

The Mafia 441

Chapter 441 Widespread Rebellion?

While Vicente was starting the rebellion, the vast majority of the soldiers in Long Bay Correctional Facility had no idea what he was starting.

That was the case with the high-ranking Commanders who were in charge of running the prison.

But that was about to change, and not just because of Vicente's actions!

While some of the High-level Mages were scattered around the prison, the two strongest men in the army there were in the command room receiving an urgent call.

"Declare a state of emergency in the prison! Infiltrators have managed to disguise themselves as soldiers! They probably are acting to create some kind of rebellion or escape!" A soldier's voice sounded from the main communication device in that place, with a tone full of nervousness.

The two High-level Mages in the room paled when they heard that, not expecting to have such a serious problem so soon after the shift change.

"Is this really serious? But there's nothing wrong here." One of them exclaimed, thinking about the possibility that this could be a mistake.

"Impossible!" The voice said in a more serious tone. "We have already sent reinforcements to Long Bay Correctional Facility. But you'll have to handle the situation on your own for the next two hours. Our Sovereigns won't arrive until after that."

"Sovereigns?" The two Commanders looked at each other, aware that this information could not be a mistake. Sovereigns only moved when something very serious happened!

"All right. Let's start the emergency protocols." The older of the two men said as he rose from his seat, determined to start vascularizing the prison.

As the call ended and the two were about to give their orders, they felt the entire building inside the hill shake significantly.

The paintings on the walls of this command office fell off while the lamps on the ceiling shook violently. At the same time, the two Mages became a few degrees more serious as they stared at the ground with wide eyes.

"It can't be..."

"Don't tell me that..."

The two muttered, feeling very bad about this day.

...

Simultaneously with the discovery of those two soldiers, the first two levels of the prison were in total chaos!

While the metal structures of the entire prison were shaking under the strong effects of Vicente's magnetic cores, the bars of the cells on those two levels were simply flying toward the magnetic cores on those floors!

Seeing such a thing happening in front of them, the more than 600 inmates on those two levels couldn't help but notice the opportunity in front of them.

"Time to escape!" Some of the smarter ones unconsciously shouted as they saw the metal objects in their path flying toward the magnetic cores in the cell corridor.

But escaping wasn't the only thing that interested these men. Most saw this strange event as an opportunity to solve their problems in this prison!

Few of them had any hope of escape. Their situation was not favorable. Not only were there too many soldiers and defense mechanisms to prevent them from escaping the prison, but they were all out of mana!

There were devices similar to handcuffs that had the ability to seal the mana inside a body. Prisoners were usually required to use this type of device when they entered the prison and moved around the common areas of the prison to which they had access.

But in addition to these devices, the cells at Long Bay Correctional Facility could repel mana. Thus, even without such devices, an inmate held in a cell could not absorb mana.

All those hundreds of inmates who were now free to move around on levels 1 and 2 were exhausted and couldn't activate their abilities to fight for the facility.

Therefore, instead of thinking about escaping, many of these men had something else in mind.

Revenge!

No matter how slim their chances of escaping were, their chances of catching up with their enemies were great now that there were no cells in their way.

"Green Faction wretches, I'm going to kill you!" Shouted one of these men on level 2, running toward the Green Faction members on that floor.

At the same time, fights were breaking out here and there on the same floor, with several inmates running toward the guards with the intention of attacking these soldiers.

A single exhausted magician would never stand a chance against an armed magician at their best. But even a soldier with those qualities would have trouble against 30, 40, or 50 opponents.

Faced with the disparity in numbers, some of the guards soon began to flee in the direction of their comrades, not wanting to fight these rabid inmates alone.

"Oh, shit! What's going on?" One of the soldiers on level 1 shouted in fear.

Meanwhile, Evan was already dressed in prisoner clothes and moving among the many prisoners on the floor of the prison where Nico was.

It took him only 40 seconds from the start of his action to reach Eve's father, and he quickly grabbed the man without giving him a chance to speak or refuse help.

"I'm here to get you out of jail," Evan said into Nico's ear as he stood behind the man, using one of his hands to hold Nico's mouth shut. "The ones that want you out of here are related to someone named Eve Ostell. I don't know who she is, but the name must mean something to you."

'Eve?' Nico stopped struggling when he heard that.

Meanwhile, the prisoners on the outskirts were rioting on level 1 of the prison, having already spread to the living areas on that level but also to the places where the soldiers were.

Sounds of screaming and breaking furniture could be heard from all directions while fighting and desperate attempts to escape took place on this level.

Evan told Nico, "I'm going to let you, but don't make a stir. I'll take you to where we're going."

Nico nodded and agreed to follow the man, aware that this was his only chance to escape this place and try to make something of his life.

Evan gave Nico a restorative potion and said. "Drink this quickly. You'll need to move faster than you can now later."

"Okay."

...

Meanwhile, Vicente was in level 2, where a group of soldiers looked at him grimly as he helped the inmates attack the royal forces there.

After starting the rebellion by freeing many inmates, he didn't hesitate to give half a dozen potions to the strongest inmates and break down the defenses in the soldiers' area.

The soldiers there only had time to warn the rest of the prison about what was happening when Vicente and the inmates attacked them.

In just one minute since the riot began, half a dozen soldiers had fallen in level 2, where blood-stained walls and human brains could be seen here and there.

Meanwhile, the mana in the area was stirred as soldiers and prisoners struggled with their powers.

With all the confusion in this place, Vicente saw his opportunity. He didn't hesitate to make his way to the deeper floor of the facility, from where he and his companions would escape.

'Time to escape!'

Chapter 442 Snow Claw's Release

While levels 1 and 2 were in complete chaos, the situation on level 3 was terrible, though not as bad as the two floors above.

None of Vicente's magnetic cores had worked directly on this area. However, given its proximity to where he had acted, this place had suffered, with much of the metal structure of doors and cells damaged.

Although not all of the cells on this level had been opened, several had been damaged enough to allow some of the inmates to escape!

Several men had done so and were now fighting either each other or the guards, acting like mad dogs let loose for the first time in a long time.

They had no idea what was happening, but they were playing their part in Vicente's plans for this prison.

"Hahaha, you bastard! Let me see you laugh at me now!" One inmate maliciously said as he attacked a soldier along with 30 other men.

The soldier did his best to fend off the many opponents who tried to attack him with sticks and stones, things that had been damaged by the tremors a few moments ago and were now being used as weapons by the inmates.

Meanwhile, he was all alone, surrounded by the only two ways he could try to escape.

'Damned inmates!' The man thought to himself as he surveyed his surroundings, noticing that more and more bandits were leaving their cells as time went on.

Meanwhile, the soldiers outside the cell corridor seemed to be hiding, not coming out to help him even a minute after this riot started.

'It looks like something big is going on... I'm on my own!'

...

Meanwhile, in the command area on the 3rd floor of the prison cell area, the soldiers there were receiving orders from the command.

"Close all the hatches! Don't fight the prisoners. Let's close all the floors and solve one problem at a time! There are infiltrators in the prison, so be careful!" A soldier announced this message, which was being communicated to the rest of the prison.

The focus of the prison at the moment was mainly on levels 1 and 2, but also on the maximum security area. It had all started on those two levels, and considering how daring it was to break into a prison, the infiltrators' target had to be some high-security inmate. That way, they wouldn't waste time on the 'smaller fishes.'

It was a good plan, but it wouldn't necessarily be easy to put into practice!

"That's impossible!" The man in charge of this level 3 observation post said. "If we do nothing, at least half of the prisoners on my floor will kill themselves. Also, several of our men are in the cell area. They will suffer, and some will die if we do nothing!"

"Unfortunately, we can't help them right now." The voice on the post's communicator said coldly. "Our priority is to prevent escapes and punish traitors or infiltrators."

"Commander..."

"That's an order, Commander Tyler. Seal the hatches and follow protocol."

"I understand." The man in charge of level 3 said in a defeated tone.

...

Meanwhile, the High-level Mages of this prison moved into the maximum security wing, ignoring what was happening on levels 1, 2, and 3.

The warden was at the head of the group, running up the stairs to reach the last level of the Long Bay Correctional Facility.

"What's the situation around the prison?" He asked his men as he walked.

"Not good. Levels 1 and 2 are in shambles. We can't communicate with the observation posts in those areas, which means the riot on those two levels will most likely spread to other areas of the prison."

They planned to block the exits from each prison level, concentrating only on the most important ones. But without soldiers to trigger the hatches on levels 1 and 2, inmates from those levels were already spreading to the rest of the prison.

"Shit!" One of the High-level Mages said angrily.

"What are we going to do? As much as these inmates aren't that worrying, that could quickly change. All it takes is for one of them to gain access to magical resources and special areas of the prison, and the current rebellion could reach levels 4, 5, and 6."

"I want two of you to handle the situation on these two levels. Lead our men to contain the rebellion and prevent more problems from these prisoners." The group leader said.

The group of 12 High-level Mages was reduced to 10, with those two going to levels 1 and 2.

The group leader asked. "What about the situation in the other prison levels? Any strange signs?"

"Nothing for the moment. They're going into lockdown on our orders."

"Perfect. Let's take care of the problem before the reinforcements arrive!"

...

Meanwhile, Sarah had managed to arrive at Snow Claw's cell after her shift change and was now face-to-face with Vicente's target.

Snow Claw stood before Sarah and looked at the woman with interest, having already noticed something was wrong at Long Bay Correctional Facility.

"Are you here to deal with me?" He asked her, seeing the nervousness of this woman dressed as a soldier.

Sarah looked at the watch on one wrist while nervously tapping one of her feet on the floor. It had been three minutes since the riot began. But she still hadn't moved, waiting for the moment Vicente had indicated earlier.

'He'll be here any minute... I don't think I should wait any longer.'

She looked at Snow Claw and said. "My group and I are here to rescue you. I hope you'll cooperate. The prison must be in chaos right now, but the strongest soldiers here surely will come to prevent our escape."

Snow Claw's eyes took on a new sparkle at Sarah's words while his heart began to beat faster.

"Who are you?" He asked with a smile.

"I am no one. I just follow orders. The person behind your rescue is named Cesar Mazzanti." She said, shying away from the responsibility.

As much fun as she had with Vicente, she wouldn't take responsibility in his place just for the hell of it!

Snow Claw liked the name he heard because he had never heard of such a person before. If it had been a well-known name, he would have doubted what those people were after, but since it wasn't, he felt things might turn out better for everyone.

"Very well, Miss. Do your job. I'll clear the way for our escape when I'm free." He confidently said as he took a few steps back into his cell.

Sarah did not hesitate any longer. She put away her watch and finally summoned the magnetic core in her spatial ring!

Now, it was all or nothing!

As soon as she summoned the magnetic core, Snow Claw saw the mass of glowing mana distort the metal bars of his cell while the entire concrete structure of the area shook.

As had happened in the other holding levels of this prison, more cells were damaged, releasing more than one target!

Chapter 443 Escape from Long Bay Correctional Facility

The moment Vicente's magnetic core went into action in the maximum-security wing, Snow Claw watched with interest as his cell was destroyed by it.

But he noticed that not only was his cell destroyed, but the two cells next to his had their bars destroyed as well, while two others were subtly damaged.

As this happened, four inmates appeared outside their cells and looked around to see what was happening.

When they saw Sarah standing there, three of them thought about doing something. But when they saw Snow Claw behind her, they all understood they shouldn't move.

Meanwhile, the soldiers in charge of this area had already realized the trouble Sarah had caused by seeing what the prison infiltrators really wanted. However, none moved, having already closed the hatches on this level.

Unlike the inmates on the other levels, the maximum security inmates were all monsters. Even though they were out of mana, these people could easily fight at a high level and threaten even Mid-level Mages!

The only ones who could stand up to them in their current state were the High-level Mages in Long Bay Correctional Facility right now!

That was especially true of Snow Claw, who had a terrifying magical form even when he couldn't use his abilities derived from his pentagrams.

That was why the inmates around him respected him so much and why they changed their minds when they realized he was interested in the black-haired woman.

Snow Claw looked at the men and said. "Fellow prisoners, how about we escape from this damn place together? Let's forget about past feuds for now. Let's settle our problems after consolidating our positions outside this place."

"What you're suggesting isn't bad, you old devil." One of the men there, a red-haired man with a long beard and mustache, agreed. "Let's have a temporary truce. There's no point in fighting under the present circumstances."

"I agree. But how will we escape?"

"I think so too." The last of them said as Snow Claw looked at Sarah.

He asked her. "Where is your group? What are your plans to get us out of here?"

Sarah came straight to the point. "They're on their way here now. They should be here in a minute. As for our escape, that will depend on the skill of the one above me. He planned all of this, so only he knows the answer."

"Do you have any recovery potions? If we can fight with our powers, everything will be easier." One of them asked, not feeling bad about waiting a minute.

"I have two potions with me... One of them is from Senior Snow Claw." She said, not liking the idea of giving the other one to one of those men. But she couldn't help but think that it would be best for everyone.

Snow Claw took a step closer and drank his potion without hesitation. Meanwhile, the three men looked at each other, Sarah's last potion on their minds.

While they were looking at each other and wondering how they would fight over such a resource, they heard a loud crash coming from the ceiling a few meters away and quickly turned their attention to that spot.

As soon as they turned their eyes to that spot, they saw three people entering the corridor through a hole in the ceiling.

Of the three, one was obviously an inmate from one of the weaker levels of this prison unit, while the other two were Low-level Mages.

One was dressed like an inmate but shouldn't be an inmate, considering his current force, while the other was dressed in a prison uniform.

"Cesar..." Sarah sighed when she saw that her group had made it to this place.

As much as she wasn't confident about escaping from Long Bay Correctional Facility, she really believed that with Cesar around, there was a chance that they would succeed.

Vicente finally reached this place after crossing five floors of this prison and meeting Evan and Nico halfway, happy to see that Sarah had improvised.

They would have been in trouble if she had waited as long as he had asked.

When he saw Snow Claw free, he didn't want to waste any time and said. "We have to get out of this damn place. The royal forces have discovered our infiltration and are locking down the entire prison! I feel that reinforcements are already coming to this area, so we have to move fast!"

Sarah swallowed her saliva in awe when she heard that while the four inmates of this level looked at Vicente with interest.

"Kid, do you have any more restorative potions? We'll help you escape if you give us magical resources." One of the three High-level Mages said.

Even if they had their own interests in mind and only wanted to ensure their escape and their lives, they would help others whether they liked it or not. By escaping simultaneously, the soldiers would have to worry about more targets and eventually split up to hunt them down.

That would be beneficial for all of them!

Vicente looked at the three men. He had two 3rd-grade recovery potions, enough for the whole group, considering what he had given Sarah before they entered the prison.

Torne advised him to take this route, considering the enemy Mages moving around the prison and the possible reinforcements sent from the kingdom's capital.

He made up his mind immediately. "All right. Let's help them recover."

With that, he threw two recovery potions to the men, while Sarah wasted no time in giving the last 3rd-grade potion to the remaining individual.

The three drank their potions as they approached Vicente's group.

"How are we going to escape, Cesar Mazzanti?" Snow Claw asked as he looked at Vicente.

Vicente remained focused on his surroundings, not looking at these Mages. "10 Mages of similar strength to you are on their way here right now. Almost the entire prison is under lockdown, so escape from above will be impossible.

The only way out is underground. There are few defenses in the terrain below where we are. Given the area's relief characteristics, natural tunnels in the local subsoil could help us. If we find one of these tunnels, we can escape with only the risk of encountering powerful beasts or being hunted."

"And how do we get underground?" One of the four criminals asked while the rest of the group waited for directions from Vicente.

"That will be my responsibility. You must protect our group from the pursuers while I lead the way to escape."

"Okay." Snow Claw agreed just before he and the others saw Vicente go into action.

They soon understood what had given this Low-level Mage the confidence to invade Long Bay Correctional Facility for this rescue!

When they saw Vicente's pentagrams, the men opened their mouths in shock as they watched him begin to degrade the ground beneath them, as if the concrete there were made of soot.

The entire floor suffered from Vicente's actions as a large hole formed beneath him and his temporary allies.

Metallic objects formed around them, forming shovels that attacked the ground beneath them, accelerating Vicente's digging speed.

As they watched him show his special pentagrams and an unusual magical form, the men also felt slight negative sensations in their beings.

They couldn't help but feel that the metals in their bodies were being subtly affected by Vice.

"This is an impressive power." Snow Claw laughed as he felt his mana return to its normal state.

Thus began their escape from Long Bay Correctional Facility!

However, they wouldn't escape without running into trouble first, or rather, before being caught by the 10 High-level Mages chasing them!

Chapter 444 Fight on the Run?

After a few minutes of running, Vicente and his group reached one of the natural underground tunnels in the area they were in.

With Torne's help, Vicente knew which way to go. They easily reached a tunnel large enough for all of them to run through.

The region where Long Bay Correctional Facility was located had very extreme terrain. Some places were more than 2,000 meters above sea level, while others were practically below sea level. Because of these differences, the underground of some areas led to the surface of others.

But traveling underground wasn't as easy as it might seem. Since such areas were virtually unknown and mysterious, all sorts of surprises could lie in wait.

As Vicente's group began to run through the tunnel in question, they saw large worms, one of the many types of creatures that existed in places like this, appear in their path.

These worms weren't much of a problem for them at first. Still, they signaled the possibility of encountering other beings on their escape route.

"How strange..." Nico muttered as Evan carried him since he was the only one who wasn't a Mage and, therefore, moved slower than everyone else.

"Why are there no defenses in this area? I mean, this tunnel already existed, so why didn't the royal forces put safety mechanisms here?"

The people in the group, worried about their escape route or the ten High-level Mages who were already closing in on them, remained focused on what they had to do while Vicente answered the question.

"First, you would have to get past the construction barriers that we made. Not many people have powers like mine and can open paths like that. Second, it's not that there was no defense. It's that I sabotaged the prison."

Before being transferred to level 2, Vicente had worked with the bureaucratic part of analyzing prisoners. When he finished that job, he passed through the prison's command center, where he left something near where the core of the prison's defensive formations were located.

When the riot began, the explosive device he left behind detonated, weakening the barriers of the entire prison, especially those that affected this underground area.

"Third, there are certainly problems in tunnels similar to this one in the area we're in. Before returning to the surface, we'll probably encounter some problems with beasts or plants. These are the natural defenses of this area!"

Nico understood why there was such a weakness underneath the prison.

Under normal circumstances, it would be impossible for even someone like Vicente to do anything. After all, the inmates had their powers sealed and couldn't do even 0.1% of what he did this morning. Only with an infiltration, something difficult and rare, could someone use this way to escape.

But even with all of Vicente's preparations, Shelby's studies, and her allies, none of it was easy to put into practice.

Even though the escape had gone well so far, it wasn't going perfectly, and certainly not the way Vicente had planned.

In his plans, the enemies would be distracted by the rebellion at Long Bay Correctional Facility while his group escaped. However, at that very moment, ten High-level Mages were following them, so close that one group could hear the voices of the other's members.

"Snow Claw!" One of the strongest High-level Mages in that group of soldiers shouted when he saw the purple-haired man on the run.

The other soldiers felt a bit shaken when they saw the prisoner free and with mana coursing through his body.

Considering what they knew about Snow Claw, they couldn't help but feel a little afraid.

But they were determined to pursue and stop these individuals, especially because Snow Claw was not in his best condition.

"You'd better stop, or you'll all die!" The leader of the soldiers shouted, looking especially at Vicente, as this young man was dressed in an army uniform. "Attempting to escape is expected of you, prisoners. Your punishment for this will not be too severe. Only traitors to the kingdom need

worry. Snow Claw, Diamond Don, Wells the Rogue, Rober the Fang, you should give up while you still can. It won't do you any good".

The four highest-ranking fugitives heard the old soldier's voice but obviously didn't attend.

They had waited a long time for an opportunity to escape. Now that they were so close to freedom, they wouldn't give up!

"Old man, were you drinking before you came after us?" Diamond Don shouted as he revealed his magical form, creating a large crystal while sending his mana through it.

Seeing the enemy attack forming, the soldiers in pursuit moved to defend themselves, counterattack, or deflect the enemy attack, knowing that it would not be easy to fight one of these men head-on.

The strongest of the soldiers said as he grimaced. "So you're all going to die! That's especially true for you, Snow Claw! The Sovereigns of the realm are already in the area of the Wolfrider Forest! Either you go back to prison, or you'll lose your life before you even leave this area!"

"Sovereigns?" Snow Claw muttered as his face turned dark. "I won't spare the bastards who come after me this time. Forget about my past with the army. Even if Adrian gets in my way, I won't spare him this time!"

This stronger soldier knew more details about Snow Claw's capture than this man's record revealed. Knowing that Adrian, the Sovereign who had captured Jonah, was an old acquaintance of this man, the soldier in question understood that such a person would be a problem for the kingdom if he escaped.

"Then die here, you old devil!" The soldier shouted as he attacked Snow Claw, causing several ghostly figures to appear around him, looking in the direction of the purple-haired man.

Snow Claw looked at them and saw monstrous figures staring at him, trying to penetrate his mind and torment him.

The soldier's power was of a mental nature, capable of creating dream demons that could lull their targets into illusions and even degrade their consciousness to the point of taking the battle into the spiritual realm.

Snow Claw felt uncomfortable being watched by these imaginary demonic creatures while mana ghosts were attacking his body. But he stood firm as he fled.

He clenched his fists in anger as a huge arm of mana materialized around him.

This arm was about a meter in diameter at its thinnest point, glowing purple and as solid as the surrounding rocks.

"Let's see who dies!" Snow Claw said as he charged at the soldiers, scaring the men who were already being attacked by the other three High-level Mages who were fleeing with Vicente.

Chapter 445 Time to Part?

When Snow Claw attacked the 10 soldiers chasing the group, he showed everyone why the Sovereigns were necessary to arrest him.

As soon as a fraction of his mana giant formed and charged at the soldiers, the chasing soldiers felt goosebumps on their bodies as they sensed the worst.

The hand of that arm closed before striking at them, moving so fast that the sound of air being displaced arose amidst the nervousness of the soldiers in the path of the fist.

"Shit!"

A soldier materialized a mana shield in front of him to defend himself, but the moment Snow Claw's fist hit him, it immediately cracked as the fist threw the soldier away.

After overcoming the man's defense, Snow Claw's fist struck the opponent's body, hitting him with such force that the sound of breaking bones came from the soldier as his armor crumpled.

Vuup!

Only the sound of his body flying could be heard until he crashed into one of the tunnel walls, already unconscious from the force of the blow.

Meanwhile, those who had tried to dodge this attack had failed, making themselves easier targets for the other refugees to attack.

"Sticky world!" One of the three men helped by Vicente and Sarah shouted as he gestured with his hands. His magical form turned the surroundings of the tunnel between them and their enemies into light brown mud, a very sticky substance.

Meanwhile, the man with a diamond magical form focused his strength on attacking his enemies with shots that could melt the rocks in the tunnel.

When he reached the first of his enemies from the beginning of the battle, this man saw his target had the base of his right arm melted down to just bone in that area of his body.

"Aaaaaaagh!"

The soldier screamed in agony as his comrades tried to fend off the criminals, attacking but worrying about their own defenses.

While Vicente led the way with Sarah and Avan, watching out for the beasts and plants that tried to impede their escape, the four High-level Mages in their party were enough to keep the opponents occupied.

Snow Claw alone could fight off the entire group on a good day. But amid this escape, he was still able to deal with three or four of them with ease.

Having already taken down two individuals at this point in the escape, Jonah greatly facilitated the escape of the group, but also the outcome of his three fellow prisoners who had escaped with him.

These three men weren't easy either, and each could easily handle one of the soldiers alone.

In the blink of an eye, only five soldiers were chasing them!

However, as they got farther and farther away from the Long Bay Correctional Facility, the soldiers slowed down, giving the fugitives more space while continuing to chase them from farther and farther away.

"Let's just follow them! Reinforcements will be arriving in our area soon. If we keep an eye on them, we can eventually take them down." One of the remaining soldiers suggested as the magical forms on either side of this escape vanished.

"If we keep fighting, we won't get anywhere. Unfortunately, the enemies have prepared well and are very strong together." Another soldier agreed as he took care of some of the wounds he had received so far.

If it were just Snow Claw, they would have a chance to stop Vicente's group from escaping, at least for a while. They would probably die but delay their opponents and buy time for their reinforcements. However, these soldiers couldn't do much against four extremely strong fugitives for their level.

Having already lost half of their group, they made the only decision they could to preserve their lives and protect the army's pursuit.

While they continued to follow the underground tunnel from a distance, Vicente's group was further ahead, with the four High-level Mages more focused on clearing the way now that the soldiers had moved away from them.

Snow Claw took the lead, using his magical form and the body parts of his mana giant to make his way through this most densely populated part of the tunnel.

Several giant insects, ranging from spiders, scorpions, and snake lice to earthworms, carnivorous plants, and fungi, stood in the group's way.

Most of them were limited to the 2nd stage. Yet, some organisms native to this tunnel were Mages with characteristics that were hard to ignore.

But with Snow Claw crushing almost everyone in its path, the group's situation improved significantly, and little by little, Vicente could feel that they were close to escaping this tunnel.

'It looks like you'll be able to separate successfully, master.' Torne told him, feeling they were close to an exit on the surface.

Vicente agreed as he continued to focus on the road ahead.

He looked at Sarah and Evan and saw Nico on the back of this soldier of the empire. He said. "Evan, I know you want to escape. Don't worry, I won't stop you. You're just as committed as we are now, so it makes no difference if I deal with you."

Evan clenched his fists as he looked at the face that resembled Oscar's. Vicente and Sarah had shown their true faces only to the Sovereign days ago. After their brief interviews, the two returned to using their devices to hide their real identities.

As a result, Evan didn't know Vicente's true appearance!

Vicente ignored Evan's look and said to Sarah. "As for you, I want you to bring Nico to my group. After that, you're free to go your own way."

Sarah looked at Vicente silently but nodded in agreement.

"When we leave this tunnel, we should split up. Those soldiers will try to chase us, and there should be reinforcements in the area we're in. It would be better for everyone if we went our separate ways without worrying about each other. Suppose any of you have something to settle between yourselves, leave it for when we don't have soldiers following us.

The four agreed again while Snow Claw looked at Vicente with interest, curious to know why this young man had saved him and who he represented.

He asked. "Are you going to tell me where you come from or what this is all about? I can't believe you're my fan, and you did what you did for no reason."

Vicente looked into Snow Claw's purple eyes and said. "You're right. The group of people I represent can benefit from the things you'll do when you're released, which is why we acted to save you, Senior Jonah. But that's all. As long as you do what you want, we benefit. As for my group, maybe we'll have a chance to get to know each other in the future."

"Oh?" Jonah didn't see a problem with that. He easily understood that Vicente's group wanted a bit of chaos in the province.

"Very well. If we meet in the future, show me this. I'll remember you." Snow Claw gave Vicente a medallion with the symbol of a humanoid shadow.

Soon, they reached the end of the tunnel. From there, Vicente would have to work to open a way out.

Chapter 446 Arrival of the Sovereigns

While Vicente's group was splitting up after leaving the previous tunnel, a group of soldiers not far from their location received an alert.

In the middle of the great Wolfrior Forest, a High-level Mage felt his communicator vibrate and quickly answered it while observing the group of soldiers hunting pentagrams nearby.

"This is Commander Ross." He said as he answered the call.

Then, a soldier's nervous voice came out of the communicator in Ross's hand, causing the man and a Mid-level Mage near him to change their expressions.

"This is Commander North speaking directly from Long Bay Correctional Facility. This is a request for backup! I repeat this is a request for backup!

A riot has just broken out in our unit. Inmates from the maximum security wing have escaped and are on the run!

Please come as soon as possible to join the chase!"

When he heard this, one of the escorts in Nova's group widened his eyes, sensing the big problem that had just arisen.

"What? How is that possible?" He exclaimed as his expression and tone of voice changed.

"We don't know for sure. But it seems that people have recently infiltrated our prison. Anyway, there's no time to waste. Gather your group and go after the criminals as soon as possible!"

"Okay!" Commander Ross turned off his communicator as he glared at his partner nearby.

"How did this happen?" The soldier asked.

Ross said. "I don't know. But we've got to move." He dialed the ID of the other High-level Mage in his group.

"Silas, we have a problem. We have to stop the trials of these four. Escapees from Long Bay Correctional Facility are on the loose nearby, and we're going to have to join the hunt."

"What?" Silas' voice sounded on Ross' communicator as the man expressed the same surprise as Ross had a moment ago.

"I'm not surprised about the details. I don't know either. But it's a fact that a riot has broken out at Long Bay Correctional Facility. We have to act."

"We can't stop the trials of these four. They're already close to finding their pentagrams. Besides, they wouldn't be any help in this hunt."

"So what do we do?" Ross asked.

Silas said. "We leave Kyle and Kane in the area to account for the results of those four. The rest of us will join the pursuit of the fugitives."

Kyle and Kane were the weakest Mid-level Mages in the group, so Ross didn't think their absence would greatly diminish their strength.

At the same time, they were strong enough to help the group of four soldiers hunting for pentagrams in the area and complete this part of the rank promotion test.

"Okay." Ross agreed before arranging with his partner for them to set off in the direction of Long Bay Correctional Facility.

...

Meanwhile, on the border between Scott Province and the area further west, a group of several men were on the backs of three large birds, flying toward the area of the Wolfrior Forest.

The men on the back of the first of these beasts were all Sovereigns, and one of them was none other than the one responsible for the shift change of the prison of this area days ago.

On the other two birds were high-ranking mages from the army, but also two people from outside the king's forces who were there because they had discovered the infiltration of Long Bay Correctional Facility.

They were Oscar Rose's grandfather and father, who were responsible for the Sovereign in charge of the shift at Long Bay Correctional Facility finding out about Vicente's infiltration.

After discovering that someone was posing as one of their relatives, the two joined the group of soldiers who had left the capital to join the reinforcements to deal with the infiltrators at that prison.

They were now just over an hour away from their destination when one of the soldiers there shouted loudly for everyone in the three birds to hear.

"What? An escape?" The man in charge of the group's communications shouted, drawing everyone's attention.

"Colonels, we're in trouble!" This High-level Mage shouted as he looked at the group of five 4th-stage men standing there. "Five inmates and three supposed soldiers have escaped from Long Bay Correctional Facility and are on the run.

We have some soldiers following in the footsteps of some of these escapees, but our men pursuing them are outnumbered. They split up as soon as they left the prison and are currently heading in different directions."

The Sovereigns in the group continued with ugly expressions on their faces, especially the man Vicente had talked to recently, who that young man had made a fool of.

Their leader, a Sky Sovereign, the highest level of a 4th stage magician, heard this and looked at the Earth Sovereign, the lowest level of a 4th stage magician. "I think you'd better make sure this is settled right here, Adams!"

"I'll do my best, Colonel White. I promise not to come back until I have the heads of the infiltrators." Adams said as the other Sovereigns looked at him in silence.

"Colonel White..." The soldier from before said.

"What is it?"

"We have the list of prison escapees. Among them is Jonah Keen, aka Snow Claw."

When those names were said, everyone on those three birds looked at that soldier while the sound of saliva being swallowed rang out.

Only the Sovereigns there didn't show such a reaction, but even they had worried looks after hearing such a thing.

Jonah was no ordinary Mage. He was at the absolute peak of the 3rd stage when he was arrested decades ago. He would become an Earth Sovereign if he had a chance. And if that happened, it might be impossible to arrest him again.

Not only that but considering the things that had happened since his arrest, it was very likely that Jonah would bring chaos to the province and even the kingdom!

If he escaped from this area, problems could arise in the coming weeks and months that could take away the king's sleep!

"Damn it! How did this happen?" Colonel White was the first to exclaim, sensing that this was much worse than they had thought.

They had come to prevent a riot and an escape, but it had already happened, and the worst prisoner had escaped!

Everyone felt terrible about this information, and the controllers of these birds began to make them fly faster and lower, feeling that they had to get to the prison as quickly as possible.

That would be the arrival of the Sovereigns and the beginning of the hunt for the escapees from Long Bay Correctional Facility!

Chapter 447 The Situation in the Wolfrior Forest?

As the Sovereigns and High-level Mages moved through the area surrounding Wolfrior Forest on their way to Long Bay Correctional Facility, the four soldiers searching for their pentagrams were completely unaware of what was happening.

Days had passed since the start of these four's military rank advancement test, but they were still in the midst of their search. An area as large as the Wolfrior Forest might contain tens of thousands of living beings. This area was like an unorganized city, with life underground, on the surface, and in the air. With different races living there in their own ways, it could take a while for an individual to find their destination.

Not every being would be compatible with them, and even among those who were compatible, they might not have the necessary quality.

In normal situations, the best pentagram to be absorbed by a magician was the one formed by the body of a being that would pose a great challenge to them. This challenge wouldn't be impossible to overcome, but it wouldn't be easy.

If the pentagram were the best that the magician could absorb at their level, then it would be a lot of work for them to get it if they fought alone.

That was the case for the four soldiers who were searching for their essences in such an area.

However, while some of them had already found traces of their desired targets, others were still a bit further away from their goals.

...

In a cave in the east-central part of Wolfrior Forest, the body of a 3rd-stage beast was lying on the ground, and a dark liquid spilled out of it onto the floor of the shady cave.

In front of this creature was a sweaty blond man, his armor damaged here and there and stained with not only his enemy's blood but also his own.

Despite his bad appearance, this man in the royal army uniform was not seriously injured, with only superficial wounds on his body. But he was pretty exhausted.

'I can finally go after that bitch.' Eric thought to himself about one of his competitors while he had just reached his third pentagram.

'After I absorb this beast's pentagram, I'm coming after you, Nova!' He grinned mischievously, not wanting to finish his test before seeing his old academy crush again.

He sat down to meditate, regain his strength, and absorb that essence after that thought, not intending to finish his test before going to that woman.

...

While Eric was thinking about Nova, she cautiously followed one of her targets, a 3rd-stage bird compatible with her.

Given the difficulty of hunting winged creatures, Nova acted as cautiously as possible, waiting for the right moment to make a final attack that would at least temporarily remove the enemy's ability to fly.

While she did this, she hid in the branches of a large tree, her uniform stained with blood and dirt, signs of the battles she had fought to reach this place.

Like the other soldiers in this promotion test, Nova didn't know the location of her compatible beings in this forest. She had made a few mistakes at the beginning of her journey and had encountered groups of magical beings on several occasions.

But she hadn't yet encountered beings capable of endangering her life, and she had reached this point unharmed.

Her arduous journey brought her to the bird she was watching now, which she thought she could use to complete her test.

'It looks like you're getting ready to sleep, huh?' Nova watched the large bird open and close its eyes as if falling asleep.

'I'll wait a bit longer and do something!'

...

Meanwhile, a few dozen kilometers away from where the group of soldiers was hunting, Vicente made his way toward the Wolfrior Forest.

After leaving the tunnel he had gone through with his fellow escapees, he separated from them.

Sarah headed back to Millfall with Nico while the other five individuals went their separate ways, each with their own interests in mind.

Vicente had been the only one who had followed the path of the Wolfrior Forest, with the intention of risking a little more in that area because his pentagram of interest might be there.

He was currently heading at full speed towards the area Newton had pointed out, with no one following him for the moment.

Since he could use his abilities to fly and the five High-level Mages who had started to chase his group were focused on the other fugitives, Vicente was practically out of reach of the soldiers.

A soldier might come across him, become suspicious, and decide to take action. However, tracking him after a few tens of minutes of flight would be virtually impossible.

How could you track a person who left no trace?

The disturbance to the free mana in the air caused by Vicente's flight was minimal. After a few minutes, it would disappear completely, returning to its pre-flight normal.

Consequently, despite his speed, Vicente was calm about his current situation.

So was Torne, who had been advising him on his way to the forest, showing Vicente alternative routes when more powerful beings appeared nearby.

It wasn't interesting for him to fight right now. As long as no Tempest Hawk was in their way, it was best to divert every 3rd-stage thing in their way.

On their way here, they had already dodged a few powerful magical beings and even avoided a group of soldiers unnoticed.

'Master, when the time comes for you to fight, let me help you a little. Your green pentagram will hardly be found in an ordinary 4th-stage magical being. You might have to fight a Sky Sovereign. Then I'll do my best to help you win.'

'Can you do anything, old Torne? I don't doubt you, but at your current level...' Vicente thought.

'It's not that easy, master. I'm really weakened, but all my instincts are still the same as when I was an Earth Sovereign. And even though I haven't reached the upper level of the 4th stage, my nature as a ghost allows me to do things that ordinary beings can't do.'

If we were to really hunt down a 4th-stage Tempest Hawk, I could use my mental characteristics to disturb it. Although the beings of this race are mentally strong, it may not be easy to focus on two opponents while fighting mentally and physically.

Even though my level is currently at the 3rd stage, if we combine our strengths, we can express a 4th level of magic.'

Masters and slaves in the situation of Vicente and Torne could temporarily 'fuse' their magic cultivation and fight at a higher level.

It had its weaknesses and negative consequences, but it could be done for a few minutes.

'Then I trust you...' Vicente sighed. 'Anyway, how long until we reach the area where these beasts can be found?'

'Two hours at the most.'

Chapter 448 Chasing and Fighting Sovereigns

While Vicente was escaping to the area of the Wolfrior Forest, Sarah was heading in the opposite direction, going to Millfall.

It would take her days to reach the Mazzainti family headquarters, but her path would not be easy!

As she fled with Nico, a High-level Mage followed in her footsteps, at a disadvantage but still getting directions to where she was going.

Sarah knew that a powerful Mage was after her and was worried and doing her best to escape.

Nico noticed that his ally was getting more and more worried, realizing they were probably not in a good situation.

He asked her. "Miss, will we be able to escape?"

She remained focused on the path she was following but answered him. "Hardly. We may escape, but it will be tough. One of the five survivors of the tunnel battle is following us."

"So we're being followed by a High-level Mage..." He muttered, wondering what they could do. "If that's the case, following the path ahead as we are doing won't work. We'll have to change our strategy."

"What do you have in mind?"

Nico was only an Acolyte, but unlike Sarah, he had spent years in prison. He had thought practically every day about what he would do if he had to escape from that place and the possible consequences of an escape.

A prisoner had a lot of time to think. They often exercised their imagination in a very analytical and creative way because in order to escape their problems, they would have to come up with very out-of-the-box plans.

Nico then said. "The person following us is just following us and keeping track of our location. The moment he gets reinforcements, we'll be taken down. We can't afford to think that we can run out of the area. We have to hide somewhere.

Do you have any way to cover our tracks? If we can create a false trail, we can hide and wait for the right moment to continue our escape.

It doesn't have to be something that lasts a long time. If we can get him away from us for at least a few miles, that should be enough to improve our chances."

"Oh?"

...

More than an hour after the fugitives had separated at the exit of the previous tunnel, Evan was currently in hiding, following a plan more or less similar to Nico's.

There had been 5 soldiers following them when they left the previous tunnel. But counting them all, there were 8 people fleeing in 7 different ways.

It was only possible to follow 5 paths, so the two weakest, he and Vicente, were temporarily left aside while those 5 soldiers pursued the stronger fugitives.

Still, Evan was aware that reinforcements were moving through the area. After over half an hour since he had been separated from his fellow escapees, he found a good hiding place where he had stayed for the last few minutes.

From where he was, he could hide his aura and observe the area he was in with relative safety.

After more than 30 minutes of standing still, he had avoided fights with magical beings in the area and encounters with soldiers.

Now, he watched the third group of soldiers pass by where he was and saw the first Sovereign of the night.

'Things are really complicated.' He thought as he watched two Sovereigns go in the opposite direction of the Long Bay Correctional Facility. 'It looks like reinforcements have already arrived at the prison. They've probably already split up into groups and started searching the area for us.'

He thought right. As the group of reinforcements approached the prison, they received new information, and the Sovereigns coming into the area split up and went in different directions using their own powers instead of the bird from earlier.

There were now Sovereigns on the trail of fugitives, while others were tracking down opponents in the area of this prison.

'Sigh... All I can do now is wait. When these soldiers meet up with some of the fugitives, the focus will shift to the found ones and less to the missing ones. I'll try to move as soon as there are signs of fighting.' Evan made up his mind.

As he continued to stand still, he would eventually think about his two friends, wondering if they had already been found or if Cesar had gone to them to eliminate them.

Either way, Oscar and Sophia were in terrible situations, too!

...

In another area near Long Bay Correctional Facility, Snow Claw was heading north to return to Saltstar City, where much of his journey had taken place.

'I will take my items from that place and begin my revenge.' He remembered a secret place he had near Saltstar City, where he had always left resources to help him in the past.

But as he fled at high speed, he suddenly noticed someone powerful approaching from behind.

Looking back, he narrowed his eyes and saw two Earth Sovereigns chasing him.

"Tsk! I thought I deserved more than this." He remarked when he recognized them, provocatively smiling.

Neither Sovereigns liked that, as they were proud 4th-stage magicians.

But they knew what Snow Claw was like, and one said. "Jonah, surrender! I know you had to try to escape. Anyone would have done it in your place. But if you don't want any more trouble with the kingdom, surrender now!"

"If I don't want any more trouble with the kingdom?" Jonah turned and stopped running. "You've got to be kidding me! Of course, I want trouble! King's dogs, after I escape and deal with my problems, it'll be time for that bastard on the throne to suffer for punishing me."

"Wipe your mouth to talk about His Majesty!" The older of the two Colonels said in an irritated tone, not liking the man's threats against the king.

Jonah laughed. "I went easy on that coward when we met decades ago. Next time, it will be different."

"Son of a bitch!" One of the two Sovereigns could stand it no longer and stepped forward.

Jonah finally unleashed his full power after several decades of being unable to do so, forming a mana giant over eleven meters tall with a body proportional to its size, as if it were a giant mana human.

The giant's formation was quick but gradual, with what represented the creature's bones appearing, then muscles, skin, and finally armor.

Jonah disappeared into the giant, while at the eye level of this magical form, glowing purple eyes opened.

As one of the mana giant's hands closed, the two Sovereigns felt the terror of the enemy as the space around them seemed to be crushed in their direction.

"Shit! That bastard is everything the rumors said!" One of them shouted at the start of a battle whose outcome few would ever know.

Chapter 449 Spotting the Target

An hour later, more battles like the one at Snow Claw broke out around Long Bay Correctional Facility.

Soldiers and fugitives would fall in these battles this morning, marking an incident that would soon become news in the province and throughout the kingdom.

The consequences of this day would be felt far and wide, reverberating for weeks or months in the lives of those who were involved and those who were not.

Amid the fighting, some of the people left behind would be found and taken to prison, where they would soon be interrogated and punished.

While this was going on, Vicente was practically the only fugitive who did not run into more complicated problems.

With Torne's help, he finally reached the area where the Tempest Hawks were supposed to live, in the Wolfrior Forest.

As he flew around, Torne told Vicente to change his strategy and walk on his own feet since winged beasts were usually more cautious with other creatures capable of flight.

Following the old ghost's advice, Vicente now moved through the branches of trees, gradually sensing stronger auras in the more central area of this immense forest region.

'Have you noticed any Sovereigns in this area?' Vicente asked.

'Not yet, but we're probably close. The 3rd-stage beasts are becoming more and more numerous in the area. So we should encounter a Sovereign very soon.' Torne said as he kept an eye out.

'Okay, keep an eye on everything.'

...

While Vicente was moving towards his destination, Eric had already succeeded in absorbing his third pentagram, having managed to absorb such essence in just under two hours.

That was very little time, but for someone who had killed his target himself, who had a talent higher than the level of the pentagram he was absorbing and a well-trained body, it had not been difficult for him.

Many factors influence one's ability to absorb pentagrams and resources. Also, as one became stronger and added more pentagrams to their existence, the minimum time needed to absorb new essences would normally decrease.

After finishing his quick absorption, Eric no longer hesitated and followed Nova's tracks, having no difficulty finding his target after only a few minutes.

Having already placed a tracker on her without Nova's knowledge, Eric found her just as noon was approaching in this area of the Wolfrior Forest.

Nova was sitting in a lotus position, meditating as a yellow pentagram circled her body.

She had managed to defeat the beast she was hunting earlier and had begun to absorb this pentagram minutes ago.

Eric couldn't help but be impressed, sensing the quality of that magical essence.

'As much as this bitch is a sea of dishonesty and a terrible person, she's really talented. I'll give her that.' He hid behind a tree and watched her.

'But my dear Nova, that's not enough for you to escape me!' He clenched his fists as his expression turned very ugly. 'As much as I personally can't act against you in this situation, that doesn't mean I can't do anything!'

He looked at a peak near the area where the waterfall was, just beyond the area where Nova was sitting on the rocks.

There was a mighty and sharp aura coming from that peak, something so powerful that the sky above that peak was always cloudy with stormy weather.

Since Eric knew this area better than his competitors in this promotion test, he knew exactly what kind of being lived at that peak.

'I can't deal with you directly, but the Sovereign of Storm Peak can!' Eric wickedly laughed, wishing the worst for Nova.

Since she didn't want to be with him and had even humiliated him, she deserved the worst!

With his plans in mind, Eric didn't hesitate to move towards Storm Peak, scattering items he had prepared before coming to this place.

As someone prepared and eager to get his revenge, he had organized in many ways to deal with Nova in this trial. Given his circumstances, he followed his 'Plan C,' scattering things along the way to make his target hunt down the blue-haired woman.

He knew that Nova would finish absorbing her third pentagram in an hour at the most, so he moved quickly, reaching Storm Peak in less than 13 minutes.

When he reached this place, he climbed part of the mountain until he saw the Sovereign who lived there.

At the top of that peak was a winged beast, three meters tall, with completely gray feathers, yellow eyes the size of tennis balls, and a curved white beak as sharp as a needle.

Its legs were long, over 70 centimeters long, and the claws on its two feet were long and sharp as scalpels. Its wings were closed, but when opened, they could easily be more than 7 meters long from one end to the other.

But the most striking thing about this beast was not its exquisite and unique appearance but its powerful 4th-stage aura, which was a rarity in the area.

In terms of mana, it was even stronger than some of the Sovereigns chasing fugitives from Long Bay Correctional Facility!

Eric naturally swallowed his saliva, hesitating a bit since he was so close to this beast.

This bird was so strong that even he could end up very badly for just trying to lure it to Nova!

'To the hell! That bitch humiliated me in front of everyone! I hope she dies!' He plucked up the courage to provoke the creature.

He threw an old Nova item he had with him in the direction of the beast, something that would leave a trail of the cause of what was about to happen.

As soon as he had done so, he turned and began his hasty escape.

Then...

Ka-boooooooooom!

A loud bang sounded from the top of Storm Peak as Eric dropped the detonating device with a Nova scarf around it.

Flames spread across the peak, while lightning and stronger winds formed around the area.

Eric didn't need to look back to know that he had provoked a terrible creature that was not in a good mood after such a gratuitous attack.

He ran towards the path he had taken with Nova's things, going to that place to make sure this beast dealt with the woman and not him.

As he fled, he heard Hawk's scream. The creature flapped its wings and appeared above Storm Peak, its body enveloped in lightning.

Sensing the trail of its enemy, the Sovereign beast glanced at Eric and Nova before flying toward them!

Nova felt a chill run through her being, but she didn't stop what she was doing, as this was a crucial moment to come out of her meditative state.

Chapter 450 Death of a Soldier ? ? ?

While Nova felt a being far more powerful than she could handle, flying toward her at high speed, Eric was moving in the same direction.

Even though he had used Nova's old things to mark the items he had used to attack the Hawk, he had to make the creature discover his challenger before he could find an opening to escape. Until then, he would be pursued by the mighty 4th-stage Hawk!

So he headed in the same direction as the bird, using his initial advantage along the way to get back to where Nova was.

He tried as hard as he could, and after about 5 minutes, he arrived at the spot where Nova was meditating near a waterfall.

Arriving there and feeling that his opponent was only three seconds away, Eric looked at Nova one last time and viciously smiled.

'Remember not to be a slut in your next life.' He moved on to escape this area, not caring what would happen if he stayed behind.

Nova didn't have to listen to her old friend's thoughts. As she felt the aura of a Sovereign approaching her with deadly intent, she noticed Eric's plans.

Before, the soldier had passed unnoticed because he was hiding. But now he couldn't do that in the middle of his escape.

'Damn, Eric! I hope you pay for this.' She thought as her facial muscles twitched.

But she kept her eyes closed as she meditated, aware that no action of hers would save her. Even if she succeeded in absorbing the pentagram right now, she would still die if she had to fight the 4th-stage Hawk.

If she left her current state, she would suffer severe damage to her magic base, even if the Hawk ignored her.

She continued to do what she was doing with the only hope that the 4th-stage beast would ignore her.

But that wasn't going to happen!

The moment the Hawk saw Nova, it smelled the scent it had smelled earlier and remembered the bomb that had almost destroyed its eggs!

'Damn, you stupid human!' This beast focused on Nova and used one of its wings to fling several sharp, pointed feathers at this woman's body, meditating near a waterfall.

Swoosh!

Nova paled even more when she felt this attack, seeing that her hopes were in vain and she would fall right there.

'Is this my end?' She sat in the lotus position with her eyes closed. 'Unfortunately, I won't be able to continue with Vicente. We won't be able to have a family.'

A tear trickled from each of her eyes in the last moment she had before one of those feathers hit her.

All Nova could think about was Vicente and her wishes for the future. But it felt as if all her dreams were shattering.

That went on for two seconds until she heard a strange sound, but she didn't feel what she thought.

'What happened?' She scanned her surroundings as she felt nothing cut her body. As she did so, her expression changed drastically, showing surprise, disbelief, but also relief.

But how could she not show so much emotion on her beautiful face? Now, Eric's body was standing in front of her, cut into several pieces by that Sovereign's feathers, his parts slowly falling to the ground, wholly separated from the rest of his body.

Several metal barriers were around Nova, and a new person involved in the situation was right behind her.

'Cesar!' She thought of her biggest target as she felt Eric's butchered body fall to the ground.

In the last second Nova had before the feathers hit her, Vicente arrived at the spot after being led there by Torne. Seeing his girlfriend's situation, he didn't hesitate to use Eric as a human shield, throwing the soldier before Nova.

It had all happened too quickly, and now Eric was dead, while Nova was fine but full of surprise at what had just happened.

Nova had turned her face to him but was still working on absorbing her pentagram. Then Vicente said. "Finish what you're doing. I'll take care of the beast."

Nova heard Cesar's voice and felt terrible that she had to be saved by him AGAIN. But she was already determined to do it, so she didn't do anything else and continued what she was doing.

But even though she was saved this time, she honestly didn't think it would last.

The enemy was a Sovereign! That wasn't the kind of enemy Cesar could face!

'Sigh... We're going to die together. Who would have guessed such a fate?' She laughed as Vicente looked at the big beast now staring at him thoughtfully.

'This hawk really has a green pentagram on it. We were lucky, master.' Torne said.

Not every magical being of a certain level would form a pentagram of a similar quality. In other words, green was the 4th class quality, compatible with the 4th stage. But there were 4th-stage beings who made 3rd-class pentagrams.

To find such a being was more difficult than anyone could have imagined!

Vicente said to Torne. 'Yes, but it will be a bit difficult to deal with. It's a damn Sky Sovereign! How are we going to defeat it? Even with our combined forces, I don't feel confident at all.'

'Let's try our best. I'll help you fight it as much as I can. But if that's not enough, the time will come for you to use your second magic form. It will be our last hope.' Torne said seriously and prepared to work together with Vicente.

Vicente knew the risk and sighed. 'Old Torne, please lend me your strength.'

As soon as he asked for it, Vicente felt a completely different aura growing within him, as a strange shadow appeared around his body, his eyes leaking darkness from themselves.

His aura suddenly tripled in density, making Hawk and Nova feel what was happening to him.

The Hawk became a few degrees more serious as it continued to observe the newcomer. At the same time, Nova was amazed at the change coming from Cesar's body.

'What has he done? Is this some kind of sacrificial art?' She wondered, feeling an aura that wasn't as strong as Tempest Hawk's but was very close to that being's realm of existence.

Vicente felt Torne's power at his disposal, completely mixed with his own, while the ghost himself felt Vice's power more easily. In their state, they could both use their powers simultaneously or even control each other's abilities!

Given the seal that bound them, they could act as one magical being by merging their powers!

Vicente smiled since he was the dominant part of his body in this state and, therefore, the greatest controller.

"Let's begin." He said as he moved, appearing behind Hawk in the blink of an eye.