

The Mafia 421

Chapter 421 The Battle of Vicente?

They would have problems with the Congregation of Revelation one way or another. The best thing to do then would be to eliminate those who could pursue them in the short term and then flee as far away as possible!

That was exactly Vicente's plan: to get his enemies to focus on each other, to self-destruct, to give him time and a chance to grow.

He would soon realize that his plans would work in part, but in another part, they wouldn't be able to escape from this place without having to fight their enemies directly!

"Be quick. I'm about to be reached by the enemy leader." He said into his communicator, standing not far from where he had broken into this building a moment ago, while Layla moved quickly inside the building.

While Layla understood what she had to do, Sarah was extremely dismayed at how Vicente had turned the situation around. She still thought he would die today, but even if that happened, The Faceless Ones were already seriously injured.

With such a big problem with the Congregation of Revelations, there was only one fate for this group as it was today: disbanding!

Even if there was a chance for the group's most important members to survive, they couldn't continue in Ironcrest, let alone use the name The Faceless Ones. From now on, the Congregation of Revelations would hunt them down, even if it wasn't their fault.

'Damn it! What am I going to do? This bastard is leading me to my death!' She thought, imagining he would kill her anyway and that there would be no group for her to return to.

"Cesar, let me live! I'll do anything for you!" She looked at his mask, noticeably changing her mind now that things were worsening. "If you guarantee you won't kill me, I can tell you Nash's weaknesses."

"Really? What's his weakness?" Vicente asked, feeling the enemy was only 10 seconds away from them.

"Make a deal with me. I won't talk until then." She said, afraid that she would give him such information and he would kill her anyway.

"We don't have time. Your old colleague is almost upon us." Vicente walked straight ahead.

She looked in the direction Vicente had taken to get to where they were now, breaking into a cold sweat at the possibility of dying like a meat shield.

But now that The Faceless Ones were doomed, she valued herself more than the man who would soon be on the run.

"All right. Nash's magical form is a tool, something he calls an ice cube. As the name implies, it's based on the element of ice and thus has the weaknesses of ice. His body isn't very resistant because all of his power is focused on his form. If you want to defeat him, or at least not lose to him, try to use something against ice and hit his body." She said in a nervous tone, speaking rather quickly but without being incomprehensible.

Vicente heard all this in 9 seconds until she finished speaking, and a middle-aged man, a High-level Mage, appeared in his path.

'She wasn't lying. This man has an affinity with the ice element.' Torne said to Vicente as this young man came face to face with the enemy.

"Nash, I presume."

Nash narrowed his eyes as he saw the masked Low-level Mage standing next to a woman he knew without having to see her face or feel her aura. Her natural scent was enough for him to recognize her.

"Cesar Mazzanti... So this is your thing." Nash commented as he clenched his fists tightly, seeing that this enemy was worse than he had previously thought.

Meanwhile, his three pentagrams appeared around his body as a basketball-sized cube of bluish-white ice materialized before him.

"It doesn't matter anymore. Now that I'm in front of you, I won't leave a body behind!" He said as he moved forward, surprising Vicente a little with his speed.

But Vicente was no fool. Showing off his shocking pentagrams, he caused various metal structures responsible for the solidity of the building they were in to emerge from the ceiling, floor, and walls, forming pointed weapons with Nash in their sights.

Nash was quick enough to dodge the first dozen weapons thrown his way, but even though the first attack didn't hurt him, he couldn't help but break out in a cold sweat.

"Damn you! These weapons can hurt me!" He realized how strong Cesar already was.

Even though he was only a Low-level Mage, Don Mazzanti could take on an experienced High-level Mage like Nash!

As Nash approached Vicente, trying to dodge the blades in his path, Vice also approached him, manipulating the metals of the building to attack his target. Meanwhile, he manipulated more and more of the armor on Nash's body.

That was 3rd-grade armor. But even so, Vicente managed to manipulate part of it, making it fit tighter over Nash's body, causing the man to doubt himself.

When he felt his armor shrink, the middle-aged man didn't hesitate to stop advancing, stepping back as he tried to get it off his body.

"Aarh!"

He screamed in pain as he felt the armor crushing his body without him being able to get it off.

The surrounding area froze under his special power, turning the large area on the side of the building into a giant freezer.

While Nash tried to freeze parts of his armor so that he could shatter it with his strength, a part of him still tried to act against Vicente since not attacking would only make his situation worse.

Maybe a precise attack would put an end to all this. So he couldn't help but try to hit his target's vital point while suffering from the enemy's attack.

Vicente moved while freezing shots came from the cube like a laser gun.

Not only that but every time the cube's shots hit something, the things in the vicinity of the hit area would quickly freeze, as if that took all the heat out of everything in the vicinity.

If a single shot from it hit Vicente, his whole body would probably freeze!

'It's an annoying skill, but nothing compared to the power of Viscount Symons.' Vicente thought as he moved from side to side, trying to avoid stepping on areas frozen by the cube.

While Nash struggled to get rid of his armor and avoid being hurt by Vicente's weapons, the young man tried to dodge the cube's attacks. Just then, the blonde woman, a Mid-level Mage, reached the spot where the two were fighting, obviously shocked by the whole development.

"Who's that?" She asked herself, seeing that someone was taking advantage of the situation with The Faceless Ones to invade this place.

"Sacred Devotee, quick, help me deal with this man! He's the one really responsible for what started between us! He's the one who made one of my men attack your companion!" Nash cried out in pain.

Chapter 422 Rescue?

Meanwhile, in the underground level of this outpost of The Faceless Ones...

In the detention area of this settlement, the surroundings were dark, with about a dozen people in various cells.

Most of them looked malnourished, dirty, bruised, and somewhat degraded. But one person in particular, who was in the cell closest to the stairs leading to the upper level of this building, looked less bad.

She had dark circles under her eyes and seemed to be in a bad mood. But she had no injuries on her body and was well dressed and clean, completely different from the other prisoners there.

That was obviously Jasmine, who had been in this place for a few days.

She hadn't expected to be rescued until a few moments ago. In her opinion, the group that had kidnapped her was too strong for Vicente. So she would probably stay there until she was released after the group got some kind of price for her.

In her opinion, Layla, Cesar, and anyone else who had anything to do with her before the kidnapping were already dead. Her father was too strong, so any witnesses to what had happened would have to be wiped out.

As such, she had no hope of seeing these people again.

But a few moments ago, strange sounds of battle rose above the area she was in, drawing her attention to something she thought unlikely.

'Is that group fighting someone? Right now?' Jasmine thought to herself as the people around her were actively talking, murmuring as they prayed for their captors to fall.

Amidst the murmurs and even laughter, the front door opened, drawing the attention of everyone there.

A moment later, a masked woman appeared beside Jasmine's cell.

"Jasmine, it's me. Cesar is clearing the way for us." Layla said softly to her friend, relieved to see her safe.

Upon hearing this and seeing Layla trying to open her cell, Jasmine's eyes widened as her pale face flushed.

She could barely believe what was happening!

"Layla, is that you?"

"Yes, now let's go. I'll have to carry you, so don't worry."

"Hey! Let us go, too!" Please, girl!"

The captives begged one after the other, raising the noise in the area.

Jasmine looked at these people, most of them ordinary individuals who would neither help nor hinder her. "Layla, leave the keys. If they're lucky enough to escape, good for them. But let's not waste our time here."

Layla did as she was told and quickly handed several keys to the person in the cell closest to Jasmine's. Having done so, she left her friend.

After that, she let her friend climb on her back and didn't hesitate to leave by an alternate route.

She didn't want to go to the place where Vicente was because it would be too dangerous to go back there. On the other hand, given the situation of this post, most of the people there were already either in front of the property or where Vice was.

Few people were standing inside the estate or looking for alternative exits.

Layla could sense this and went to the back of the facility, where only a few Acolytes kept an eye on the area.

"Time to go," Jasmine murmured with a smile, imagining that Cesar was more trustworthy than she had previously thought.

"What about Mark? What happened to him?" She asked on her way out of the building.

"He tried to kill me. But someone killed him first. This group betrayed him. In fact, they just wanted to use him from the beginning."

"I see..." She regretted it because once she had thought positively about that man.

"What about Cesar? Is he with your group here in this place?"

"He's alone," Layla said while still wearing her mask. "But don't worry, killing him will be harder than you think. He'll still give us a lot of headaches."

"Is that right?" A smile broke out on Jasmine's face.

...

Meanwhile, Vicente had just bumped into a blonde dressed in clothes similar to those Layla wore when she was officially acting.

In the middle of his fight with Nash, this investigator reached where they were fighting, and his enemy blamed him for the whole situation.

The Sacred Devotee glared at the masked man, not entirely doubting Nash's words.

"Did you really do that?" She asked, but the feeling that came over Vicente was quite bad and strong, something that made her think it was possible that he was to blame for everything.

"I do not know what this man is talking about. What I do know is that he has killed members of your force, Sacred Devotee. I, on the other hand, have never killed anyone from your organization." Vicente said as he manipulated Sarah's body, moving to avoid being hit by the enemy's cube.

"Nonsense!" Nash shouted. "I would never do that! That's what young, arrogant rebels would do. Someone with my experience and position would never risk something so foolish!"

The blonde woman tended to believe Nash and said. "Stop fighting and surrender, boy. If you're innocent, I'll guarantee your safety and future freedom. But right now, you have to stop fighting, or I'll find you guilty of what happened."

'What are you going to do, master? If you believe this woman, the High-level Mage will kill you when you stop attacking. But if you don't do anything, she will join the fight... After that, it will be impossible for you to eliminate them.'

Vicente could see what Torne had in mind and felt that there was only one way. 'It will be hard for me to kill Nash, but this woman...'

Thinking this, he stopped moving and concentrated all his available power between his hands, causing space to distort as some of his mana seemed to leave his body.

Seeing his strange behavior, the blonde woman realized he wasn't surrendering but rebelling against her. She immediately changed her position and prepared to fight Vicente with Nash.

Meanwhile, Nash finally got rid of his armor and found space to attack his target for the first time in this short fight.

"Die, you bastard!" He shouted as he threw his ice cube at Vicente.

When the cube was halfway to Vicente, strange sounds emanated from the building as the two's spatial rings and other small metal objects on their bodies began to fall off.

"Aagh!"

The blonde woman screamed as she felt the necklace around her neck break and fly towards the newly formed magnetic core in front of Vicente.

He threw it forward, and an instant later, the place's walls, ceiling, and floor were torn apart by metal from practically all over the building.

In the midst of this, the structure of the building creaked as it began to crumble!

"Oh, shit!"

Chapter 423 Escape from Ironcrest?

After Vicente formed the magnetic core, all metals within a radius of up to 50 meters from the core were strongly attracted to it.

All metal structures in the building, on people, or even on the ground were drawn to the core, causing them to pass through anything in their way.

The two Mages facing Vicente sensed something was wrong when they heard the building they were in range of, but also saw several walls being destroyed by metal flying towards the thing.

Their instincts told them not to stay there, or terrible things might happen to them.

But before they could flee, the building began to collapse as more and more metal flew across the area, like ammunition of different sizes being fired at the same place.

"Aaaaaaagh!"

The blonde woman opened her mouth to scream in pain as she felt several of those metal fragments flying by at high speed, overcoming her defenses.

She tried to move, but as she concentrated on keeping her defenses active to avoid being impaled by one of those projectiles, she felt the ground become soft and her feet sink into it.

Nash felt the same, sensing the effect of the earth-based spell Vicente had just cast.

"Damn you! Do you want to die here with us?" Nash shouted as he glared at Vicente with hatred, trying to freeze the ground to improve his situation.

Vicente said nothing, preparing for the building to collapse.

Crack!

Amidst the blonde woman's screams and Nash's desperate attempt to flee the area, the sound of cracking grew louder and louder.

Ten seconds after the magnetic core was activated, the three-story building began to crumble, with the walls and columns of the first floor collapsing before the entire building was destroyed.

Those outside the building would notice this when they looked back and saw a large cloud of dust forming at that location.

Some were waiting for the results of Nash's move to escape, while others were already on the run after killing the two remaining Mages from the investigators' group.

Now, it was time for them to hide!

Seeing the building collapse made Nash's most trusted allies feel terrible, but they couldn't risk their lives by staying behind.

"Let's go!" A Mid-level Mage said to his companions who were still waiting for Nash. "If the boss survives, he'll find us. But we can't waste any more time here!"

"Yes!"

"Okay!"

They made up their minds to leave this place on the run, heading in the same direction as their other companions who had already left.

Amidst this, Jasmine and Layla looked in the direction of that place, already further away than the men of The Faceless Ones who were fleeing.

"Will he be okay?" Jasmine didn't know about Cesar's improvement, so of course, she wondered about it, a little worried.

Her relationship with Cesar had gotten off to a very bad start. But when she was rescued, she couldn't help but take a new interest in the man.

Not only had he shown her that he was much more talented and capable than she had previously thought, but he was also braver, willing to get into trouble for the good of his group.

These were remarkable qualities that could not be ignored in an ally!

Layla looked back as she left Ironcrest at high speed. "I don't know. Let's wait for him at the place where we attacked him earlier. If he survives, he'll meet us there before nightfall."

While those directly involved in the incident who were not in the building at the time of the collapse fled, this faction's observers were already communicating with their superiors about what was happening.

From one hour to the next, The Faceless Ones had begun fighting members of the Congregation of Revelation, and then that faction's building collapsed.

Men from the largest local faction were already on the run, while several bodies lay at the edge of the now ruined building.

"Shit! The Faceless Ones are finished! They attacked the fucking Congregation of Revelation investigators!"

"Boss, cut all our ties with The Faceless Ones. From tomorrow, they will be the number one enemy of the Congregation of Revelation!"

"This is the time to move! The Faceless Ones' business will be free to take in no time! Tell the bosses that we must move quickly!"

Several people moved away from the area, using communicators to let people know what was going on in this part of Ironcrest, hinting at the opportunities as well as the problems that might arise after today.

No one wanted to venture into the unknown just yet, and investigating this dusty area was still not a priority for these people. At least until the dust settled, all observers and onlookers would stay away from this place.

That was exactly what Vicente needed to get out of the area safely!

While everyone outside the ruined building thought that everyone there had died, Vicente was in the same place as before.

But his surroundings had changed considerably. Now, his freedom of movement was reduced to a sphere with a radius of 2 meters, just enough for him to stand and move his arms in this area surrounded by rubble.

Beyond those two meters was a large amount of material parts of the walls, ceiling, and building structures that had been there before.

But even after the building collapsed and left Vicente's surroundings in this form, he could hear human sounds of pain here and there.

In particular, he could hear the sound of Nash, who was still alive despite being injured and trapped by fixtures, walls, and a layer of rubble more than 10 meters high.

Vicente kept his powers active as he kept those materials from collapsing on him, looking in the direction of where the blonde woman had been earlier.

'It looks like she's dead...' He felt that as he noticed several metallic objects impaled in the woman's body.

"Perfect." He muttered, aware that he simply couldn't leave her alive.

She had seen him and knew he was responsible for today's battle. She could easily turn the Congregation of Revelations against him and his family if she survived.

But with her dead, even if Nash survived and tried something, Vicente wouldn't have much of a problem with the Congregation of Revelations.

With that confirmed, he used his powers, casting a spell based on the earth element to create a way out of these ruins.

It didn't take long for him to get out of where he was and reach the surface, where dust still surrounded the outskirts, a few dozen meters away from the center of the destruction.

He made his way to the rendezvous point with Layla without hesitation.

Chapter 424 Departure?

Minutes after the collapse of one of the buildings in The Faceless Ones, Vicente left Ironcrest and arrived at one of the nearby mountains, at the place where he, Jasmine, and Layla had previously met.

On one of his shoulders lay the body of an unconscious black-haired woman.

It was obviously Sarah Mercer, Nash's former companion, who had barely survived the previous collapse due to her proximity to Vicente at the crucial moment.

She had been hit by debris while trying to get to Vicente's side and was unconscious now.

In any case, her heart was beating, and Vicente would not leave this witness of his deeds behind.

"Cesar?" A voice he hadn't heard for weeks called his name as Layla got up from where she was to see Vicente again.

"You survived another tough confrontation..." She said.

Vicente felt more relieved to face these two, finally having confirmation that Jasmine's rescue had been successful.

He looked at the pink-haired woman and asked. "How are you? Did they do anything to you?"

She smiled, sensing concern in Vicente's tone. "I'm fine. And they didn't do anything to me. They couldn't have. They intended to get something from my father, so it would be foolish of them to do anything to me."

"Sigh... Good." Layla commented as the three of them stood side by side, looking toward Ironcrest.

Jasmine asked. "What happened? What's the status of The Faceless Ones?"

Vicente summarized. "The Faceless Ones will probably no longer exist after today. However, several of its members are still alive, including Nash, the group's leader.

I used a strategy to escape from Ironcrest, but that was all. I had no intention of killing this man, as that would be too much work and would greatly increase my risk of being caught.

Then we must consider that he will also manage to escape, which could become a problem for us in the future. He's not an easy man to deal with."

The two became more serious when they heard this, for indeed, a High-level Mmage like Nash would be a problem.

Now, he had lost his pack and was likely to become a lone wolf, someone tough to track down and neutralize.

"The Congregation of Revelations will hunt him, and he will also become a wanted person of the royal army with a bounty on his head. That will limit him, but there's a chance he'll try to pay it all back." Jasmine commented, pondering the matter.

Layla said. "We have to be more careful from now on. He probably won't act out in the cities, but every time we leave a city to travel, we have to be twice as careful."

Vicente said. "If he's smart, he'll get out of the Seidel Kingdom. But I feel he'll want revenge, so we'll be as careful as you suggest.

Anyway, I think he's our only concern. I confirmed that all the members of the Congregation of Revelation died in that area before I left. So, there are no witnesses that could cause us any problems.

Everyone will think that The Faceless Ones are solely responsible for the whole incident, so there won't be any kind of investigation that could hurt us. Apart from the problem with Nash, we don't have to worry about anything else".

Jasmine sighed, not liking the idea of sacrificing another member of her organization but understanding the necessity of it on this day.

"What now?" Layla asked as she looked at Vicente and the black-haired woman he had placed on the floor in front of her.

Vicente looked at Sarah and said. "I still haven't decided what to do with this woman. We used to be enemies, but now her situation has changed a lot. She has nowhere else to go, and I made her a promise... I'm deciding whether to keep my word or do something else."

"Killing her would be easier," Jasmine said, but she didn't want Cesar to be too cold.

If he was like that, how long would it be before he broke his promises to her and killed her?

She said. "But keeping your words has an important weight. It can create a regret or a weakness that can hinder your progress. There are other ways to punish or keep someone in line."

"I'll think about that when she wakes up." He sighed before saying. "But for now, you should go to Millfall. It's been a long time since you acted like members of the Congregation of Revelation. It can't go on like that much longer."

Layla took the things Newton had given her to give to Vicente and handed them to him as she spoke. "This is what we will do. We'll try to get away from your problems for a while and act normally as normal members of our religion. But what about you? Are you going to hunt your pentagram now?"

He looked into the eyes of this woman who was not masked now. "More or less. I have some business to take care of first." He put away the things Newton had sent. "So we won't see each other for a while. But in the meantime, keep an eye on your fellow cult members. If anything happens related to my group, try talking to my people in Millfall."

"We'll do that," Layla promised.

Jasmine then approached Vicente and showed him one of her hands. "Thank you, Cesar. I know you rescued me to keep yourself out of trouble, but it came in handy. At the beginning of all this, I didn't expect us to have a good relationship, but today I think differently. I hope you won't be put off by the beginning of our alliance. Let's look at this day as a new beginning for our relationship."

He squeezed her hand, not disagreeing with what she had in mind. "That's better." He smiled. "Now go. You must return to the city and start cultivating again. Try to reach the 3rd stage before I return."

With those words, the two groups split up, with Vicente and Sarah staying behind on the mountain near Ironcrest.

While the black-haired woman was still unconscious, Vicente picked up the communicator Newton had sent and tried to talk to his contact in Ironcrest.

A minute later, Newton's voice came from the shiny object in Vicente's hand.

"Cesar, is that you? Where are you?"

Vicente smiled at the interest in the man's voice and answered. "Yes, it's me, professor. Unfortunately, we won't be able to meet. I'm near Ironcrest, but I have to leave right away. So we'll have to talk through this device."

"Oh?" Newton didn't need to hear Vicente's report to understand everything that had happened. "I see. You must leave immediately. All right, I'll tell you what I have to say right here."

Chapter 425 Going to Free Snow Claw

"Cesar, your next pentagram must be a green one. It would be a waste not to try to absorb something like that. Considering that your first two pentagrams are pure essences not generated by living beings, they can grow a lot with the addition of a green pentagram.

If your first pentagram has not yet evolved to the orange level, it will certainly do so when you absorb the green pentagram. As for your second essence, it will probably reach the green grade when you become a Sovereign and absorb your fourth essence.

So, you must work hard to overcome this challenge and achieve this incredible feat.

Vicente listened to Newton speak without interrupting, seeing how intelligent this man was to estimate things that were already happening to him, even without him showing himself to such a professor.

Newton continued. "Unfortunately, I don't have any data on pentagrams of this classification formed by the natural effects in the whole province. So you'll have to look for a pentagram made by a living being. It's not the best you can find, but it's what 99% of magicians can do.

So get to the Wolfrior Forest as soon as you can. That is the largest forested area in the province, home to a race of beasts with an elemental affinity similar to yours.

I've heard that some of the Tempest Hawks in this area are on the cusp of the 3rd and 4th stages. Perhaps one of them has formed a green pentagram. Look for this tribe. Your new pentagram may be among them."

"Tempest Hawks?" Vicente had heard of these beasts, for they were a race native to the Seidel Kingdom, usually found in large forests far from human cities, especially in places with special climatic characteristics marked by storms.

"Yes, I know it's difficult to hunt a beast that flies and isn't slow, but I believe that a pentagram formed by a being of this species will be more than 80% compatible with your powers.

In particular, you may be able to gain mental power if your pentagram comes from one of these hawks. Despite their tremendous physical strength, they are also known for their unusual mental abilities. I believe something like this would be crucial for you.

Your greatest weakness right now is your mind."

Hearing Newton's voice, Torne couldn't help but agree, "This man is right. Your greatest weakness is your mind, as long as you can't control your second magical form. And Tempest Hawks certainly has that mental quality. It may be that a pentagram formed by one of these beasts will actually strengthen one of your weaknesses, master.'

"Okay, I'll try to hunt down one of them if I find one with a green pentagram. But what if there aren't any?"

Newton replied. "Then you'll have to look for another animal. Even if a pentagram with mental ability is valuable to you, we must give priority to the quality of the pentagram.

Other beasts in that forest have powers based on the Earth and Lightning elements. Search for them until you find a match. Finding a green pentagram won't be easy, but your chances are not bad in this area. Newly promoted Sovereigns visit this area from time to time."

"All right, I'll do my best to succeed in my visit to the Wolfrior Forest. I hope to have my third essence by the time you come to Millfall in a few months." Vicente said determinedly.

"Me too," Newton replied. "I'll see you in Millfall in three months at the latest. We'll talk more about the girl you mentioned. That can be discussed in the future."

"Hmm, thank you for your help, Professor. See you later."

Vicente ended the call after that, no longer lingering in that area, picked up Sarah's body and left from there, heading towards Long Bay Correctional Facility.

Long Bay Correctional Facility was where Snow Claw was, the place Shelby had told Vicente to go to take advantage of the shift change that was about to take place to free this big provincial criminal.

This facility was close to the Wolfrior Forest, so it was on the way to Vicente's next pentagram hunt.

He wouldn't have to waste much time traveling once he got there, which was about a week's journey from Ironcrest at Vicente's maximum flying speed.

"Time to move on to the last part of my plans for Millfall..." Vicente thought as he flew towards the center of the province.

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Meanwhile, at one of the exits of Ironcrest...

A middle-aged man, tall but dirty with dust and blood, was moving through the city's sewers, limping but quickly approaching one of the local sea outlets.

Ironcrest's sewer system emptied into one of the local coastlines near this seaside city's harbor.

There weren't many people around, and with the pollution in the area, this was a standard route for criminals on the run.

'Damned Cesar! I'm still going to kill you! Just wait, and I'll be back!' Nash thought to himself, having fled the ruins of his old estate moments ago, following the local sewer system to avoid trouble.

Now that everything had gone from bad to worse, he knew that the army would soon be hunting him down, and the Sacred Devotees would be sent to kill all members of The Faceless Ones faction.

There would be no investigation this time. The blame would fall on his group after this morning's battle and the incident at The Vile Altar.

Even if he tried to seek justice and show the world that he was 'innocent,' he would never be able to rid himself of what happened in Ironcrest. Now, he could only run away and eventually seek revenge!

His logical side told him it was too dangerous to stay in the province. But his heart longed for Cesar's blood!

The man was powerful and would probably grow stronger in the future. But Nash couldn't help but long to return all that Cesar had given him.

'I'll end your family, even if I can't kill you, you bastard!' He thought to himself as he jumped into the sea and began his journey to escape Ironcrest.

As he fled, the royal soldiers in Ironcrest and members of the local Awakening Temple would soon begin to search where all the confusion had occurred that morning.

It was there that the bodies of members of The Faceless Ones faction would be found in the rubble, along with those of emissaries from the Congregation of Revelation. However, the main names of such a local underworld faction would not be found!

From that day on, all known members of this group who didn't leave bodies behind would become wanted fugitives, with huge bounties on their heads or even information about their whereabouts!

That was the end of The Faceless Ones!

Chapter 426 Near the Wolfrior Forest?

In the blink of an eye, a whole week has passed since the fall of The Faceless Ones.

News of the fall of the second-largest faction in the local underworld has spread throughout the province.

Even the major powers in Saltstar City were aware of the matter, with some individuals interested in the power vacuum left by The Faceless Ones in Ironcrest. In contrast, others were simply curious about what had happened in the city.

Why in the world would The Faceless Ones start a battle against members of the Congregation of Revelation?

That was the question on everyone's mind in the major cities of Scott Province.

Amidst the rumors circulating throughout the area, the Congregation of Revelations had already put out several bounties on the fugitives of The Faceless Ones and had begun moving their forces around the province.

For the first time in a long time, a local power had dared to challenge the continent's most celebrated religion. Now, this force wouldn't stop until it had eliminated everyone involved in the problem!

Given how it had happened, with witnesses seeing members of The Faceless Ones initiating the previous fight, there would be no more in-depth investigations. Such a faction was guilty and had to be completely eliminated!

At the same time, the royal army was following the same line of reasoning as the Congregation of Revelation, and the soldiers from the capital in Millfall had already completed their investigations into The Vile Altar incident and the death of Christopher Hogan.

The Faceless Ones had been found guilty of the deaths of the four army Commanders, and the Martial Court had already tried them and placed bounties on their heads.

While groups of soldiers began searching for the fugitives from Ironcrest, the soldiers from the capital in Millfall still had work to do on the ground.

As much as the mystery surrounding the deaths of the four Commanders had been "solved," there was still the fall of the Symons family for them to investigate. As a result, the group that had arrived in Millfall earlier was still in town and would remain there for some time.

But their presence in Millfall would help the Mazzanti family more than it would hinder them!

So, the city was at peace and without any significant power struggles to get in the way or create future problems for the people currently led by Rory.

At this rate, the family was using their resources and growing stronger, improving their dominance over the city, while their relationships with the local nobles were becoming more beneficial to them.

The situation for the family was so good that the family's biggest 'enemy' at the moment had left the city days ago and had no date to return.

...

Somewhere in Scott Province, Nova followed a group of 11 people down a dirt road in a densely wooded area where the horizon was barely visible.

It was the middle of the day, and the heat in this area was making even the High-level Mage leading this group of soldiers sweat.

Several insects and mosquitoes were in the vicinity, causing some of these soldiers to use their powers occasionally to chase them away.

However, insect-like beasts were difficult to fend off, and these people could only bear the presence of these small creatures close to their bodies.

Fortunately, such small beasts posed no danger to these 3rd stage individuals.

All of the eleven people in the group were at the 3rd stage, and there were four Low-level Mage, five Mid-level Mage, and two High-level Mage.

They were traveling in a carriage and 6 magical beasts, heading to the Wolfrior Forest, an area that was now only a day away from them.

This was the group of soldiers that Nova had heard about a few days ago, who were going to Wolfrior Forest to start the first part of the promotion test for 3rd-stage soldiers.

In this group of eleven, the four Low-level Mages were newly promoted individuals who would hunt their pentagrams in this forest area and compete for the commander positions currently available in the province.

Whoever scored the highest in this test, which would end at the army headquarters in Saltstar City, would win the best battalion to command.

What did it mean to win the best battalion to command? Simply, it meant living in a better city, where quality services and resources were easier to find and more affordable, but also having better growth opportunities.

There was a big difference between being the Commander of a Saltstar City battalion and being the Millfall post-Commander!

Therefore, the four Captains couldn't help but look at each other as rivals while in the carriage with the supervisor of this test.

That was especially true for one of Nova's old acquaintances among the three, a blond fellow who had studied in the same class as her during her early years in the army.

'Nova, Nova, Nova, you'll pay for embarrassing me on our test in Dryhaven.' The blond thought to himself, 'Let's see how far you get this time... I helped you with the test to become a Captain, but this time will be different.'

While this individual was thinking about dangerous things, Nova knew she had to be careful with the man in front of her.

'Does Eric still have those thoughts about me?' She asked herself as she saw the young blond man looking at her mysteriously. 'Maybe I should tell him about my relationship with Vicente? That way, he maybe will stop following me? No, I'd better not. The way he's passionate, it's possible he might try something against Vicente in the future. I'd better deal with him the way I always have.'

Nova and Eric had been friends in the military academy. But he was in love with her, while she felt nothing for him.

The last time they had been together, Nova had made it clear to Eric that she had no interest in him and that he should get on with his life without thinking about her in that way.

Unfortunately, this had happened in front of a dozen people because Eric thought he could easily win Nova's favor after helping her hunt for her second pentagram.

He had exposed himself because of his great confidence and ended up humiliating himself in front of many people.

That might not seem like a big deal to many people, but Eric was someone who cared very much about his reputation and hated to hear bad things said about him.

After such a situation, his opinion of Nova had changed 180 degrees!

While these two were thinking about each other, the other two Low-level Mages who were preparing to hunt their next pentagrams were sitting next to Nova and Eric.

One was a young man with brown hair, and the other was a blonde woman, the only one of the two who knew Nova and Eric's story.

She thought to herself. 'This will be my chance. Nova and Eric will probably have some kind of problem with each other on the hunt. That will be my chance to take over Saltstar City place!'

Chapter 427 The Hunt Begins

After a few hours in a carriage with people who would be competing with her for the best Commander position available at the moment, Nova felt the speed of the vehicle slow as the people outside the carriage spoke louder.

"We're here." The High-level Mage outside the carriage said, adding to the excitement of all four applicants.

There were currently three vacancies for battalion leader commanders in the province. One of the four would be sent to the capital to serve differently, something they weren't that interested in.

Going to the capital could be considered the best scenario, but there was a big difference between going to the capital to command a battalion and going to serve some nobleman or member of royalty.

As much as there were advantages to the former, most soldiers, and these four were no different, preferred to have fewer opportunities but the freedom to command their own group.

As such, this was a competition to see who would get the best rank and avoid being sent to the capital.

The worst performer of the three would have to be sent to serve someone else or be part of a group led by another Mage!

While the four were feeling anxious, the strongest man of the group, who had traveled with them in the carriage, got out of it and said loudly. "All right, young Captains, let's begin your test.

You've already taken an ascension test once and know how we do things. My group and I will remain in strategic positions around this area to help you if necessary. However, we will interfere as little as possible," He said as the other High-level Mage threw silver necklaces at the four.

As the four put on these necklaces, devices that could alert these supervisors if one of them was in great danger, the main supervisor continued to speak. "Your job here is simple. Hunt down compatible beasts and absorb the best pentagram you can.

While in the area, you must guard the bodies of any creatures you kill and any resources you collect or find. All of this will be part of your score in this test to become a Commander."

The other High-level Mage said. "This test doesn't have a time limit but try not to make your hunts too long. Whoever gets the 'same' score will have their rank determined by how long it took them to get back to us. If you all get the 'same' result, but one takes 6 days, another 9, another 7, and another 11, the one who took 6 days will be the best placed.

You should also avoid confrontations with beings that are too weak or incompatible with you. They will be worth very few points, and some may even lower your final score".

Their purpose was to hunt pentagrams, so the rules served to prevent one of them from killing beings recklessly just to collect points. The army would only give value to those who really had challenges, so it wouldn't be enough for one to have more fights to get more points.

Everyone already knew the rules and nodded in agreement, saying they understood how they would be judged.

"All right, this is the beginning of the test. Don't come back until you have completed your goals in this area. Now go!" The strongest said before sending the four off in different directions.

...

While Nova's group started to hunt for pentagrams in the forest, Vicente was near the area, still at Sarah Mercer's side.

Days after leaving Ironcrest, Vicente had decided not to eliminate Sarah Mercer for the time being. He wasn't going to release her just yet, but the risk to her life had been greatly reduced.

Ever since the black-haired woman had awakened from her coma and learned what had happened to The Faceless Ones, they had been traveling together to Long Bay Correctional Facility.

Today, they were about to reach their destination, which was only 20 kilometers away from the Wolfrior Forest, where Vicente would soon be hunting his next pentagram.

As the two made their way to this royal detention center in this province, they spotted the place they were headed for early this afternoon.

They saw a large mountain about a few kilometers from their position, which had practically no vegetation on it, being mostly a large bare rock.

But around this mountain were a number of small buildings, zones separated by railings with observation posts here and there, and men positioned over an area of more than 50,000 square meters.

"Long Bay Correctional Facility... I never thought I'd end up in a place like this." Sarah commented as she saw the worst nightmare of criminals like herself.

Long Bay Correctional Facility was the final destination for lawbreakers in this province. It was the highest-level facility in the area, where all those sentenced to long terms of imprisonment were sent.

This place housed murderers, corrupt people, thieves, rebels, traitors, etc. Every type of criminal that could exist in this province would eventually be sent to this place to serve their sentence.

With few exceptions, even those sentenced to death would come to this place before their execution, spend time here, and even be executed here.

Given the importance of this facility, the security around it was better than anywhere else in the province, with many royal soldiers and mechanisms to make invasions or escapes difficult.

Vicente heard his temporary traveling companion's comment and joked with her. "Did you think you'd come here escorted by the army?"

She looked at him but didn't disagree. "Yes, if I fell into the hands of the army one day, the Martial Court would probably send me here... And that would be the end of me.

There's no escape from Long Bay Correctional Facility. That's why I'm telling you again, Cesar. Give up this absurd plan. If you continue with your plan, we'll both end up trapped in this place.

Once inside that stone mountain, escape will be impossible. We'll have to settle for spending the rest of our lives in such a place!"

There were few eternal punishments for transgressions in the Seidel Kingdom. However, once you enter such a facility, it would be almost impossible not to commit new crimes within the prison.

Places like Long Bay Correctional Facility were extremely chaotic. Living in such a prison without getting into more trouble would be very difficult.

From then on, new punishments would pile up on top of the old ones, eventually leading to almost all inmates living in units like this for the rest of their lives!

That was one of the big problems with entering one of these prisons!

"Besides, the infighting here is even worse than in the outside world, Cesar. If we fail in this suicide mission, we might not even have to worry about being locked up for the rest of our lives. Unprepared people could die in this place in a matter of weeks!"

Chapter 428 Shift Change?(1)

Vicente listened to Sarah's concern, aware that her words were not exaggerated and that this was a genuine concern.

"There are risks in everything we do, Sarah. But you haven't stopped becoming a part of The Faceless Ones, trying to kill me, and so on. You should be dead by now after everything you've done. If you think about it, you're already working overtime in this world. What do you have to lose?" He asked, looking into the black-haired woman's eyes.

"I know that, but..." She hesitated, being watched so closely by Cesar.

"But what? I'm the one taking the risks here. You'll follow me no matter what my fate is." He said in a thick tone.

She clenched her fists, feeling terrible for accompanying someone as crazy as Cesar. "So what did you have in mind? Getting into that facility won't be easy. And if we get caught, I can tell you that the minimum sentence for breaking into a military installation is 200 years. Given the seriousness of this offense, we'd be locked up with the most dangerous people in this prison."

Vicente ignored most of Sarah's comments and said. "There will be a shift change in the next two days. I will infiltrate this prison at that time. Or rather, we will infiltrate."

Gulp!

"Are you crazy?" She asked in awe, not wanting to have to do this.

Vicente laughed under his mask. "The group that will be changing shifts is made up of soldiers from different parts of the kingdom. Many don't know each other and will only meet in this prison when it's time to change shifts. You and I will take the place of two soldiers."

The change of shifts in this prison was not an ordinary event. This moment that was about to happen referred to a great exchange of people, which had been happening in prisons all over the kingdom for decades.

Why did this happen? To prevent corruption among the soldiers in charge of prisons, to reduce the contact of some men with certain bandits, and to increase the soldiers' attention.

The royal family of the Seidel Kingdom had developed many techniques to get the best performance from their services. After managing their prisons for a long time, they knew the chances of soldiers becoming lazy after being in the same role and place for too long were greatly increased. At the same time, the longer the contact with certain individuals, the greater the chances of soldiers becoming corrupted and even betraying the royal forces.

For this reason, every decade, the soldiers in a given prison were sent to new facilities where different and unknown people were imprisoned, where one would hardly know many other soldiers.

These exchanges usually maintained good efficiency of the royal forces in the state prisons and made the rates of problems relatively low.

Before these measures, escapes and problems such as rebellions occurred a few times a year. But since these measures went into effect decades ago, sometimes all the prisons in the kingdom have gone years without any significant problems.

In the last 40 years, only 3 people escaped from the royal prisons in this state, while only 10 rebellions took place.

That was great, but, of course, it all came at a price!

The price of this improved efficiency was precisely the risk during the big shift change when someone like Vicente might try to do something he shouldn't!

Even knowing that it was indeed possible to take the place of soldiers from the kingdom, Sarah was a little nervous about what Vicente had in mind.

"This will be very dangerous." She said apprehensively. "There is a possibility of taking a soldier's position during a shift change like this. But the royal forces know this, and there are several ways to verify a soldier's identity.

My guess is that we'll be recognized and arrested before we even enter it."

"It's hazardous to do what I have in mind." Vicente smiled. "Fortunately, I'm doing it with the help of wealthy nobles and powers."

If someone tried to do what Vicente had in mind without any support, their chances of success would be slim. But he had Shelby and all her contacts on his side.

Shelby didn't just have ambitious plans or suggestions for her allies to grow with her. She had detailed information on almost everything she was involved in.

The plan to free Snow Claw was something she had been thinking about since she was a student at the Ironcrest Royal Academy!

Since then, she had been making contacts and buying secret information from the kingdom's soldiers and Snow Claw's former associates for this moment.

Vicente knew everything Shelby had gained access to so far. Because of this, he knew what he was up against when he infiltrated this military facility, who he would take over, and who to avoid when he entered it.

Shelby already had the families of some of the soldiers who would be taking up positions in the prison under the custody of some of her allies. Vicente would just have to find the right people, take their places, and get the keys and IDs before he could proceed with his plans.

Shelby and her contacts had already done everything that could be done for that moment. Vicente was merely the executor of their group's plans!

"I know what to do to get into this place safely." Vicente smiled as he looked toward the mountain where the prison bearing the surname of a great Colonel of the kingdom was located.

"The problem will be getting out. Getting out will be difficult, Sarah." He was honest about this part of his plans. "There will probably be dangers in our escape, so be prepared for that moment."

She broke into a cold sweat, feeling she had no choice but to follow Vicente's crazy plans.

"If I die, I'll chase you out of the underworld, Cesar." She said since there was really nothing left to convince him otherwise.

He laughed at her remark and said. "Watch your words. It would be a shame if someone as beautiful as you became a ghost."

After this brief conversation, they would arrive at the staging area where Shelby's group had told him to wait for their targets.

According to their original plans, he was to replace one soldier and work alongside two other soldiers who would be threatened and would have to help him. But he could include Sarah in his plans since a woman was one of the three people Shelby's group was going to threaten.

That way, Sarah's presence wouldn't interfere with Shelby's original plans.

The two would wait for their targets for several hours, but as the shift change approached, people would soon be coming their way!

Chapter 429 Shift Change (2)

When a group of three soldiers appeared at the spot where Vicente and Sarah were hiding, he looked at the Low-level Mages whose appearance was identical to the portraits Shelby had given him earlier.

'That's them.' He thought to himself before signaling to Sarah that these were their targets.

Looking at the three more seriously, Sarah felt a little unsure. "Is this really going to work?" She asked him. "How can I pass myself off as that woman? I'm stronger than her! What if someone knows her among those who will also be changing shifts?"

Vicente said. "Your level is not a problem. Let's say you found an opportunity on your way here and raised your level. As for your other concern, that won't happen.

These three were previously in a prison in the kingdom's northernmost province. They were the only ones chosen from there to come here. And as I've said, my group knows everything about them."

"How? Did you know who would be chosen to come here?" She asked, trying one last time to convince Vicente not to go any further.

"No. My contacts investigated all the soldiers in that unit, and only when these three were selected did we start investigating them. Anyway, time to act." He said before he moved and appeared in front of the three soldiers.

When Vicente appeared from a bush in the path of the three, they immediately stopped moving towards the nearby prison.

At first, they were silent, but when they saw a Mid-level Mage appearing behind them, they understood what this was all about.

The leader of the three said. "Do you know who we are? Do you know the risks of acting against royal soldiers?"

"We know who you are, Oscar," Vicente said with a humorous tone.

These people obviously knew nothing about him and the actions of the people associated with Shelby. But they didn't need any advance information to understand what was happening.

They were going to change shifts at the local prison, so there was only one possibility that people would want to act against them.

"They want to take our places and infiltrate the royal prison!" The only woman in the group thought to herself as she slowly put a hand on the weapon at her waist.

Meanwhile, Oscar, a black-haired man, felt sweat trickle down his back as he realized that the tall masked man knew his name.

"Who are you? How do you know my name?" He asked.

"Not only do I know your name, I know the names of your comrades here, Evan and Sophia. Not just them, I know the names of Hana, Ayla, Isla, Octavia, Myles, Connor, Jayce, and little Mateo."

"Mateo?" Sophia questioned as she took a step forward and drew her weapon.

That was her son's name!

As she made a horrified expression, Evan and Oscar also showed their concern after hearing the names of their brothers, fathers, and other loved ones.

"Wretch! What do you want?" Evan asked in a terrible tone.

Vicente laughed. "Evan, don't get upset. Everything will be fine as long as you do as we say. You have two options now.

The first is to follow what we have in mind, which will keep your loved ones safe but will probably get you kicked out of the army for betraying the kingdom.

The second is to fight here and now and try to disrupt us. That would make you heroes for the army, but you would die along with your loved ones."

Vicente opened his arms as the weapons on the bodies of these three went out of their control, and their armor tightened over their bodies.

Seeing Vicente's pentagrams, all of the soldiers were scared. Even Sarah couldn't help but sigh at the vista.

Vicente finished. "The road ahead is terrible for you. If you don't choose certain death, you all will become fugitives from the army. But try not to think of yourself. Think of your loved ones, who can have normal lives if you choose the right path."

The three cursed Vicente in their minds for this terrible situation.

They were loyal soldiers who had worked hard since their youth to reach their current positions. They had their dreams within the army and were doing well, according to their possibilities.

It was not easy to choose a path that would suddenly turn them into traitors!

However, each of them felt that they had no chance. If they decided to stand against these two enemy Mages, they would die and even bring about the end of their loved ones.

"They will probably kill us, but we have no choice." The woman said. "I won't let my son die because of a wrong decision. It will be better for him to live as an orphan than to have no chance to live at all."

"That..." Evan opened his mouth before he let out a big sigh. "You're right."

"Alright, we'll do what you want," Oscar said, his expression grim.

Vicente smiled as he saw that they would go ahead with his plans while he eased the tightness on their bodies he caused by manipulating their armor.

"You made the right decision!"

"What do we have to do?" Sophia asked.

Vicente looked into the woman's brown eyes and came straight to the point. "Sophia and Oscar, you will give your information, passwords, codes, and belongings to my companion and me. We'll infiltrate Long Bay Correctional Facility using your identities, so we need to know how to do it without looking like infiltrators."

"It looks like you've prepared well..." Evan said, clenching his fists.

Such incidents have happened in the past. But almost all of them failed because the criminals failed to get the information they needed to assume soldiers' identities.

Later, when these three would enter Long Bay Correctional Facility, they would pass through five barriers that would confirm their identities. If they failed just one of them, all the soldiers about to leave that post would turn on them and arrest them for questioning.

Because of Vicente's earlier speech, the three soldiers realized that these two individuals were no mere adventurers. They knew what they were doing.

"We can do this," Oscar said, looking seriously at Vicente. "But let me tell you, as much as the first three levels of identification can be overcome with the answers we'll give you, the last two are not easy. You'll probably die by the end of the day."

"We're willing to risk it," Vicente expressed as two artifacts in the form of bracelets appeared in one of his hands. "Put these on." He said as he threw them at Oscar and Sophia.

Chapter 430 Shift Change (3)

The items that Vicente threw at the two were devices that could absorb the magical fluctuation of individuals and replicate their auras.

Molly had given them to Vicente a few days ago when he was preparing to leave to rescue Jasmine, with plans to help Snow Claw escape soon after.

They were going to use them against three soldiers during the infiltration of the provincial prison, so Molly had given Vice three such artifacts.

'Wretch! He has excellent contacts! Probably a traitor to the kingdom!' Oscar thought as he put on the bracelet, knowing it would absorb his mana and disguise the enemy later.

Meanwhile, he and Sophia gave their codes to Vicente and Sarah, telling them some important points about themselves, but without going into too much detail, since Shelby had already given Vice the detailed information about them.

He had told Sarah everything he knew about Sophia in the past few hours. The information they had gathered now was things they could only find out by talking to the soldiers.

There wasn't much to talk about, so after 15 minutes of chatting, Vicente and Sarah knew all the secrets and important information these two had, things that could prove their identity as soldiers once inside the prison.

"Even with our auras, you'll fail..." Oscar was about to say when Vicente threw a device in Sarah's direction and then turned away from them, quickly removing his mask and pulling what looked like a skin-colored cloth over his face.

It covered his entire head and neck, while his hair slowly passed through small holes in the fabric, showing through as if it were nothing.

In the blink of an eye, Vicente turned to these people, now looking older, with hair and facial shapes identical to Oscar's.

The same thing happened with Sarah. She gained Sophia's appearance without any difficulty. If an acquaintance of such a soldier saw Sarah at this moment, there would be no indication that this wasn't Sophia!

"Shit! How did you get this?" Evan asked because this kind of device only worked if you got the face mold of your targets.

"Evan, don't ask what you shouldn't," Vicente commented as he motioned for Oscar to give him back the bracelet that was on one of his wrists.

Evan clenched his fists as he saw his two colleagues pale with fear. He asked. "What about me?"

"You're coming with us," Vicente replied as he put on the bracelet that had absorbed all of Oscar's mana. "You will assist my companion and me in our goals within the Long Bay Correctional Facility. Your job will also be to help us make our identities as Oscar and Sophia more believable."

That was the hardest job! It was much easier to be replaced by these two and let them solve their own problems in this prison!

However, Vicente needed someone like Evan, who knew how to get past some security measures he would have to deal with once inside the prison.

Oscar and Sophia looked at their colleague sympathetically since he was the one most likely to be considered a traitor to the kingdom.

"What about us?" Sophia asked.

Before she could say anything, Vicente smiled as he attacked them, hitting them so hard that they didn't even have a chance to scream in pain before they passed out.

"You two will wait here for us," Vicente said after knocking them out, planning to keep them alive for now.

He wouldn't let them get away with all the information they had, but killing them now might be a waste. After taking them down, he sealed their powers with the Seal of Spirits he still had in his possession before binding their wrists and heels.

After tying their mouths so they wouldn't scream for help when they woke up, Vicente hid the two unconscious bodies in a place he had prepared beforehand.

With that done, he looked at Sarah and then at Evan. "We're going to Long Bay Correctional Facility."

Evan hesitated for a moment, but without much choice since Vicente had shown great preparation for this moment, he went ahead, returning to the path he and his companions had taken earlier.

'Damn it! What am I going to do? Those two will probably dump me the first chance they get after I've finished my work.' He thought, afraid to act and have his loved ones harmed, but also afraid to die without even trying to escape.

He definitely couldn't try to undermine their plans or even talk to army members about them. He was sure his loved ones were in Vicente's people's hands because this guy had prepared too well to bluff about it.

But there was a big difference between getting in their way and running away after helping them!

'I must find a way to escape once they've achieved their goals. That's the only way I can stay alive without exposing my family.' He thought halfway to the entrance of the prison.

They were already very close to the military facility, so after a few minutes, they arrived at the main entrance of Long Bay Correctional Facility, where more than 350 soldiers, divided into small groups like Vicente's, were already on the outskirts.

Most of them were people who already had experience working in the kingdom's prisons, but there were also soldiers who had recently graduated from the kingdom's military academies and would be doing simpler jobs in this prison on the shift that would start that day.

Although many people were already crowded around the main entrance, there wasn't much of a rush, with most people just chatting among their acquaintances.

Most of them didn't know 99% of their colleagues who would share the same habitat with them for the next decade, so they weren't trying to meet new people now. With plenty of time ahead of them, they would wait to do so until they were in place.

In the relative silence of this prison, a large group of about the same size as the newcomers stood on the other side of the unit's bars, ready to change shifts.

Among them were Acolytes, the weakest, who usually did mundane things like cleaning and preparing the prison's food, and Mages, who were in charge of the unit's general security.

That was also the composition of the newly arrived group, which consisted of 12 High-level Mages who would be responsible for running the prison.

As the two groups looked at each other, waiting for the time to change shifts, both sides felt a powerful aura coming from the sky.

Looking up, Vicente and Sarah saw one of the few Sovereigns of the royal family, the person who would take care of this shift!