let's start the class now. So you need to pay attention because I'm only going to be showing you the skill twice so watch me carefully. This technique is called 'The Triple Threat'. It's a simple, effective technique that combines three quick movements to create an opening for attack."

Lee stood in front of the class to demonstrate the technique. Firstly, Lee stepped back and then he made a quick pivot turn and struck forward.

"Now, that was a demonstration without an opponent. Let me show you how the attack looks like with an opponent." Lee said while scanning for a student with a good build that could take a little bit of pain.

After scanning, Lee picked Jack for the demonstration.

"Okay stand here in front of me. And the rest of you, pay attention to see how the skill looks like when you're in front of an opponent." Lee said while facing Jack for the demonstration.

Lee then stepped back to create a distance between him and Jack, that was the first step. Then he made the pivot turn(quickly to the side). Then he made a forward strike.(swiftly strikes Jack).

Jack was unable to quickly react to the strike and he was about to be hit but Lee quickly stopped himself before he hurt him.

"Now, you see how it looks like, let me show you in slow motion and then you will repeat it Yourselves." Lee said staring at the wide mouthed students who were in awe of the skill Lee just displayed.

Lee demonstrated in slow motion. First step; create distance by stepping back.

Second step; Then the Pivot turn(quickly move to the side)

While the last step was to do the Forward strike which is to swiftly strike the opponent.

The students all tried to imitate or replicate the skill but some were unable to do it because of the complexity. Some of them even stumbled down.

"Don't worry, I didn't expect you guys to ge..." Lee stuttered because he was dumfounded by a student who managed to get the skill on their first try and it was so perfect and flawless.

"Briliant! So perfect. Young man, what's your name?" Lee asked coming over to the student.

"My name is Vynn muscat." Vynn answered.

"Vynn, you are quite talented to get that right on the very first day. I must say, I'm impressed." Lee commented while heading back to the front of the stage.

Some boys noticed that Vynn was being praised very much instead of them that Lee always praise. So they decided to come up with something to fix that.

"Alright. Listen up." Lee said clapping his hands. "Today's class has come to an end. So through out the week, we will practice the skill together till you get it right. And you can also practice it by yourself in your free time."

Then Lee dismissed the class and everyone went back to their dorms.

Chapter 15: The Mysterious Stranger

In a distant land, a portal swirled open, and a young man with an athletic build stepped out, his eyes scanning the desolate landscape. The portal closed behind him, and he looked up at the thick, grey haze that filled the air, heavy with the smell of ash.

As he walked through the ruins of a town, he noticed the devastation left by the werewolves. "This place is a mess," he muttered to himself. "I need to find the person with the orb, but all I have is a vague description."

He thought back to the words of an unknown informant, trying to recall any details that might lead him to his search. Suddenly, an information came to mind:

"The kid was wearing a uniform." That meant the person he sought was likely attending an academy, not a regular school. Since regular schools were closed because of the war going on.

The stranger approached a passerby and asked, "Excuse me, sir. Is there an academy nearby?"

The man replied, "Yes, there's Aurora Academy. It's a training ground for youngsters to fight against werewolves."

The stranger's eyes narrowed. "Can you tell me how to get there?"

The passerby provided detailed directions informing the stranger that the journey would take at least two days. As the stranger turned to leave, the man stopped him. "Who are you, and why do you want to find the academy?"

The stranger adjusted his hat, his expression unreadable. "I'm no one of relevance. I just needed directions. Thank you for your help."

With that, he set off towards Aurora Academy, his thoughts fixed on his target. "Whoever you are, kid with the orb, I'm coming for you."

Meanwhile in the academy, Jake just woke early as usual and decided to do his morning exercise. He went to the gym as usual and started his exercise. After an hour of exercising, Jake was done with his exercise for the day and he was currently resting so he decided to pull up his status screen.

<Status>

<User: Jake Lucas>

<Level: 4>

<Combat level: Novice>

<Skill level: Untrained>

<XP level: 10/200>

<HP: 20/20>

<Strength: 22>

<Agility:17>

<Endurance: 26>

<Free stat point: 1>

Jake had already level-up the previous day, therefore bringing him to level 4. Each time he level-up, the number of XP he will need to garner will increase. And he still had the free stat point he was given from wining his duel with Blade because he hadn't decided what to put it into.

After checking his status, he decided to check his skill tab.

<Skill Tab>

<Melee combat: Level 1 (Deals 10 damage with basic weapons therefore removing 10% HP from enemy)

<Stealth: Level 1; Increases evasion chances by 10%>

<Inspect Skill: Level 1; Brings up information of an enemy>

<Frenzy Strike: a skill that deals rapid consecutive attacks for 2 seconds, with a cool down timer of 5 minutes.>

These are the skills Jake currently had, while the rest were locked or greyed out.

Jake sighed and stood up. "This is really taking too much time. How on earth am i supposed to get stronger quickly?"

"Just be patient. You will grow stronger soon. It's just a matter of time." Zee said.

Jake decided to go to his dorm to practice but before he left, he decided to test a theory. He went to the drum like machine and readied himself. Then he punched the drum like thing with all his might and it rang out loudly and it shuffled rapidly before stopping on a particular number.

<22>

"Just as I thought, that means the system and the drum record the same number." Before he left, he decided to try something else. Jake readied himself and tried 'The Triple Threat' skill again for thirty minutes but he couldn't get it right. He just left the gym for his dorm.

After they all took their bath, they decided to go grab breakfast together again after all it had been long they did it together.

While they were going, some male second years decided to stop them by obstructing their way.

"Is there any problem?" Peter asked rather irritated.

"No. There isn't. We just wanted to speak with the student named Vynn." One of the second year replied.

"What do you want with him?" Jack asked while furrowing his eyebrows.

"You don't need to know. Vynn are you coming or not?" Another second year asked.

"Guys. It's okay, no need to worry." Vynn said about to walk off but Jake quickly grabbed his hand.

"Are you sure everything is okay?" Jake asked still holding onto Vynn's hand.

"You know you can tell us, like you said, we are family now."

"Guy's I'm fine. Don't worry. You can go get breakfast, I will join you for the homeroom class." Vynn said wriggling her hand from Jake's and heading off with the second years.

"I can't help but be worried for him." Sophia said. "You know what, you guys can go ahead. I will join you later." Sophia said heading off towards their dorm room before anybody could stop her.

"What is up with all the some of our roommates dorm today?" Peter asked looking at the rest expecting an answer.

To which they just shrugged and headed to the dining hall for their breakfast. Meanwhile Vynn and the second years were seen pulling up in an alley way in the middle of the first year and second year building.

"Have you done what we asked you to do?" One of the male asked.

"No I haven't and I don't want to either." Vynn answered.

"What! What did you say?" The male asked now moving towards Vynn while grabbing his neck. "Can you repeat what you just said again?"

"I said I'm not going to do what you asked me to do anymore." Vynn replied while trying to catch his breath. "I cannot and will never betray my friends ever." Vynn said staring right into the male's eyes.

"Fine. I will just have to teach you a lesson until you succumb." The male said letting Vynn's neck go and then quickly kneeing him in the stomach so hard that it knocked out the wind from Vynn's mouth.

Vynn started coughing rapidly trying to catch his breath. Then the second year grabbed Vynn's hair and pulled him up and then he punched him thrice in the face thereby breaking his nose.

After a few minutes, they let him go with a warning. "Don't you dare betray us and do as we say." Then they all leave Vynn who was coughing on the floor.

After a few minutes, Vynn managed to get to the clinic to get his self treated. Meanwhile Sophia went back to her room and pulled out a secret bag and then she unlocked it and pulled out a few equipment.

One of them looking like a burner phone, then she dialed a few digits on it and after, it rang a few times, then she heard a voice on the other side say.

"Yes, Sophia. Do you have a report to make, an information you want to share or do you want to speak with your family?" The voice asked.

"Not really. I just wanted to inquire about something." Sophia said.

"And what is that?" The voice asked again.

"Do you know any big family that goes by the name of Dem?" Sophia asked.

"Hold on, give me a few minutes." The voice replied. And then Sophia heard a few mumblings on the call, a few flips and clicks that she could only guess where books and a keyboard being operated by the person on the other side of the call.

After a few minutes, the voice finally found something of relevance.

"Sophia are you there?" The voice asked.

"Yes, I am. Any information?" Sophia asked.

"As a matter of fact, there is." The voice replied. "The Dem family, are a family of influence and own one of the big factions of the world. Oh, there's one more thing, they have a very deep dark secret that have to do with the current world but am unable to access the files so I'm sorry."

"I knew that name sounded familiar, our families are rivals in a kind of good way." Sophia muttered. "But why did Jack not mention he was part of the big three?"

Chapter 16: A Truly powerful Technique

After breakfast, the whole friends went to their homeroom class. On the way there, Vynn and Sophia met up with the rest of the room on the way to the homeroom class. After the class, they went to their combat class.

When they got to combat class, they all did their physical training which was mandatory everyday and then they practiced 'The Triple Threat' skill over and over again. After some time, they rested before they decided to spar with each other. That was when Kate came over to Jake to spar with him.

"Hey, do you mind if we sparred?" Kate asked coming over.

"Sure. Why not." Jake answered.

They started sparring with each other slow and steady.

"So didn't you notice how weirdly Sophia and Vynn behaved today" Kate said.

"I think everyone noticed that. What do you think it might be?" Jake asked.

"I'm not really sure about that. And they don't want to open up to us." Kate said sighing.

After that, they continued sparring with each other that was when Kate decided to ask something.

"So what do you think about Sophia?" Kate asked.

"I think she's okay but a little cold. Why?" Jake asked.

"Oh, nothing. I was just asking." Kate answered. "I don't think he has any feelings for Sophia." Kate thought.

"So you said your dad owns a dojo right?" Jake asked.

"Yes, the dojo is not that popular but he has a few number of students." Kate answered.

"Do you know any martial arts move that you could, you know, teach me or something. I would love to learn martial arts." Jake said.

"Sure. But first you need to learn 'The Triple Threat' skill first before I teach you anything. Kate answered.

"Why?" Jake asked raising an eyebrow.

"Because martial arts is all about timing, skill and patience. In order to learn martial arts, you have to learn how to get timing right. And that is what this triple threat skill is about." Kate explained.

"I have heard you." Jake said.

After thirty minutes of sparring, they were all dismissed for the day but before they left, Lee had one more thing to say.

"Starting from next week, you will all have to pick a weapons class that you love. Because not all of you can use swords properly. So I will advice you quickly decide the class you will love to attend." Lee said now dismissing the students.

The students all went to their dorms. When they got to their dorms, they didn't know what to do to spend the rest of their afternoon. So Jake decided to head off to the gym to see if he could perfect 'The Triple Threat' technique. Meanwhile Vynn left the room for somewhere unknown.

Vynn walked for sometime while looking left and right to see if he was being followed by anyone. After some time, Vynn finally got to where he was going to. He was on his way to the second year building. After some time, a few second years stopped Vynn and they turned into an alleyway.

"So what have you decided?" A second year asked.

"My answer is still no." Vynn answered. "Just because my friend bumped into you and you wanna use me to exact revenge on him. I can't and I will not."

The second year sighed. "I was hoping we won't need to do it the hard way. But you have forced my hand."

The three second year started beating of Vynn terribly. With each hit, it felt like Vynn was going to die any second now. They kept on hitting him until Vynn couldn't talk again.

"We will keep on doing this until you agree to do what we asked." The second year said.

They all left Vynn In the alleyway. Vynn was so bruised that he couldn't walk for some time. Even breathing felt torturous to him. After some time, he managed to steel himself and went to the academy clinic to get treated.

At the same time, Jake just got to the gym and straight away started practicing 'The Triple Threat' technique for an hour straight until he finally managed to get it right.

"Yes yes yes." Jake excitedly jumped up and down. "I finally managed to learn the skill."

Jake performed the skill five times to check if he could perform the skill again. After the fifth time, Jake heard a ding in his head.

<Congratulations! User has learned a skill that is not related to the system.>

<Skill has been added to the skill tab of the system. Now user can click the skill on the system to automatically perform the skill without straining himself.>

"Woah! This is truly awesome! I didn't know that by just learning 'The Triple Threat' technique, it will automatically be added to my system. Did you have any idea about this?" Jake asked Zee.

"No, not really. I'm also surprised as you are now." Zee answered. "Maybe the system felt the need to reward you after seeing your dedication and frustration about getting stronger."

"Regardless, this is still cool." Jake said.

Jake decided to check his skill tab to see if the skill was truly added to his skill tab.

<Skill Tab>

<Melee combat: Level 1 (Deals 10 damage with basic weapons therefore removing 10% HP from enemy)

<Stealth: Level 1; Increases evasion chances by 10%>

<Inspect Skill: Level 1; Brings up information of an enemy>

<Frenzy Strike: a skill that deals rapid consecutive attacks for 2 seconds, with a cool down timer of 5 minutes.>

<The Triple Threat: A simple, effective technique that combines three quick movements to create an opening for attack.>

"Wow! It truly added the technique." Jake said. "Well that is great."

Jake was about to leave the gym when an idea struck him. He went towards the drum like thing and took a stance and used his system to activate 'The Triple Threat' technique and then when it was finally in the third stage, Jake quickly struck the drum with all his might.

He felt the drum's vibrations when his fist connected with it and the drum echoed out very loudly that he quickly used his hands to cover his ears. Then the drum rapidly shuffled until it stopped on a number. Jake's mouth was left hanging.

"How!? How Is this possible?" Jake thought. "Uhhh, Zee are you seeing what I'm seeing?"

"Yes. I- I'm also shocked by this." Zee replied.

Jake was surprised and shocked because currently the drum was displaying his strength as 35 instead of his previous 22.

Chapter 17: An official ranked Duel

"Woah, this technique is very awesome! Just by using it, my punch has become quite powerful." Jake said.

After some minutes, Jake decided to go to his dorm room. He got to the room, saw his friends and he decided to get some rest. After waking up from his nap, he saw that most of his friends were not in the room. It was only him and Peter in the room while the rest were nowhere to be found.

"Where's the rest of the gang?" Jake asked Peter who was just reading a book.

"I don't know. I think they are off doing their own thing." Peter answered.

"Peter, can I ask you a question?" Jake asked.

"Sure. Go on." Peter replied now looking up from his book to listen to Jake.

Jake's curiosity got the better of him. "Hey, Peter, can I ask you something?" he said. "What drives you to be so strong? You are not just fighting for yourself are you?"

Peter's expression turned solemn. "I'm fighting for my family. I want to avenge my parents' death, just like you are fighting for yours. And about strength, I don't really know. I only trained physically when I was in the orphanage."

Jake's eyes narrowed his mind consumed by doubt. "Do you really think it's possible for humanity to win this war?" he asked Peter.

Peter's expression turned resolute. "I do. With the academy and the Big three on our side, i believe we have a fighting chance. We just need to stay strong and united." Peter replied.

Jake sighed and then was about to lay back on his bed when Peter decided to ask his own question.

"Why were you asking all those questions?" Peter asked.

"Nothing, I was just curious." Jake replied and then the room door swung wide open with so much force it nearly broke off its hinges and then Jack could be seen coming in quickly.

"Woah, what is wrong? Do you wanna destroy the door?" Peter asked now standing up from his bed.

Jack tried to catch his breath and quickly replied. "It's Vynn. He's badly beaten up and he is in the school clinic."

"What!??" Jake and Peter asked while quickly getting out of bed and following Jack out of the room.

After a few minutes of running, they finally got to the clinic and they could see Kate and Sophia beside Vynn's bed.

Vynn didn't look to be in a good shape. His nose looked broken with his face all bruised up and worst of all, his hand was bandaged.

Looking at Vynn's body, Jake's body was shaking furiously and he was grinding his teeth back and forth with such anger that it felt like his teeth was going to break.

Through gritted teeth, Jake asked. "Who.. who did this to you?"

"It's Sebastian. He beat up Vynn because he was jealous of Vynn getting all of Lee's attention because of learning 'The Triple Threat' technique faster out of all of us." Sophia answered with her hands all trembling from holding her anger back.

This was the first time they saw Sophia react like this.

Peter's face reddened with anger. "How could Sebastian do this to Vynn without anyone stopping him?"

Kate's expression turned grim. "It was an official ranked battle, Peter. The military personnel couldn't intervene."

"He is gonna pay for this." Jake said.

"There is nothing you can do." Kate quickly said. "He is currently ranked number 20 and you are ranked 180. How do you want to do it."

"I don't care. Look at what he did to Vynn. Didn't you say we are family? Well I'm not going to allow someone or something take another family from me." Jake said storming off.

"Is he crazy? Does he think that just because he beat up Blade that he is going to be able to do anything to Sebastian?" Sophia asked furiously.

"Someone better go after him before he does something that he is going to regret." Kate said to which Peter and Jack were about going.

"No. You stay here with them. Let me go after Jake." Peter said already on his way out.

Meanwhile after storming out, Jake was on his way looking for Sebastian. But he didn't know how to find him. So he decided to ask around for Sebastian until he finally got his location.

"Are you sure of what you wanna do?" Zee asked. "You heard your roommates, the guy is currently ranked number 20 and you're number 180. How do you want to do this?"

"I don't know. I will think of something later, for now I need to take care of Sebastian." Jake replied and finally he got to Sebastian's location.

"I heard there was someone looking for me? Are you the one?" Sebastian a guy who stood 5ft tall with a bandana wrapped around his head and his hair dyed spikey brown.

"You are Sebastian right?" Jake asked.

"Yes. The one and only." Sebastian answered moving forward away from his friends.

"I want to challenge you to a ranked battle." Jake declared.

To which Sebastian laughed so hard that he almost fell down. "You wanna challenge me? Are you for real? Do you know my rank?" Sebastian asked showing his watch that was displaying the number 20.

"Yes I know you and your rank." Jake answered.

"And you still want to challenge me to a ranked battle? Are you nuts?" Sebastian asked.

"I'm perfectly alright but I think you are scared or something." Jake said smiling.

Sebastian laughed again and then replied. "Ohh, I know you now. You are friends with Vynn. So you wanna take revenge on me." Sebastian laughed again. "Forget it. I'm not interested since there's nothing in it for me." Sebastian said walking off.

"Wait!" Jake called out. "If you win, you will have all of my credits."

Credits were the world's currency and the academy provides 30 credits per day to the students and since Jake had nothing to do with credits, it just accumulated in his watch. Currently Jake had over 400 credits.

Sebastian stopped in his tracks and then looked at Jake. "Are you sure about that?"

Jake smiled because he knew that this might work. "Yes, I'm very sure." Jake replied.

"Fine. I agree but on one condition, I want the fight to be in front of everyone after combat training tomorrow so that people won't think I stole the credits off of you." Sebastian said.

"I agree." Jake said shaking Sebastian hand and that was when Peter arrived.

Sebastian left with his friends for somewhere else and then Peter looked at Jake annoyed.

"Are you nuts? You just challenged Sebastian who is ranked number 20 to a duel." Peter scolded. "Do you even realize what you have done?"

"Yes I do. And I don't regret it one bit." Jake said already walking off to his dorm.

Peter chased after Jake trying to convince him to back down but he didn't. Jake stood his ground of not backing down. After a few hours, news spread around the academy among the students of a duel between Jake and Sebastian.

This got the whole academy excited and after so many hours, it was finally the start of a new day. The day of Jake's duel with Sebastian.

Jake woke up as usual for his early morning exercises. And after the exercise, Jake decided to check his status. His current status after completing his exercise was.

<Status>

<User: Jake Lucas>

<Level: 4>

<Combat level: Novice>

<Skill level: Untrained>

<XP level: 30/200>

<HP: 20/20>

<Strength: 22>

<Agility:17>

<Endurance: 26>

<Free stat point: 1>

Jake sighed and was wondering if he could win this battle with his current strength.

"Whatever. I'm going to win this for Vynn no matter what." Jake said leaving the gym room to his dorm room.

After taking their breakfast without Vynn they all went for their homeroom class but the whole class where currently unfocused because of the duel that was going to take place today.

After long hours of lecture in the homeroom class, it was finally time for combat training. After the physical training, they all practiced 'The Triple Threat' technique over and over for some hours before Lee dismissed them and he also left.

But the students didn't leave because they were all waiting for the duel happening today. The students all formed a ring around Jake and Sebastian with Jake's roommate in front watching the fight that was going to take place.

And with that, the duel was underway.

Chapter 18: Who won

It was finally time for the duel between Jake and Sebastian and the whole crowd were excited to see how the duel will go.

The rules were simple; if you knockout your opponent or your opponent gives up or the watch pings, then you win.

With the rules set in place, it was finally time for the duel but Jake's friends couldn't help but worry.

Sophia's brow furrowed with concern. "Peter, do you think Jake has a chance against Sebastian?" To which Peter shook his head.

"Honestly, I don't know. Sebastian's skills are on a whole different level. But Jake's determination might just give him an edge." Peter said.

"I asked because you got the previous predictions right after all. That's why I asked." Sophia said now looking at the match.

"Honestly, I don't see any chance of Jake winning this fight. Sebastian is ranked number 20 for a reason." Peter added now also focusing on the fight that was about to take place.

"Let us just hope that somehow he is going to pull a miracle here." Kate added.

Before the duel started, a ding was heard in Jake's head.

<Ding! An incredibly strong opponent has appeared, defeat the opponent.>

<Rewards: ???>

"Huh!?!? Why is the rewards coming up with question marks?" Jake asked Zee.

"I don't know." Zee answered.

"How don't you know? Aren't you supposed to be the AI that help answer all my questions about the system?" Jake asked.

"Yes. But there are some things hidden from me also. So just focus on your duel." Zee said.

"The rewards better be worth it." Jake said getting ready for the fight.

And with that short conversation, the battle was underway. Sebastian didn't want to waste any time, he decided to finish the battle quickly by charging right at Jake who just quickly pivoted to the side avoiding Sebastian's strike by a few centimeters.

But Sebastian quickly regained his footing and quickly turned around striking Jake on his head causing Jake to stagger a few steps. Not letting up, Sebastian quickly dashed towards Jake and gave him a strong solid kick that connected with Jake's head therefore making Jake's head go crashing down and also bouncing a few times.

Jake lay there unmoving and Sebastian slowly walked towards him.

"Is he dead?" Someone from the crowd asked.

"Who cares." Another person added. "He just wasted our time. I thought he was going to perform properly but who am I kidding. How can someone ranked 180 take on someone in rank 20?"

Meanwhile Sebastian finally got to Jake's position and then he bent down and picked up Jake's hair.

"You just wasted my time. Anyway, per the rules, you owe me all your credits." Sebastian said about doing the transfer from Jake's watch to his but before he could touch Jake's wrist, Jake's eyes snapped open and he grabbed Sebastian's hand and quickly standing up, he kneed Sebastian in his stomach with all the strength he could muster.

Sebastian crouched down a little due to the strength of the hit and then Jake quickly seizing the opportunity, quickly kneed him in the face thereby breaking his nose and Sebastian's head was flung back causing him to fall on his butt.

Jake moved back a bit trying to regain his composure and breathing. While Sebastian slowly stood up with his nose bleeding and his hands shaking in pure anger.

Sebastian's eyes blazed with fury. "You dare to shed my blood?! He roared, charging at Jake with a speed that seemed almost inhuman. "You will pay for this, Jake. You will pay dearly!"

"What the!?! Was he holding back the whole time? Crap! I can't keep track of him." Jake worriedly thought trying to focus to see where Sebastian would come from.

But it was too late for Sebastian was already in front of Jake throwing a strong hook towards Jake's stomach that it knocked out the air out of Jake's mouth.

"Was he also holding back on his strength also?" Jake thought crouching down holding his stomach that was in so much pain.

Not allowing Jake to rest, Sebastian kicked Jake in his face sending Jake flying a few feet away. After some seconds, Jake slowly got up with his face all bloody and his nose broken but he still managed to smile.

Jake's eyes flashed with a sudden realization. "I was a fool to think I could take you down without going all out!" he stood tall, his stance firm. "You were holding back, and so was I. But that ends now?"

"System!" Jake called in his mind. "Activate Inspect skill!"

<Inspect skill>

<Opponent: Sebastian Delbert>

<HP: 13/15>

<Strength: 38>

<Speed: 30>

"Good. It's time to end this now." Jake said while activating one skill from the system.

<Triple Threat> and immediately Jake started moving exactly like sergeant Lee when he displayed the skill.

"What the! How did Jake manage to learn that skill and perfect it so well that it feels like am watching sergeant Lee?" Jack asked.

"Am also as surprised as you but let's just focus on the fight." Peter answered.

"Dammnn! He's moving so fast like sergeant Lee, I can't keep track." Sebastian said a little bit worried.

After Jake closed the distance between him and Sebastian with the last step of the skill, he quickly activated another skill.

<Frenzy strike>

"I only have two seconds with this skill." Jake thought activating it and immediately, Jake rapidly attacked Sebastian that Sebastian couldn't even keep up with Jake's movement.

Jake attacked for 2 seconds straight rapidly not letting up. And when the skill ended, Jake quickly moved back to observe Sebastian. Although Sebastian was bleeding and coughing out blood, he was still standing strong.

"I gat to admit, you are quite fast and strong but you can't beat me." Sebastian said and quickly dashed forward again towards Jake this time with fury written all over his face.

"I'm going to end this now!" Sebastian shouted moving his hands rapidly while running trying to gather energy for one last powerful attack.

"Funny thing, that was what I was about to say." Jake replied smiling charging towards Sebastian while activating 'The Triple Threat' skill again one last time to also create a powerful punch like he did on that drum like thing.

And then the two of them met in the middle with a big bang that shockwaves hit the students watching. There was so much dust lifted that they were unable to see anything for a few minutes and then finally, the dust settled and they could finally see a winner for one person was on the floor unconscious while the other was standing.

Chapter 19: A Costly Mistake

After the dust settled, the students could finally see who won. Standing with injuries from head to toe and a busted lip with his eyes burning with a sense of determination was none other than Jake. While Sebastian was lying on the floor unconscious.

Jake walked away from the formed stage to his friends with a limp in his steps. The whole crowd were so silent that if a pin dropped, it will be heard loud and clear.

Everyone was so shocked with their mouths all wide open because they just witnessed something so impossible. A low level, a lower ranked 180 defeated the number 20 of the first years.

He didn't defeat rank 100, 80 or even 50. He just jumped straight to rank 20. Meanwhile Jake was also in awe of his achievement, he felt like it was a dream. Like he was in some type of a dream.

If it wasn't the ding that he heard earlier in his head signifying his victory, he would have doubted it.

Earlier when Jake and Sebastian were about to collide, they both were preparing their most strongest skill to defeat their opponent once and for all. Jake prepared 'The Triple Threat' skill together with all his strength and Sebastian and him collided. With Jake hitting Sebastian in the stomach and Sebastian hitting him the face therefore busting up his lips and Sebastian fell unconscious from the force of the blow.

Immediately Sebastian fell down, Jake's watch made a ding sound and his rank was updated and he also heard a ding in his head signalling he won the duel but he didn't have time to check the messages because after the adrenaline left his body, Jake started feeling the pain and soreness of everything.

While Jake was making his way to his friends, the whole crowd managed to disperse but before they all left, some military personnel came over to take Sebastian to the clinic. It turns out that the watch also had a system that monitors all the students pulse therefore alerting the officials if a student was knocked out or dead.

Snapping out of his daze, Peter quickly offered to help take Jake to the clinic. But Sophia didn't accompany them. Instead she made up an excuse to leave for somewhere else but the rest didn't think there was anything suspicious going on with her.

After a few minutes, quick minutes of walking, they finally got to the clinic with Jack and Peter lending their shoulder for Jake to hold on. When they got to the clinic, Hayley quickly rushed to take Jake off Peter and Jack's shoulder.

"Seriously?" Hayley exclaimed quickly directing Jake to one of the beds. "What did you do now that landed you in this state?" "This is the third time in a short span of time that you are visiting here."

The friends split up with some of them staying with Jake while others went to check up on Vynn to see how he was doing.

The ones who went to see Vynn were Kate and Jack. When they got to his room, they could see he was awake just staring at the ceiling and then the opening of the door pulled him out of his thoughts.

"Oh, hey guys." Vynn greeted with his voice all cheery.

"Hey, Vynn, how are you doing?" Jack asked walking over to see if his injuries has healed up nicely.

"I'm fine thank you. What are you guys doing here so soon?" Vynn asked.

"It's Jake." Kate replied.

"What happened to Jake?" Vynn asked now sitting up.

"He is just injured from the duel he had with Sebastian." Jack replied.

"What?!!!" Vynn exclaimed. "Duel? I thought you guys talked him out of the duel." Vynn said already getting out of bed to go see Jake.

"Relax, he is fine. He just has some minor injuries." Jack said trying to calm Vynn down.

"Minor injuries!? Do you even know who Jake went up against? The number 20 of the first years and you're telling me he came out with minor injuries." Vynn said.

"Not only did he come out of the duel with minor injuries, he also won the duel. Jake is now the new rank 20 of the first years." Kate said with her face all smiles.

"What!!!" Vynn was so shocked it almost looked like he was going to faint any second now. "But how... how is this possible?"

"We also don't know. We were as shocked as you are now." Jack replied.

"Where is Jake now? I need to see him." Vynn said already getting out of bed.

"Calm down. We already told you that he is fine. Don't go ahead and reopen your wounds." Kate said worriedly.

"No. You don't understand, Jake has just made a big mistake." Vynn said already on his way out.

"Hey! Wait up." Jack said already chasing after Vynn and then grabbing his hand to stop him. "What do you mean by Jake committed a mistake by defeating Sebastian?"

"I don't have time and I can't explain twice so come on, I will explain when I see Jake." Vynn replied already running out of the room to find where Jake is.

Kate and Jack both went after Vynn. And then after a few minutes, they were all now in Jake's room. This time the whole roommates were complete with Sophia and Peter sitting beside Jake and Jake being awake.

Vynn quickly rushed over to Jake's bedside. "How are you feeling? Are you doing ok?"

"Yes, I am. It's just a little bit of injuries. I will be fine soon." Jake answered.

After calming down, Vynn then quickly changed from caring to scolding.

"You fool! What have you done?" Vynn said angrily.

"What do you mean?" Jake replied already trying to sit up.

"Why did you have to play hero? Did I ask you to avenge me?" Vynn said with shaky breath.

"Woah, woah. Calm down will you and explain what you mean." Peter said.

"No, you don't understand the gravity of the mistake Jake just committed." Vynn replied.

"What is it already. Will you tell us and stop worrying all of us here." Sophia said already annoyed by the suspense.

Vynn decided to take in a deep breath to calm down his nerves so he could explain better. "You shouldn't have challenged Sebastian not to talk of beating, defeating and humiliating him like that."

"Why shouldn't I have challenged Sebastian. Do you care to explain better." Jake said.

Vynn sighed and continued. "You shouldn't have challenged and defeated Sebastian because his elder brother is in this academy in the second year. His brother is a second year and currently ranked number 3 among the second years."

Chapter 20: A Gathering Storm

After the revelation that Vynn revealed to all of them, there was silence in the room. Everyone was trying to take in what Vynn just said especially Jake who was the one to defeat Sebastian.

"Are.. are you sure about this?" Jake asked with his voice shaking.

"Affirmative. Sebastian is the little brother to the rank 3 of the second year. And I am pretty sure that Sebastian won't let this humiliation go like that. He is going to implore his brother's help to help teach you a lesson." Vynn said.

"And how do you know about this?" Peter asked with raised eyebrows.

"Well, am not supposed to tell you guys this but.." Vynn hesitated a bit with his hands all trembling. After taking a deep breath, Vynn continued. "You remember those second years that obstructed our way when we were on our way to get breakfast the other day right?"

"Yes. I remember and you said that it was nothing." Jack replied.

"Well, they work for Sebastian's elder brother. And they have been threatening me to betray you guys but I didn't want to so they always beat me up so badly and I always end up here, in the clinic." Vynn said tears falling from his eyes.

"Why didn't you tell us?" Jack asked while raising his voice a little bit.

"I didn't want to trouble you guys that's why I kept it hidden." Vynn answered wiping his face.

"Hold on a sec, what did they ask you to do? I mean how did they say you should betray us?" Jake asked.

"They wanted me to spy on Sophia, to find out what makes her so strong," Vynn said, his eyes downcast. "They are obsessed with her abilities, and they think she's hiding something."

Jake's eyes narrowed. "What do they think Sophia's hiding?" he asked, his voice low and urgent.

Vynn hesitated before speaking, "I-I don't know, but they are willing to do whatever it takes to find out."

Since Vynn didn't know what Sophia was hiding, they decided to turn towards Sophia to clarify.

"So, Sophia, what are you hiding? Why did they want Vynn to spy on you?" Jack asked.

"Nothing. I have nothing to hide or any secrets to keep." Sophia answered sharply.

"What do you mean you have nothing to hide? It's clear that you have something to hide or else how do you want to explain the second years beating up Vynn just to spy on your secrets?" Peter asked.

Sophia stood up angrily. "I don't know and I don't care. Maybe a screw or two has loosen in their heads because I have nothing to hide. Now if you will all excuse me, I need to go and rest." Sophia said walking out of the room on her way to their dorm room.

"It's clear that she is surely hiding something." Peter said.

"Whatever it is, it's her secret to keep. If she doesn't want to share, we need to respect that." Kate said.

"Respect my foot." Peter said angrily. "Because of whatever her secret is, we are being targeted by the upperclassmen."

"Everyone just calm down. Okay?" Jake said. "We will know how to cross the bridge when we get there."

They all calmed down and turned to Jake to know how he pulled off that miracle in his match with Sebastian.

"I-I don't really know. It just happened. I just used the technique that Lee taught us together with as much strength as I could muster and that was it. Bang! Sebastian was on the floor." Jake explained.

"Wow! That is awesome. Too bad I missed the duel." Vynn said.

To which Peter started recounting everything that happened in the duel. Step for step. It was like Peter didn't even take his eyes away from the match one bit. He even replicated the posture Jake pulled during and after the battle.

"Wow! That is truly awesome. From rank 180 to rank 20. I guess it will be difficult to catch up with you guys now. Jack is number 1, Sophia rank 2, Peter rank 3, Kate ranked 35 and now you ranked 20." Vynn said dejectedly.

"Don't worry bro. Very soon you will also rank up with us." Peter said comforting Vynn.

After that, they all chatted light heartedly before Hayley came to interrupt them.

"So, Vynn and Jake are all doing fine now so they can be discharged and if they still feel pain or anything, they can come back for a check up." Hayley said.

After an hour, Jake and Vynn were both discharged and they were accompanied by Peter, Kate and Jack back to their dorm room. On the way going, Kate couldn't help but say something.

"Hey, Jake, I want you to please promise me that you won't do something like that again." Kate said.

"wow! What a caring and kind hearted lady. I tell you Jake she's ideal and perfect for you." Zee who had been quiet all along suddenly couldn't help but comment.

Ignoring Zee, Jake decided to respond to Kate. "I promise I won't do something like that again. Not so soon anyway."

"Good. Because if you did, I won't forgive you." Kate added and went forward leaving Jake with the boys.

After a few minutes, they finally got to their dorm to rest especially the injured guys in the room. Nobody talked about Sophia's secret or anything they completely let it go. They thought if she was ready, she will come clean on her own and then they all went to sleep.

Meanwhile, in the second-year building, a meeting was taking place between a group of students.

"I'm telling you, he needs to be taught a lesson." Sebastian said.

"Don't worry, we will teach him a lesson, I will make sure of that." Sebastian's elder brother; Harry said.

"I want you to humiliate him publicly for me please." Sebastian said.

"Don't worry, we will hit where it hurts. I heard he's an orphan and he considers his roommates family, so we will just target one of his roommates." Harry said.

"Thank you bro." Sebastian said while standing up to leave.

"No mention. That guy will get what's coming for him." Harry said and to which Sebastian left the building for his dorm room.

At that same time, a stranger could be seen in front of the academy's building.

"Finally after a few days of walking, I am finally here at the academy." The stranger said. "Kid with the orb, I'm coming for you."