The Mafia 1011

Chapter 1011 Farewell

At the end of Annie's magical awakening ceremony, Nova had tears streaming from her eyes at the sight of the totally cyan Magic Gem on her daughter's forehead.

Watching her daughter's awakening had been one of the most emotional moments of her life. As she stood next to Lina and Layla, she couldn't help but think of Vicente as she wiped away her tears with a handkerchief.

Ten years had passed, but the longing she felt for him now had not diminished. She certainly didn't spend her days thinking only about Vicente. She had many issues to deal with as one of the leaders of the human territory and a powerful Archmage. But she constantly thought of her husband and missed him terribly.

The pain of not being able to see him hadn't weakened over the years, but had grown stronger. This was particularly true at the moment, when they were preparing for their first major confrontation with the vampires in years.

Today was the last day that Nova could be so close to Annie. After today, she would join the allies of the human coalition on the northern border, while Annie would begin her training at Cataclysm Order headquarters.

"Sigh... Time has flown so fast." Layla murmured as she too felt emotional, watching Annie descend from the continent's most important Awakening Altar, applauded by the many subordinates.

All those men and women had sworn their loyalty to Annie when Vicente was still on the continent, and each of them now saw a remnant of their leader and hero in this young girl. For years, they had treated her as their leader out of respect for their founding leader, but now they saw in her the hint of what she would become.

They were relieved, but also proud. To have a leader with cyan grade natural talent was incredible!

As long as Annie had her chance to grow, one day she would become a powerful Archmage!

Lina and her harem sisters weren't thinking the same as the men applauding Annie's success and said, "Indeed. Time has passed quickly... I wonder if Vicente experienced the same thing as us? Now we're close to finally letting go of Annie's hands and letting her go her own way."

"He's certainly working hard to keep his end of the bargain with the elves and dragons," Nova said with a blind confidence that her husband would do such a thing and that he would not fail.

When Annie returned to their side, the three of them let their words die down as they watched her with sparkles in their eyes.

"You're a grown woman now, Annie." Nova massaged her daughter's shoulders, while Rory's father stood nearby, having been appointed Annie's bodyguard for the time being.

The man had become an Advanced Archmage, so there weren't many others better suited to the role.

As for Rory, Casey, Sarah and the other important family members, including Eve, they were busy in the north at the moment, some ready for battles against the vampires, others in that region to support their allies.

"Mom... I didn't want you to leave," said the black-haired, blue-eyed girl, as her lips formed a sad bow.

"I know. Don't worry. We'll be fine. We have the escape devices left by your father." Nova assured her daughter. "But there's no other alternative. The vampires will act massively against the human coalition in no time. If we don't move first, we'll end up in a situation similar to the one at the time of The Purification."

Annie knew this, so she wouldn't insist on preventing her mother, Lina, and Layla from leaving.

On the other hand, Vicente's three wives wouldn't hesitate to leave Annie behind either. After a decade since their man's departure, they had seen the little girl become an intelligent woman, capable of leadership and very focused on her goals.

Annie had always given importance to the family's affairs and dedicated herself to contributing in any way she could. So far, she had only been able to contribute by learning how to lead, how to become a good magician, and the basics of her future professions.

Now that she had awakened her Dark Path power, she could develop it further. Both she and her family and subordinates were confident that she would know how to move forward, even without the constant help of her close relatives.

"But don't think too much about our absence, Annie." Nova smiled at her. "Focus on your training and try to become a Mage as soon as possible."

"Hmm, I'll do that." She promised as she received a few words of congratulations for the power she had gained, with Layla and Lina trying to relieve her of the burden of their temporary farewell.

"When will I hear from you?" she asked as she walked alongside them towards the exit of the underground area where they were.

"I don't know. It could be a few months. We're going to travel north and join the coalition. You'll hear the news as soon as we start moving in combat against the monsters," Lina was the one to answer the Fuller girl.

"If the situation gets worse, you'll have to hide and let Julian and his group join us," Nova said, as she looked at the red-haired man walking behind them.

Julian was supposed to stand by Annie in almost every possible circumstance. But if all the strongest magicians fell in the weeks ahead, leaving one of the strongest men in the human community on guard would be a mistake.

"I know what to do. Don't worry," Annie said as she neared the exit of this unit, where she stopped and watched the three women follow into the open air, where Vicente's robotic armor kept the area secure.

"See you, Annie. I hope to return in victory and with 6th stage vampire blood." Nova said, before she and her two harem sisters flew away, quickly disappearing from the Cataclysm Order leader's sight.

Annie sighed as she shed her farewell tears, but as she thought about her responsibilities, she dried her feelings on her face and turned to go back inside her headquarters.

"Let's get to work, Julian. There's no time to lose."

"Certainly, Altar Master," said the man as he followed behind her a minute later, while he couldn't help wondering how his son was doing.

But he was confident in Rory. The boy had become an Intermediate Archmage after these years of action against the monsters!

'New high-level battles are approaching... Will I have to join the fight?

Chapter 1012 Coalition in the Northern Region

Further north in Polaris Realm, there was a city of 5,000 inhabitants on the border of human land and areas unclaimed since The Purification.

Even after years of work and many victories, there were still areas of the continent that had previously belonged to humans or Light Path beast tribes that still needed to be reclaimed.

At posts like this small human town, allied forces from across the continent were stationed, preparing for combat, ready to defend human territories and purge the monsters.

In this particular location, a young-looking red-haired man, around 40 and of Intermediate Archmage cultivation, was in charge of the area when a man with tanned skin and long black hair landed in front of the town.

The guards on duty went on alert, eyeing the Intermediate Archmage who had just arrived from the unclaimed area ahead.

But after a second analysis, the group under the command of the red-haired individual relaxed when they noticed the symbol of the Sentinels of the Order on one of the newcomer's chest.

"I bring news from the north," Casey said as he approached the tent where Rory had been sitting in front of a fire earlier that evening.

Rory opened his eyes and welcomed his old family companion into his tent. "What's up?" Vicente's best friend asked.

"Lauren sent news. The elves have predicted the great battle we will have on our journey to end the war. We are less than a month away from deciding the future of Polaris Realm.

Great prosperity or the end of the continent awaits us after this interval!"

Rory sighed when he heard this, but the time had come for them to settle this war once and for all.

"All right. My group will be ready to fight," Rory said as he stood up and offered Casey a cup of tea.

"Thanks, but I'm going to have to decline. I'm going to Sarah's after here and then I'll stop by three other outposts."

"Oh? All right, then. But before you go, tell me how Lauren's group is doing." Rory insisted.

"Well, I'd say. She's already an Advanced Archmage and from the rumors I've heard, Nina joined her in Majestic Treefrog Grove after reaching the beginning of the 6th stage."

Rory wasn't surprised. Nina had been the most talented on the continent since Vicente had left. Even more so considering the way her magical form worked, it was only natural that she should become an Archmage so young!

"It's a pity we don't have more time. Otherwise, we wouldn't even need to fight. Nina would be enough in combat," he said with a smile on his face, managing to wrench a smile from Casey's lips.

"Certainly." Casey was getting ready to leave when he heard from Rory.

"Oh, right, I've got news from the south. Nova, Lina, and Layla are on the move. Annie has awakened a magical form of the Dark Path, cyan grade."

"Sigh! Times are changing. If we don't die in the next few weeks, we'll soon be elders dealing with the new generation."

The two said goodbye, looking forward to such a fate rather than the imminent end that so many of their companions feared.

Rory looked up at the stars and sighed. 'If I don't die in this war, I'll become an Advanced Archmage. Then I'll prepare to go to the Supreme Continent.

Just wait for me, Vicente. I'll soon be exploring the wonders of the Supreme Continent by your side!'

...

Meanwhile, Nina was at Bart's and Onyx's side in the territory of the dragons, these two beasts of her brother's who had accompanied her over the last few years.

The two creatures still bore the symbols of Vicente's pentagrams, but these symbols were now gray, given how far away from them Vice was. However, these essences in the bodies of the two 6th stage creatures was enough for the Fuller family to know that he was alive.

Somewhere, Vicente was striving to grow stronger and fulfill his mission to make travel between the continents possible again for those below the 7th stage.

Nina occasionally thought about her brother, but ever since she had hunted her sixth pentagram, she had been more focused on vampires.

She had only recently become an Archmage, but she had quickly obtained a good cyan pentagram, given the wealth of essences in groups of monsters, their mortal enemies at the moment. And now with six essences in her magical foundation, Nina craved the vampire blood to become an Intermediate Archmage or even threaten the Advanced level.

Given the grade of her talent and the fact that she could absorb the powers of others to grow stronger faster, she was confident that she would quickly become a Master Archmage, or even an Archmage, the highest level for a 6th stage being to reach.

However, achieving this would not be easy. With Intermediate Archmage level vampires about to awaken, the battle for the continent's Archmages wouldn't be easy!

There should only be a few Archmages of that level among vampires, but vampires of that level were as strong as Master Archmages in the coalition.

There were only two such individuals in the entire coalition organized around Lauren, and both were from races that had weaknesses against vampires.

But Nina wasn't afraid. While she looked after her brother's beasts as if they were her own, she had her husband at her side, as well as 6th stage robotic armor and Cataclysm Order men. Not only that, in the battle they were waiting for to decide the war, she would fight alongside her older sister!

"Miss Nina, I'm sorry to interrupt," said a Sentinel of the Order as he approached where Killian and Nina were standing with the great crow and the basilisk. "Miss Death has just arrived at the camp. She and the elves are joining our group to march to The Ivory Desert."

Nina immediately stopped what she was doing in that green field, in the middle of that sunny day. A smiling bow formed on her lips before a word escaped her mouth.

"Perfect."

She moved ahead of her husband and the Sentinel of the Order, leading the group to where the tribe's strongest dragons were already welcoming Lauren and the 6th stage elves.

Chapter 1013 Eighth Class Resources

As Lauren and Nina's group prepared for their imminent action against the 6th stage vampires, Vicente was on the third day of searching for his 14th pentagram after getting the previous one.

In those two days, the Cursed Compass led them to confrontation against high level 7th stage beasts and even to an escape from an 8th stage creature. But on the occasions when the group prospered, he got valuable resources to become a more powerful Real Sorcerer.

On three occasions, he got Eighth Class resources, completing more than half of the resources needed to perform an 8th stage ritual.

In the middle of the afternoon today, when the group was moving on with their search, Vicente saw the compass working again. He led his team towards a potential Eighth Class resource, something that could well be under protecting one of Fallsor Bluff's strongest beings!

Vicente's companions followed more closely behind him, clinging to their defensive or support items, while Rex was at his master's side.

Vicente reached into the surrounding woods in search of signs of what the Cursed Compass was leading him to. The compass didn't show any signs if you were more than a few hundred meters from the feature it was picking up. As soon as it showed 'life', one could already be very close to the resource.

Letting his senses scan his surroundings, Vicente slowed down, sensing something powerful ahead. But this something wasn't exactly a resource with immense potential for him, but someone who made him stop and frown.

He stopped a little ahead of his companions, in a position near a gorge. From there, he could see a creature with a thin white body, four semi-transparent wings with golden dots around its structure, and eight eyes on its head.

The creature seemed to be collecting something, which Vicente immediately understood what it was.

'An insect of light! It's taking the Dawn Salt!' Vicente identified not only the type of beast and the resource showed by the compass, but he also sensed the indigo pentagram inside that 1-Star 8th stage creature!

His companions stopped behind him while he thought about what to do. From where he was, he could still retreat and pretended he hadn't seen anything. The creature would hardly look for trouble while it was with a 'mine' of Dawn Salt, something that could take it to the middle of the 8th stage. In the meantime, the group could continue searching the area and avoid a dangerous confrontation.

But Vicente had promised his companions that if they didn't find a beast compatible with him within four days, they would set off on their next mission. Now there were only 18 hours left, so he was on the brink. If he gave up on the insect ahead, he probably wouldn't get anything else out of the trip.

'If I want the Dawn Salt, I'll have to fight the Rebirth Butterfly. And if I want that insect's pentagram, I'll end up getting the Dawn Salt... That's the best situation I could find!'

A smile formed on Vicente's face as he strongly considered the idea of challenging a Grand Magus and getting the pentagram from that Light Path creature.

He looked at his companions, and Larissa spotted the problem on Vicente's smile.

"The beast with my future pentagram is right in front of us," he said quietly, making everyone tense up.

"What is its cultivation?" the group's Beast Tamer asked.

"1-Star?"

"Grand Magus..." Vicente completed, while even Rex looked at him with an apathetic look on his face.

"Grand Magus?" Larissa opened her mouth as she paled, wondering what kind of thing Vicente might have in mind.

There were certainly several Light Path creatures with indigo pentagrams with 8th stage cultivation all over Light Cay. But they wouldn't go up to any of them on purpose because doing so was tantamount to defying death.

Even the group's Formation Master, Alchemist and Beast Tamer working together couldn't do much to change the outcome of a confrontation against such a powerful creature. Given the enormous difference in cultivation between them and the enemy, their actions would almost be like trying to beat the sea with a small fire.

Vicente smiled at his companions' behavior and said, "You should retreat now. Give me what might be of some use against a Rebirth Butterfly and back away. The battle will be destructive."

The Beast Tamer watched the Alchemist and the Formations Master hand Vicente what they thought might be useful, while she herself sighed.

"I have nothing useful against beasts like that. Rebirth Butterflies are tricky to deal with. They have powerful affinities with light and can illuminate an entire forest in the middle of the night, driving

away the darkness and strengthening the light itself. It's the middle of the day now, so it's at one of its strongest moments. Nothing I give you will help."

Vicente was grateful for the warning as he watched the group retreat. Meanwhile, he focused on the creature, which was using its legs to grab more of the Dawn Salt from the area ahead.

Vicente appeared floating behind the creature, an insect as big as an adult human.

The creature looked back with disdain for a moment, but then changed its ways. Suddenly, 13 pentagrams appeared around Vicente, 8 of them indigo, and 5 cyan. In particular, the last of Vicente's indigo pentagrams shone strongly, emitting a golden light that paralyzed the surrounding space.

"I hadn't used this skill on Light Cay yet. Time for me to use the Throne of Light to its fullest," Vicente said as he decided to beat his opponent not by using his darkness, but by using light!

The light in the surroundings came to a standstill. At some points, it condensed into golden weapons, which then flew at the opponent staring at Vicente.

The golden throne behind Vicente glowed brightly as his first skill also showed its effect, with Light Suppression creating a glowing domain belonging to its user.

Even though it was an 8th stage beast, the creature felt pressured as the enemy began its attack!

Chapter 1014 Near the 14th Pentagram?

Several golden weapons flew against the butterfly above what appeared to be a small, glowing mine of something extremely valuable.

The Dawn Salt had a ridiculous amount of mana concentrated around it and almost distorted space itself with so many different elements around it.

Vicente looked at it for a moment and understood why this was an Eighth Class resource capable of banishing various types of existence from given spaces under rituals.

But he didn't focus on the mineral item available in that area, but on the creature with four wings, a white body, and golden body parts.

The creature was paralyzed for a few moments by the suppression generated by the Throne of Light, but with its cultivation superior to Vicente's by several levels, the creature eventually overcame the elemental pressure of this magical form.

However, this didn't happen quickly enough for the insect to escape the golden weapons of light he threw at it.

Six luminous swords crossed space so quickly that they seemed to have teleported from the formation sites to the enemy's body. Following this, they collided with the body of the Grand Magus beast, propelling it against the rocks surrounding the cliff.

Sounds of explosions and breaking rocks rang out over a large area, making Vicente's companions realize that combat had begun.

Vicente moved promptly, using the move of the beast that had tried to defeat him earlier. He made a lightning-fast strike, causing a spirit body to form and attack the creature, which was finally flapping its wings.

The insect wiggled in the rubble where it had fallen and flapped its wings to get out of where it was. It sensed that something was approaching and suddenly created a golden barrier in the shape of four wings joined right in front of it.

To Vicente's surprise, his attack collided with this barrier, which didn't even crack as it faced his powerful attack!

"Oh?" He smiled suddenly, wondering how far it could defend itself. "But what will you do without a physical barrier to stop me?" he asked as a dark distortion appeared in front of his body.

Then, under the creature's watchful eyes, Vicente broke through the space where this Grand Magus' defense was, while a metal blade covered in poison and darkness slashed against the creature's body.

Clang!

A loud clang sounded as one of the creature's legs stopped Vicente's attack, at the same time as chains appeared around its body and it felt its body subtly paralyze.

Vicente frowned as he sensed something and jumped backwards, just before golden flames exploded from the creature's position, consuming the metals he had just formed to paralyze the enemy.

An electromagnetic barrier formed in front of him and then he became invisible, demonstrating to the creature the greatest set of abilities it had ever seen in a single magician.

Vicente's heart beat differently and more and more mana entered his body, accelerating his ability to recover and control magic.

Metallic creatures in the shapes of different beings, human and beast, formed on Vicente's side of the battlefield, demonstrating different abilities and thoughts.

Using the Metallic Symphony, Vicente let his 7th stage forging skills run wild, transforming the surrounding rocks into a small army of creatures with powers over metals, lightning, darkness, poisons, flames and light.

Meanwhile, black flames appeared around the insect of light, eating away at the surroundings as the butterfly tried to avoid them.

Shadows of the underworld formed amidst Vicente's robots, while the day seemed to lose its light. A golden sphere formed over the area, skirting the light while darkness covered the space below where the light was no longer reaching.

The darkness of the night covered a space a few square kilometers in area, amidst the emergence of the shadowy monsters in Vicente's Darkness Realm.

Larissa and the others felt it 11 kilometers away from the focus of the combat, each of them sensing the immense power that Vicente was demonstrating at that very moment.

Gulp!

"Is that the boss' ultimate power?" asked the Formation Master standing there, while the others looked off into the distance where the sounds of exchanging blows were coming from.

Even with Vicente using all that power, the creature was fighting him!

Vicente's faction mates didn't know whether to be more impressed because he was fighting a Grand Magus or that the butterfly was challenging such an abominable existence!

They continued to follow the battle with their magical senses, while Vicente made his metallic and dark army fight against the butterfly of light.

The creature showed just how incredible it was, using its light manipulation skills to counter the surrounding darkness. But it couldn't do it without paying with injuries and demonstrating that it wasn't that superior to Vicente just because it had a cultivation a few levels higher than his.

Vicente had several of his creations destroyed and felt the effects of using so many of his skills in the same fight. His mental wear and tear soon began to show, while the creature's long-range attacks left minor wounds on him, even though they were hiding behind his electromagnetic shield and invisibility.

Vicente recognized the creature's power and how he still needed to grow in soul mana density and mana control outside his body to reach the level of beating creatures like this on his own. However, as he gradually lost the combat advantage, he activated the devices his companions had given him to buy some time.

He took ritual items from his spatial ring, with a dangerous plan in mind.

'I think I'll only open the Gates of Hell if I try to banish spectral creatures... That's not the case now, so I hope the worst doesn't happen.' He thought in a cold sweat.

"Empowerment Ritual!" He linked his hands together as he formed a circle on the ground with his necessary materials at five different ends in a geometric shape.

Red flames appeared in his eyes, while a 7-Star cultivation creature of the 7th stage appeared from a hiding place near this combat. The creature was covered in red flames, while Vicente used it as a sacrifice to his temporary strengthening.

Chapter 1015 Result of the Toughest Confrontation

The butterfly sensed something was wrong and immediately tried to run away.

The human attacking him was dangerous. He had already shown himself to be so. But what it had witnessed so far was nothing more than a high level prank for this beast. It had suffered a few injuries and had tested how it would fare against a creature with a higher elemental affinity than it. But when it saw the red flames in Vicente's eyes, the butterfly saw something it didn't want to.

A dark shadow appeared on the magician, as his aura rose from the normal 3-Star Magus, quickly reaching 6-Star!

Vicente was already weakening a moment ago, and the insect intended to end this in the next few moments. But now he had regained all his power and was even stronger than before!

Vicente saw the creature turn to flee and laughed. "Too late. You would have done it sooner. But not now!"

At Vicente's words, the Darkness Realm grew stronger, condensing a barrier of darkness capable of preventing even the early 8th stage beast from escaping.

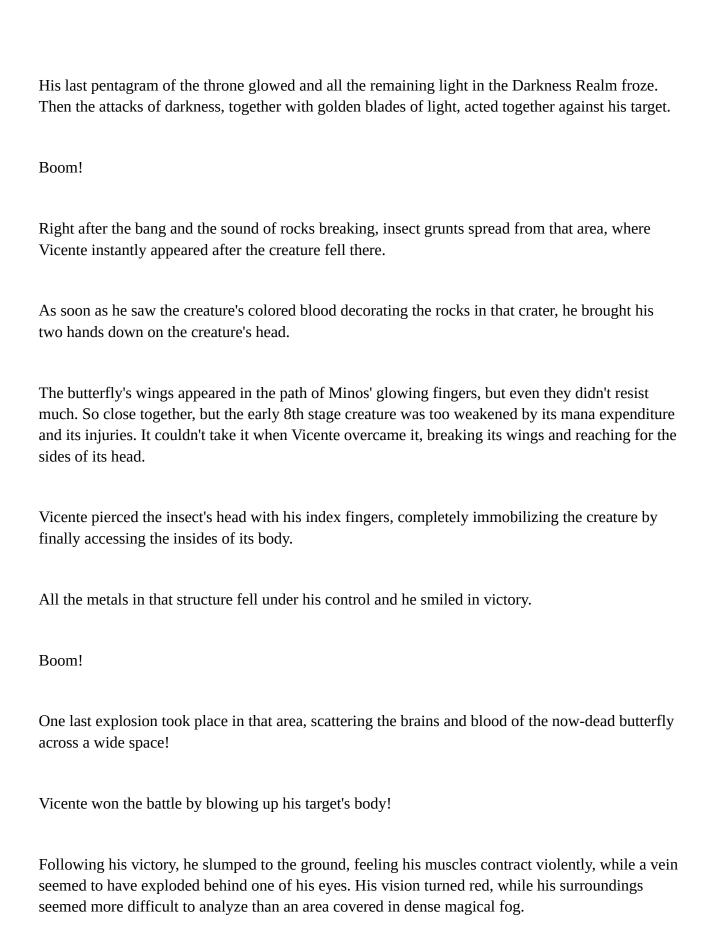
It did its best by releasing a golden powder as it flew, something that eroded the darkness in its path.

But Vicente didn't just have darkness. His powers were perfectly dual. Even as the enemy's light consumed his darkness, his own light emerged to degrade the butterfly's poisonous powder.

Vicente raised his arms in the air and forced the creature's body to the ground, as metal blades flew along with shadow demons attacking the four-winged creature.

The red flames consumed the beast Vicente had used in this Real Sorcerer ritual, giving him only a few more moments of action before his powers collapsed.

He flew towards the butterfly, delivering the same blow he had used at the start of the fight.



As he fell backwards to the ground, he did his best not to faint.

He had won, but it hadn't been by much. If the creature had held out a few moments longer, he would have been the one to perish.

Looking up at the sky over the area, Vicente felt his manipulation of the surroundings decay exponentially, with his Darkness Realm fading away as the metals in the surroundings fell lifeless to the ground.

He stayed conscious as an indigo pentagram emerged from the spot where he had destroyed the 1-Star Grand Magus.

The moment this essence entered his body, Larissa and the others appeared in that place, each of them with incredulous but also very proud looks on their faces.

They were shaking with excitement after that battle, but they quickly put up their defenses, trying to camouflage Vicente.

One of them busied himself with collecting the Dawn Salt Vicente wanted so badly, giving him the chance to focus on absorbing his new pentagram.

After such a high level battle, they would need to flee the area as soon as possible so as not to get into any more trouble!

Vicente concentrated as he felt as if he had been run over by the effects of the ritual he had performed.

Fortunately, the strengthening ritual had worse damage on the ritual offering and not on the one receiving the power bonuses. As long as the creature Vicente used died, he would only need some ordinary rest before recovering!

This kind of thing made Real Sorcerers so complicated and powerful!

The initial moments of absorbing his 14th pentagram were difficult. Vicente felt a lot of pain as the new pentagram bonded with one of his essences. But he had conquered this pentagram so well that the entire process was quick and simple.

Soon the throne was growing in size and power, with the seventh pentagram fitting into the top position of the magical form. It connected to Vicente's other essences, strengthening them in general.

Little by little, Vicente felt the mana in his body recover and soon surpass the initial level he was at, advancing from the beginning to the end of the 3-Star level.

Unlike low-quality pentagrams, indigo pentagrams had so much power in them that, when absorbed, they usually generated small improvements for their new owners. But as Vicente already had 6 extra pentagrams compared to magicians of the same level as him, the improvement he experienced was much greater than what would happen with anyone else.

'The next pentagrams I'm going to absorb will be violets!' Vicente thought as he felt his injuries recovering, already planning his next steps.

Not long after he fell to the ground in that area, Vicente stood up and quickly thanked his group.

Looking at the Dawn Salt, he stowed the item in his spatial ring before leading his group out of the area.

"Let's go in search of the Black Raven Crew!"

Chapter 1016 The Awakening of the 6th Stage Vampires!

Meanwhile, back in Polaris Realm...

In the far north of the continent, numerous monsters stood around an icy region where the largest desert on the entire continent was located.

Close to the coast, The Ivory Desert was one of the most challenging places on the entire continent, where only the most extreme creatures could live. Not by chance, this place had become home to the most powerful monsters in Polaris Realm, where vampires had made their home for hundreds of thousands of years.

Previously, only powerful magicians and magical creatures would dare to come to this area. Not only that, only powerful monstrous races would live there. But things had changed a lot since the beginning of The Purification.

Now the outskirts of the headquarters of the vampire territory were teeming with negative creatures from weaker races, with encampments stretching as far as the eye could see.

There were so many monsters guarding or just living there at the moment that it would be almost impossible for one to travel through the region without being observed.

After years of conflict with the forces of magicians and beasts of the Light Path, the creatures of the vampire coalition were, mostly, living around The Ivory Desert, both because they had been expelled from other areas of the continent and to protect this place.

Powerful individuals, such as Lauren Fuller, had several times tried to invade The Ivory Desert in recent years, seeking the deaths of the 6th stage vampires in seclusion in the area.

The last 10 years had been chaotic and rather negative for the beings in this region. Of the hundreds of thousands of inferior vampires and thousands of superior vampires, there had been almost no trace of this powerful race left in Polaris Realm.

The number of lower vampires had reached a level where one could say that they were on the verge of extinction. Meanwhile, fewer than 300 superior vampires existed on the continent at this time and they were, without exception, in hiding.

However, that was about to change!

At the start of another night in this cold and malicious area of the continent, the sound of a trumpet rang out from one of the highest mountains in the area.

Little by little, the tired and despondent looks on the faces of the hundreds of thousands of magical creatures around the desert improved as they heard the sign they had been waiting for.

As the creatures opened their eyes, raised their weapons in the air and shouted in excitement, three vampires left an underground cave in the middle of that area full of creatures.

When they arrived in a large underground area, where black walls took the place of bare rock and red flames illuminated the area, the three came across a group of white-haired, red-eyed individuals.

This group, however, was not large. With less than 200 members, the group of Sovereigns and Paragons there paled compared to the presence of the three newly arrived Intermediate Archmages.

The three strongest remaining vampires looked at their people for a few moments in silence. None of them were happy, even though they had finally ended their seclusion.

'That damned Vicente Fuller nearly destroyed us on his journey.' One of them thought to himself, remembering how his people had lost not only Demien, but several 6th stage vampires and many good 5th stage talents who could have become Archmages.

Vicente had also killed important 6th stage monsters that could have given the vampires a chance to develop more of their skills after his departure. If they still had some of those high-level Archmages they had before Vicente became an Archmage, their whole current situation would be different.

'Fucking Miss Death screwed us over good!' thought one of those old vampires, his hateful gaze determined to suck the traitor's blood.

Lauren had, at the beginning of The Purification, been part of a sect allied with the vampires, but after being an ally, she had become the worst of the vampires' executioners.

Several vampires with the potential to become Archmages who were in seclusion after Vicente's departure had been killed by her. The three vampires could see this by the ridiculously low number of strong vampires left after their decade of seclusion.

However, now that they had ended their seclusion, it was time for a comeback!

With clenched fists, the oldest of these vampires, Vicente's survivor, said in a harsh tone. "Prepare to go into battle! Let's kill those damn magicians who think they've taken back the continent from us!"

The strongest vampires in the area raised their voices in unison, each of them eager to taste human blood again.

They would not take any chances with Lauren and Nina rampaging around the continent, while no one with the strength to fight them appeared. But with Intermediate Archmages who could keep them busy, they were more than willing to show themselves again.

As soon as the three vampires walked out of that underground area, the dozens of vampires there followed them, with some of them walking closer to the elders and answering their questions.

"Are you all that's left?" one of them asked with an ugly look on his face.

"No, there must be 50 to 100 of us scattered around the continent now. We issued a warning to everyone a few days ago, but we didn't hear back. Either they're hiding in wait for our movement, or they're surrounded."

There was also the possibility that these vampires were unwilling to risk themselves after everything that had happened in recent years.

The monster coalition had certainly caused many difficulties for the mainland forces and generated many deaths in recent years. But they had lost far more than they had taken from the allied forces led by Lauren.

There was now a widespread feeling that the vampires were not so strong and should be careful when acting against Miss Death.

"What about the inferior vampires?"

"We have a thousand of them in the area, Elder. Most of them are Paragons, but we have 11 lower vampires in the mid part of 6th stage. They're waiting for your orders."

"What about the monsters?"

"We have 350,000 creatures around. But less than 30,000 are Paragons and less than 200 are Archmages."

"And the enemies? Where are they? What are their numbers?"

"They've been surrounding us for 350 kilometers from where we are. Their encirclement has at least 100,000 individuals, including magicians and beasts. We don't have the exact location of Lauren Fuller and Nina Fuller, but they must be hiding amid this siege. Supposedly, they will act together."

"Nina Fuller?" The face of one of the 6th stage vampires contorted sharply, hearing that name for the first time. "Who's that?"

"A magician from the Dark Path, younger sister of Vicente Fuller. She's killed tens of thousands of our coalition's allies in recent years."

The three vampires felt Vicente Fuller's plague on them once again, not expecting the accursed Fuller family to have someone else to antagonize them.

"Is there anyone else from that damned family?" one of them asked, before speaking without giving anyone room to answer him. "Never mind. Let's hunt down all those with the surname Fuller! They must all die after we kill those two bitches!"

Chapter 1017 Decisive Battle (1)

"The red eyes are moving!"

A message spread through the various siege points around The Ivory Desert.

At one of the westernmost points, Tenglin, a beast of the peak of the Intermediate Archmage level, was in the commanding position of the men in that area. As soon as he heard the signal that the vampires were moving, the great Qilin, who had had the honor of fighting alongside the legend Vicente Fuller, signaled to his group of over 3,000 beings, magicians and beasts.

"Forward!" he said a single word as he moved with the desire to fight in his eyes, his muscles prepared for combat.

Each of the over 3,000 individuals nearby moved, raising their weapons in the air, or preparing their claws and fangs for opponents close to where they stood. Each one of them felt confident as they were being led by a war hero in his own right, one of the foremost in the contest against the vampires and in reclaiming territory from the monsters' clutches.

While Tenglin advanced with fury in his eyes, Acidbelly was leading his own group to the south of the area.

Like Tenglin, he was at the absolute peak of the Intermediate Archmage level and was leading a large group on his own.

Acidbelly advanced with his battalion towards the north, marching together with the many other groups around The Ivory Desert.

But not everyone moved at this moment in what was to be the most important fight of the calamity started by The Purification.

At least 30% of the groups around The Ivory Desert didn't move. They remained in their positions, preparing for enemies who would escape the combat or who would venture into the non-monstrous domains.

Simultaneously with the movement of the troops, Lauren and Nina were in the same camp, to the east of the core of the vampire territory.

The two were in a mountainous area, protected by the relief of the area. At their side were some of the important allies in this fight, high-level elves and dragons.

Not all the powerful beings of Majestic Treefrog Grave had come for the decisive battle. Just as the groups of magicians had kept important specialists behind to preserve some of their strength and protect their domains, the special beasts and creatures of that magical region had done the same.

But even so, four 6th stage elves and five dragons of the same cultivation range were in Lauren and Nina's group, along with other powerful 6th stage beasts, robotic armor and allied magicians.

Among these individuals were Sarah, Prisiche, Bart and Onix, all of them with 6th stage cultivation, as was the case with the others in the area.

Lauren was currently standing next to her group's communicators, waiting for the right moment to join the fight.

"Looks like the battles have begun." Said one of the observers next to the group's communicators, broadcasting live information to his group.

"More than half of our warriors are already fighting the monsters. We still don't have a view of the 6th stage vampires, but they're probably moving among the hordes of monsters."

"Let's wait until they show themselves. Some of our Intermediate Archmages should already be wreaking havoc on their way. Once the 6th stage monsters start falling, the strongest vampires will have no choice but to show themselves," said one elf, confident in the group's plan.

The group wanted something very specific for this battle. That the strongest vampires would show themselves and then Lauren would use her powers to cause the death of at least one of them. Their group would then move on to deal with the other two enemies that would be left after their leader exhausted herself dealing with one of them.

While the group leaders talked and listened to the battle updates, Nina stood at the peak of one mountain in that area, looking in the direction from which she could see the battle developing.

Kilometers from where she stood, a large black cloud already covered dozens and dozens of square kilometers of the horizon. The mana was moving towards that area, a clear sign of the movement of several powerful beings.

Meanwhile, the sky was darkening and a powerful storm seemed to form above that area of The Ivory Desert.

Nina clenched her fists as she looked in that direction, feeling a powerful urge to fly up and join the fight. The darkness of her soul escaped from her body, and gradually a dark, tenebrous essence spread through her surroundings.

Small demons of darkness formed behind her, as she thought of the enemies who had forced her brother to grow up so fast and, in a way, caused him to be expelled from the Polaris Realm.

With her fists clenched tightly, Nina was about to move when Onyx landed on one of her shoulders, his bestial body reduced in size.

The black bird looked at her in such a way that she understood she shouldn't rush.

But then, as deaths mounted on the battlefield ahead, with fighting affecting a large area of the region's icy desert, a cry came from the communicators in the area.

"6th stage vampires spotted! Three enemies with Intermediate Archmage cultivation in action against groups of alliance magicians!" An alarmed cry came from the communicators in the area.

Hearing it, Lauren opened her eyes wide, as her companions moved behind her, beginning their plans for the fight that was to be the beginning of the end for one side in this conflict.

Either they would defeat the vampires and regain Polaris Realm after so much suffering, or they would perish and the continent would continue towards the self-destruction predicted by the magical beings of Majestic Treefrog Grove.

Nina moved along with Lauren's group, following on top of Onyx, with the great black crow now at its full size.

Their location was about 11 minutes from the main combat point, where the alert had come from.

The group quickly crossed this final distance between them and the strongest enemies, spotting in their path a trail of destruction, with thousands upon thousands of bodies staining the surrounding terrain.

As they approached, Nina and Lauren saw the enemy vampires at last, those beings with pale skins, white hair and red eyes.

Several of them were stained with the blood of magicians, while their lips glowed a diabolical red.

Just as the strongest of the alliance saw the strongest of the monsters in the area, those creatures also saw him at this critical moment in the fight.

Faced with her opponents, Nina summoned her six pentagrams, while Lauren did the same, forming a large book surrounded by six glowing essences, with a black brush in one of her hands.

Chapter 1018 Decisive Battle (2)

When they found themselves only a few kilometers away from their strongest and most dangerous enemies, the vampires moved with all the force in their existence. Ignoring everyone else in the vicinity, their aim was Lauren, the most dangerous of them all.

They also looked at Nina, who currently had the most ridiculous configuration of pentagrams on the continent: green, yellow, green, cyan, cyan and cyan.

Given the Fuller girl's natural pentagrams, she had the potential of her older brother, which naturally caught the attention of the strongest vampires.

They didn't even know Nina existed until recently. Seeing her with such a ridiculous configuration was a shock to these creatures, who remembered too well how terrible Vicente was.

Fortunately, only Vicente had awakened two magical forms in the entire history of Polaris Realm. Otherwise, these strongest and oldest vampires on the continent would be dead before they even tried to change their fates!

However, the fact that none of the magicians in the alliance had two magical forms was no guarantee that these vampires would end well.

Miss Death was in position at that very moment, her eyes focused on the strongest of the three Intermediate Archmage vampires.

With a flick of her black brush, she moved the mana from the area into her book, making her pentagrams glow simultaneously.

A black barrier in the shape of a sphere appeared around her. The mana of the surrounding area was disrupted, making it difficult for allies and enemies to use the ambient mana normally.

Lauren's book of death wasn't just a weapon for killing. Killing enemies who had their names or soul' marks written in the book of death was the first and most important ability of Lauren's magical form. But she had other skills, mostly defensive skills, which could ensure that she could eliminate the names written in the book.

Her group raised their defenses at that moment, while Lauren finished writing the mark on that vampire's soul.

The three creatures despaired at not knowing who she was targeting, each of them sensing the level of power she had reached, enough to threaten them.

The three attacked her from where they were, doing their best to prevent her from completing her macabre move.

One of them cut through space with his sharp fingers, while another formed countless birds of darkness that attacked Lauren. Finally, the last of them made giant skeletal hands emerge from space and move against Lauren.

Some warriors fighting in the area sensed the enemies' movements, with Lina there to support the group with her prophetic abilities.

Nova moved, using her sword to slash towards the enemies and make their situation more difficult.

Layla moved at high speed, carrying special devices created by Vicente that could temporarily weaken enemies. When she got close to them, managing to avoid the many monsters, superior and inferior vampires in the surroundings, she attacked the two enemies who were not targeted by Lauren.

At that moment, all the warriors were moving to keep the enemies in the area occupied, whether defending themselves or attacking. Then, under the extreme sounds of explosions, screams of pain, air being cut, etc., one of the strongest vampires froze in mid-flight.

Lauren felt her defenses weakening in the face of the enemy attacks, but none of them hit her.

She turned pale and opened her mouth, invariably spitting out blood after coughing and feeling as if she had been hit in the soul.

When one of the enemies had almost reached her at the moment of her weakness after using almost all of her mana, Nina appeared in front of Lauren as if she were a ghost. Then the darkness of the night intensified around her, with macabre creatures rising from behind her and setting their sights on the vampire who had tried to strike Lauren.

The strongest of those creatures fell to the ground lifeless, his soul completely obliterated by the powers of the book of death. Meanwhile, the one who had almost reached Lauren after dodging Layla's attack saw Nina running towards them along with the young woman's parasitic creatures.

This vampire felt a chill run down his spine at the sight of the vampires' nemesis, a magician who could absorb the powers of others to make himself stronger!

Rory appeared at that moment in the area, using the Prometheus Avatar to attack this opponent that Nina was pressuring.

The second 6th stage vampire fell into a bad situation as he could not escape Layla's action.

A black metallic sphere had reached him and trapped him in a living metallic web, which gradually covered his body, immobilizing him as if it were an octopus trapping its prey.

Combat intensified in that area, with creatures from both sides falling, but with the elves and dragons slowly prospering against the powerful monsters of The Ivory Desert.

Casey appeared on the battlefield around Rory and Nina, giving Lauren room to retreat as more and more opponents surrounded the vampire more freely.

That individual caught by the weapon thrown by Layla was in a worse situation. This quick woman joined Nova and the dragons in the area to attack the enemy, while most of the others focused on helping Nina in her fight.

There were still many powerful monsters around, so not everyone had the chance to join in their efforts. Not only that, there were several superior vampires in the vicinity, beings they had to be careful of or they might run off with the Archmages' blood and come back to cause trouble in a few years' time.

In less than 15 minutes of combat, the outskirts of the area of The Ivory Desert were stained red, with tens of thousands of bodies of various types of creatures adorning thousands of square kilometers of area.

Nina and the others saw and felt when natural pentagrams, some green and yellow and even cyan, formed on the outskirts, confirming things that Vicente had told them before his departure.

With the large number of deaths of powerful beings in this place, pentagrams emerged from the intense presence of different elements and mana there.

Those with opportunities to absorb them did so amid the combat itself, but the majority ignored them for the moment, focused on maintaining their lives and eliminating their enemies!

Nina did this by exhausting a lot of her powers, but finally making her dark demons reach her target's body.

She didn't hesitate to suck out that vampire's strength, making him howl in pain as his body was parasitized.

"Aaaaaaaaagh!"

Chapter 1019 Decisive Battle (3)

As the Intermediate Archmage vampire howled in pain under the absorption of his vitality, Nina felt even stronger.

The mana she had spent up to that point recovered to normal levels, soon advancing to a higher level within her Beginner Archmage cultivation.

Her companions pressuring that vampire sensed their opponent weakening and quickly stepped up their attacks.

The other vampire, in a critical situation, saw that his group would fall and thought of running away. But still trapped by the result of the weapon Layla had thrown in his direction, he couldn't escape easily.

Before he could free himself from the restraints around his body, one of Nina's shadowy parasites appeared on his back, as the black-haired woman looked in his direction.

Gulp!

This vampire felt a chill run down his spine, before a paralyzing force surged against him, forcing him to stop as he was. Then he felt something bite into his neck, sucking out his vitality in a way that he couldn't help but compare to how vampires did it to their victims.

The big difference between Nina's power and that of vampires was that she could instantly absorb the vitality she absorbed and didn't gain skills from her targets. Her efficiency in absorbing enemy vitality was also not like that of vampires.

The blood of a single magician stronger than a vampire would be enough for such a creature, after their seclusion, to advance in level. But Nina couldn't do that. She only managed to marginally improve her cultivation, even after sucking the vitality of someone superior to her.

Even so, Nina became 20% more powerful in an instant, and her suppressive powers, from her other pentagrams, became stronger, making those creatures susceptible to attacks from her allies in the vicinity.

Lauren saw this from the position she had retreated from and smiled in satisfaction at seeing her little sister resolving the crisis. For an instant she thought of Vicente and whether he could have imagined that, right now, Nina was giving Polaris Realm the victory they had fought so hard to achieve!

"They're getting away!"

But amid Lauren's thoughts, a scream spread through the surroundings, drawing her attention toward hundreds of fleeing enemies.

As soon as the two 6th stage vampires fell into a passive situation, the remaining superior vampires and several 6th stage monsters began trying to escape the area!

"Thinking of escaping?" Lauren opened her book again, not in her best condition, but with enough strength to get on with killing the early 6th stage creatures or the remaining 5th stage superior vampires.

She jotted the magical marks of 30 creatures in her book of death, taking down each of them moments later.

The allies of the magicians' forces took advantage of these falls to go more heavily against the enemies trying to flee, escalating the number of deaths in this chaotic zone.

When Rory and his allies killed one of the two vampires weakened by Nina, they all moved to hunt down the fleeing 5th stage vampires.

They could deal with the monsters or even coexist with these 6th stage monsters. It was not in their coalition's interest to exterminate these creatures. They already knew that the imbalance wasn't good for the continent and intended to follow a different journey than past forces had attempted. But the vampires they absolutely wanted to exterminate!

Rory set the battlefield ablaze with his scorching flames, while Casey used his third eye to destroy the minds of his enemies.

Nova, Layla and Lina got involved in this part of the hunt, leaving the last vampire to die at the hands of the very person responsible for their downfall, Nina Fuller.

Nina ripped out the heart of the last of the Intermediate Archmage vampire, putting an end to the journey of these abominable creatures.

Looking at the blood and heart in her dominant hand, she smiled as she completed the first part of the mission her brother had left for them.

'Here I finish The Purification, Vice!' she thought with a broad smile on her beautiful face. 'Today we'll end the war and tomorrow we'll start rebuilding the continent. We'll make it even more formidable than it was before the calamity!'

Then, looking up at the sky, she muttered, "After that, I'll get ready to come to you on the Supreme Continent!"

In the next 10 minutes of combat, every single one of the 5th stage superior vampires in the area would be killed. At the same time, the 6th stage inferior vampires would be exterminated, leaving only the 5th stage inferior vampires and the 4th stage superior vampires on the run.

Around 10% of the retreating 6th stage monsters would also fall in those last minutes of the fight, while, little by little, the most tired and wounded of the alliance of magicians finally slowed down and stopped on the outskirts.

Stopping to contemplate the outcome of this battle, Sarah sighed as she sat down on a black rock, the only spot in the surroundings where there were no bodies, no remains of bodies and no blood.

Looking at the piles of corpses, she imagined that at least half of those who had fought there today, allies and enemies alike, had died on this battlefield.

'We won... That's good. But the strength we lost today will take decades to recover.' She sighed deeply as she saw the last signs of the battle on the horizon.

In another 20 minutes, the nearby chases would be over and the end of the great battle against the vampires and monsters would finally be decreed!

Alongside their allies and subordinates, be they beasts, special magical beings or magicians, Lauren ended the confrontation and thanked everyone.

"Time to divide up the spoils of war!" she said after her words of celebration and gratitude for those who had helped them reach this moment.

She had mourned the deaths of her allies, but everyone who had come to this place knew the risks and was willing to die to end the vampire threat.

For those who had survived, it was time for them to share the bodies of their enemies and take their chances with these essences!

"Some of us must return to our domains to seize our opportunities and return to our normal lives. But others must continue the hunt," Nina said after the celebratory shouts of the remnants.

"There are still weak vampires hiding around the continent. I want a group of Archmages who will pursue their traces and help bring about the extermination of this race in Polaris Realm!

I will lead this group and after my seclusion, I will join the hunt!"

Everyone agreed and accepted Nina's words, quickly splitting up to do what she wanted.

Thus ended the era of calamity brought on by the vampires and started a new phase of the Polaris Realm's journey!

Chapter 1020 Back to Light Cay

Days had passed since Vicente had conquered his 14th pentagram.

His group had finally left the territory of Fallsor Bluff behind, heading towards the sighting area of the men of the Black Raven Crew.

The Black Raven Crew was a group of outlaws who mainly operated in the island's south, being only a few days' journey from Fallsor Bluff.

The road to the area was relatively quiet. Vicente and his companions knew well where to go and what to avoid, so as not to have to face powerful Grand Magus.

After only a week's journey, they were now leaving a small town in the region, where they had got tips on regarding the group they wanted to hunt.

As they left the town and found themselves back in the forest, the group had smiling looks on their faces, eager to confirm what they had achieved the previous afternoon.

The Black Raven Crew was not a powerful group like some beasts they had faced in the last month of travel. As far as they knew, there was no Grand Magus in the group. Their prey's average strength was definitely superior to that of their group, but with only high level Magus in their command, the Black Raven Crew was not an uncontested enemy, even more so for them, who had Vicente on their side.

This mission that they wanted to do in the near future was now Vicente's reward to them for helping him on this important journey for his magical growth.

But Vicente himself wanted to bring down the Black Raven Crew for the benefit of his faction. With the resources that a small group of 7th stage bandits should have, his faction could grow in number and strength of its members quickly.

He guided his people this morning, soon arriving at a critical point in the forest near the town they had set off from. There, the expert in charge of the group's navigation checked the surroundings, matching the information they had.

"We're close," said the group's Tracker as he looked at his allies. "Get ready."

Everyone in the group tightened their grip on their attack and defense items, with Rex showing his desire to fight. Unfortunately, he hadn't been very useful to his master during the previous hunt. But now he wanted to prove his worth and at least kill some high-level 7th stage magicians.

With his teeth more evident in his mouth, the golden beast made his way ahead of the group, leading them in the direction indicated by the Tracker.

Rex couldn't deny how convenient he was to walk among magicians. They always had useful devices to improve their group's chances, skills of different kinds and advanced knowledge. They really weren't that strong—with the exception of his master—but they had their skills that caught the eye.

Vicente followed right behind his beast, leaving him in front to exploit the strength of the enemy's group. If anything unusual was waiting for them, he would interfere.

As soon as he saw Rex stop after passing a rock, Vicente saw his answer was waiting just ahead.

Those less skilled in combat stayed behind and soon Larissa was on Vicente's right, seeing the camp that awaited them on the other side of the rock in their path.

There was a large camp there. With at least 30 tents or huts, 12 guards monitoring the surroundings, this was the temporary home, or maybe not, of a group of over 50 men.

Defensive and warning devices were activated here and there, while some unusual beasts were sitting or lying down at different points in that area surrounded by rocks and tall trees.

If it hadn't been for the shadows that the group was using to their advantage at the moment, they would surely have already been noticed by some of those individuals with eyes nearby.

'12 high-level Magus, 28 medium-level and 33 low-level.' Vicente counted the number of enemies, speaking to his companions through their mental communication channel.

'There are also six beasts, one of high-level, two of low-level and three of medium-level, all of them of the 7th stage.' Larissa counted the other opponents they would certainly have to fight.

'I see eight individuals in bars. If we release them, it's possible that they'll cause some chaos and favor us in battle,' said the Formation Master, looking at a large rectangular cage in the opposite corner of the camp they were facing.

'The problem is their formations, boss. I can read three of them that will give us some trouble. They can prevent even a newly promoted Grand Magus. If we don't disable them, we'll have a group of enemies aware of our action by the time we reach them. Then the battle won't be pretty.'

This man would clearly prefer to infiltrate the enemy camp and kill the strongest and the standing guards before the enemies realized what was happening!

Vicente had talked to them about assassination and invasion strategies before, and no one there would choose a direct battle straight away.

'One of the most complicated formations is the monitoring formation. It will create an alarm sound as soon as we cross this threshold.' The man used a stick to make a line four meters in front of them. 'If we don't take it down, they'll all fight bravely for their lives.

But after it is the defensive formation, which will basically create a shield around the camp as soon as the emergency alarm sounds.'

As he listened to the experts in his group speak, Minos saw tree leaves falling from outside the protected space ahead within the area where the formations worked.

'It seems that ordinary items with no mana are not sensed by the formations.'

Several structurally identical leaf-shaped blades formed in his hands, each of them without any mana in them.

'Where are the cores of these formations?' Vicente asked as he looked at his team's Formation Master.

The man hesitated as he wondered whether what his leader wanted to do would work, but there really weren't many alternatives. He trusted Vicente and indicated the location of the formation cores.

Once he had a target, Vicente moved the leaf-shaped metals and let them fall out of the air into the protected area.

But these weren't just any leaves. With a special component that would make them change shape within seconds of leaving their creator's magical control, they entered the space of that camp as if they were ordinary leaves and soon gained a special consciousness, flying as they absorbed mana and approached the cores of the formations.

The group's Formation Master saw this and his eyes widened as he realized Vicente's ingenuity.

The next moment, he felt the formations stop working, the signal for them to move!