

The Mafia 521

Chapter 521 Dinner before departure?

The time had finally come for dinner with Hana and Axel.

Vicente and Nova were now walking through one of the corridors of the Hogan estate in Dryhaven, led to the dining room by the woman who had welcomed them a few days ago.

Arriving at the beautiful dining room of this residence, Vicente and Nova met four people: Axel, Hana, a young man with brown hair and the same age as Vice, and a blonde woman of the same age.

When they met these two strangers, Vicente and Nova didn't have to ask who they were because Axel introduced them.

"Vicente, this is your uncle, Blake. Next to him is his fiancée, Khloe." Axel introduced them as he smiled at his grandson.

Vicente and Nova greeted them before sitting down side by side in front of them.

Meanwhile, Hana and Axel were at the ends of the six-seater table, where several trays covered the plates already set for this dinner.

They soon exchanged a few words, joking a little about the fact that Vicente's uncle was practically the same age as he was.

But that was more common than anyone could imagine. Since getting pregnant became more difficult with the increase of mana in magicians' bodies, it was very common for couples to have children with long intervals between births.

Sometimes, this meant that new children were born after a couple's first child was born.

While they talked about this, Axel and Hana served their guests, but also young Blake and Chloe.

Blake looked at Vicente and said. "So you're leaving for Saltstar City already? Your local passage was so fast. I thought you would stay longer. We could get to know each other better."

Vicente smiled and said. "Yes, I'm leaving tomorrow. I have responsibilities in Saltstar City, as does Nova. She took a few days off and can't be late or ask for more time."

"That's too bad..." Hana said. "But Blake, if you want to meet Vicente, you can go to your uncle's house in Saltstar City." She thought of her older brother and used this as an excuse to try to get Vice to suggest that Blake stay with him.

But Vicente would never suggest something like that. Black was only an Apprentice, but he wouldn't put someone who wasn't committed to him in his house!

Vicente commented. "I wouldn't advise you to go to Saltstar City just to see me. I travel a lot because of my responsibilities, and even when I'm at home, I always have things to do."

Only on days like this would I be able to see you. But I don't know when I'll have such a quiet time again."

"Really?" Blake didn't like to hear that because his parents had told him earlier that he could earn a lot of coins if he stayed at Vicente's side.

But Vicente obviously had no interest in that, and this young man, who had been raised as if he were the only child of these two, couldn't help but feel bad.

Axel changed his expression and asked. "Can't you take some time off for your uncle? We're a family, Vicente. We should be supporting each other. You have more experience than Blake. Just one hour a day at your side would change your uncle's fate significantly."

Understanding that his relatives were trying to take advantage of him, Vicente closed his eyes and laughed bitterly. 'If I give this stranger an hour, I'll probably have an hour less with Nina... These people have no shame.'

But this behavior wasn't strange to him. Things like this happen all the time on Earth. He had experienced it himself in his family and his companions' families.

Vicente decided to deal with the matter in a way that he knew would work. "If Blake wants it badly enough, I can try to take him into my family as an apprentice guard. The weakest guard on my estate is a Senior Apprentice, while my uncle here is a Junior Apprentice.

If he works hard, he might grow up enough to have time to work with me and learn."

Everyone at the table except Nova and him expressed surprise at this. It was bizarre for people like them to be offered jobs like this when they were hoping for something better.

Blake clenched his fists, feeling insulted. 'He wants me to become an apprentice guard?'

Neither Blake nor his parents would like that. As good as this opportunity was, they didn't know it and thought this young man could have a better fate working in the family business.

Hana smiled bitterly and said. "Keep working hard, Blake. Maybe Vicente will see your strength in the future. Let's put that aside for now."

Meanwhile, Nova sighed in disappointment when she saw that they only wanted to use him no matter how nice Vicente's relatives seemed at first glance.

That disappointed her but made her feel sad for him, seeing how bad this family was.

'I hope this dinner will be over soon...' She thought as she felt the time passing too slowly.

On the other hand, Chloe kept an eye on Vicente, curious about her friend's nephew. 'Why are they so eager to send Blake close to this young man? Is he, by any chance, very successful?'

She couldn't sense Vicente's magic, but Hana and Axel didn't treat many people as carefully as they did Vicente.

Her eyes glazed over at the possibility in front of her as she looked at Vicente and sometimes at Nova.

'Tsk! I'm prettier than her... If I try something, maybe I'll get someone better than Blake?' She wondered as one of her legs slowly moved under the table and towards the legs of the person in front of her.

Vicente suddenly felt a small foot on his right thigh and looked at the blonde woman in front of him, who discreetly smiled as if nothing was happening.

He sighed and closed his eyes, using a small fraction of his powers to move the woman's leg back to where it should never have been.

'I hate women like this...' He felt disgusted, aware that this woman was trying to move on to a better 'branch' with a disgusting strategy.

He didn't think that every affair had to start slowly, and an affair that started in one night was not a decree that the man or woman had dishonest intentions. But the woman before him could only be interested in what he had to offer.

Not only that, but she was so low that she dared to act in front of Nova, something Vicente found unforgivable!

Even if he had already had an affair with another woman while he was with Nova, he would never do anything in front of her!

So Vicente's terrible dinner with his relatives went on for the next half hour until he and Nova finally saw time pass in a normal way as they left the estate with no intention of seeing those people again.

The next day, they would leave Dryhaven, with their fond memories of these days off relating only to House Bain, which had truly welcomed them and taken Vicente into its family.

Chapter 522 Cruel Desire?

After leaving Dryhaven, Vicente and Nova once again had a peaceful time traveling without encountering any problems along the way.

It would take some time for them to get over the disastrous dinner with the Hogan family in that city, which had disappointed both young people in many ways.

Vicente's grandparents hadn't been insensitive to Kate's death, which was the only good thing about it. But they were two parasites who wanted to use their grandson to benefit their son.

Blake seemed like a spoiled brat who had been told yes all his life and didn't know the value of hard work. Meanwhile, this guy's girlfriend was a slut who would dump him as soon as she found someone better than him.

In short, this family was dirty, and getting involved with them would only lead to trouble.

Vicente realized this and didn't care about his grandparents. Having fulfilled his responsibility to deliver the news of his mother's death, he had no desire to have contact with them again.

Not only that, but the situation with the Hogan family of Dryhaven made him reconsider going to the dinner the Hogan patriarch had invited him to. He wanted to take Nina with him, but unlike him, his little sister wasn't mature enough to notice certain problems.

She could easily be manipulated if he exposed her to people like Hana and Axel!

But while Vicente understood why his mother had run away from the Hogan family, he saw that the Bain family was trustworthy and an interesting home for children to grow up in.

The Bain family reminded him a lot of his family before the fateful trip where Kate died. The family was large and very close, with a mother and father who knew when to give freedom or pressure their children.

This family saved Vicente's trip to Dryhaven and gave him some good memories of those few days.

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Back in Saltstar City, Vicente and Nova didn't spend much time together before each went to their respective organizations.

Nova had to report to the army, while Vicente had some interests and responsibilities to attend to.

So they split up as soon as they entered the city, with him soon heading to his estate to find out how things were going with the family.

Arriving at the Fuller residence, Vicente found his family functioning within his expectations, as they had not gotten into any trouble in the days of his absence.

There was no significant new progress for him to focus his attention on changing, but there were also no new problems that required his attention. In short, Sarah, Rory, and Bart were busy expanding the family, while Nina did well with her routine between the academy and meetings with Newton.

But the family was stronger, with more men working and older members who had been strengthened by the resources from Snow Claw's inheritance.

With that, Vicente went to The Book Emporium, curious to see if the investigator he had hired earlier was ready to collect the promised data.

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After taking a seat in the reading area of the bookstore, Vicente opened the book he had bought a few days ago, which was the code to attract the attention of The Ruby Devils' informant working there.

After five minutes in that place, the man Vicente had met days ago sat down in front of him.

"I have what you wanted. Do you have my coins?" The man asked, pretending to read his own book.

"Of course. Shall we make our exchange?" Vicente suggested.

The man then handed over the spatial ring he had received from Vicente earlier, which now contained various documents and analyses relating to the Bone Mountains. Meanwhile, Vicente gave the man 750 gold coins, completing their deal.

"Good luck with whatever it is." The information vendor said with a subtle smile on his face. "If you need anything else or are interested in investigating the other person, come see me. I'll give you the best price."

Vicente nodded to the man before discreetly leaving the bookstore and heading home to study the information he had just gathered.

With it in hand, he could begin to act against one of the forces connected to his mother's death!

He wanted to prepare himself for some time before he started to solve this matter, but having the information in hand was already a good start!

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Later that day, Vicente finished reading what he had paid a thousand gold coins for.

Considering everything he could access, Vicente thought his coins had been well spent!

The information he had received was by no means old or superficial. It was very current, with news and facts about the sect from as recently as a few months ago. At the same time, it contained in-depth data, such as the number of members of this Chutha Dynasty faction, past and present problems, some secrets, and even the type of power of some of its most important and famous members.

With this information from Bone Mountains, Vicente even understands more about the other sect responsible for Kate's death, The Fallen Angels.

The Fallen Angels and Bone Mountains were two sects from neighboring and rival states. The Chutha Dynasty and the Kenyth Empire were ancient enemies who had fought three major wars against each other in the past 10,000 years.

These two sects followed the rivalries of their states and constantly had problems with each other inside and outside their respective territories.

With this information, Vicente understood that the battle that had caused his mother's death was one of the scourges of the disagreement between these two states.

Of course, this didn't make him feel any different about the whole affair. He felt exactly the same desire to go after Dax and Malik but also to go after their sects, their families, and perhaps their loved ones.

Vicente didn't usually act against innocent people of his own free will. But to avenge what his family had suffered, he was willing to get his hands dirty with the blood of those two men's innocent relatives!

No one had shown mercy to him, his sisters, his father, his mother, or the baby in Kate's womb. So, he would show no mercy when he turned his powers against his enemies.

He wanted them to suffer the worst before they died at his hands!

With the information he had gathered today, he had a starting point, and now all he had to do was prepare for a few more months.

He was in no hurry. Sooner or later, he would unleash his hatred on those responsible for the Fuller family's misfortune!

Chapter 523 Three Months?

After gathering the information about the Bone Mountains, Vicente would be contacted by the patriarch of the Hogan family for the dinner he had previously promised to attend.

Formerly, Vicente didn't see any problem in attending the proposed dinner. But after his recent visit to Dryhaven and his experience with his maternal grandparents, he couldn't help but be suspicious of the Hogan patriarch's intentions.

He had already killed the man's two sons, so he decided to stay away from the Hogan family from now on. By refusing to accept a message brought to him by a subordinate of that family, he made his position clear.

He had no idea if this would cause problems for him in the future, but he thought it would be better for everyone.

With that, he returned to his normal routine in Saltstar City, his business with the Fuller and Mazzanti families, his studies regarding forging, his combat training, and his time with Nina.

He still had to produce items for The Ruby Devils, but he felt that wouldn't be the case for long.

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In the blink of an eye, three months had passed since Vicente and Nova's return from Dryhaven.

In those months, Vicente still hadn't reached the peak of the 3rd stage, so he still had some time to think about his seclusion in order to advance to the 4th stage.

But while he hadn't advanced, several relevant family members had advanced, and the family's numbers had grown exponentially during that time.

With the actions of Sarah, Rory, and Bart, as well as some new associates and soldiers, the family had doubled in size, allowing for a significant increase in the number of cities in which they operated.

Millfall had been at the hands of Scarlet Syndicate's men for only a short time. In the last month, Vicente's new subordinates have made their way into the city and taken back control of the local underworld!

But no one on the surface knew what had really happened!

With the group's strategy of controlling figures outside the family, everyone in Millfall believed the city was under the control of the Scarlet Syndicate.

However, the Mazzanti family, now living in the shadows, controlled the town, just as they did with four other cities in Scott Province!

During this time, everything had gone according to Vicente's plans, with the province returning to its former "tranquility" before Cesar's rise.

More than four months after Don Mazzanti's death, practically no one in Millfall spoke of him. At the same time, the royal forces had already closed the man's case completely.

That was exactly what Vicente wanted when he plotted Cesar's death, so he was pleased as he manipulated his many men from the shadows.

With more cities and men working for him, he now had even more resources than before, contributing to the progress of the Mazzanti family members and Nina's improvements.

Nina had consumed three more valuable resources in those months, things that had already positively affected her life.

Of the three resources, two could show immediate effects, while the last would be felt only after the Awakening. In any case, these two resources gave her back some of her mobility and improved her health.

Nina had never had any serious health problems after her family's tragedy. But that was because Vicente had followed all the medical advice of the many specialists who had treated her over the years.

They advised him on many things, but they were all based on the same premise: that Nina's body was weak and susceptible to disease and injury.

Since then, Vicente has taken a lot of care of Nina, preventing problems but not changing her situation. However, with one of these two resources, she had significantly improved her immunity, resistance, and regenerative capacity.

Apart from that, she had entered her last months of basic academics and was already thinking about the royal academy.

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After saying goodbye to Nina and Nova in the morning, Vicente heard the news of his group while still at the Fuller estate.

"So Rory has advanced to Mid-level..." Vicente smiled, happy for his friend for getting a little closer to him in terms of power.

Besides Rory, the others currently at the Mid-level of the 3rd stage were Jasmine, Sarah, and Nova, who had advanced on the previous trip, and Layla, who had also advanced then.

Shelby and Eve had advanced to the 3rd stage during this time, and Bart had become a High-level Mage, the first of the group to do so after Vicente.

The family currently had other Mid-level and Low-level Mages, but almost all of them were recent recruits from Saltstar City.

Despite their newness to the group, these people were already solving important problems for Vicente, with one of them acting directly in Millfall.

With the new additions to the group, Rory, Sarah, and Bart's work had been focused on supervising the men who dealt directly with their many branches while also dealing with the expansion of the family.

Vicente wanted his family to be as large as possible, as he would need the resources to grow himself and some trusted companions. To do this, he planned to dominate the Scott Province, a place he knew and had local nobles working for him.

With the help of Nicolas, Livia, and Shelby, his plans moved forward with great ease!

But while he was profiting, these people were also growing bigger than ever. In addition to Shelby's advancement, Nicolas and Livia had also recently improved their levels due to their partnership with Vicente.

As much as they had been forced to work for Vicente, the young Fuller knew that he would reap better rewards as they grew. So, he provided them with resources and incentives to work harder for him.

The soldier who had informed Vicente of Rory's advance and that of some of the other soldiers in the family then said. "He advanced during his visit to Martell Village. He spent a few days at his mother's house before going to Ironcrest."

Ironcrest was the city the group was currently focused on entering, where Sarah was already on her way to hand over control of the city's underworld to Vicente.

"Good. Keep an eye on her movements and let me know if anything happens."

"About Casey, we have information that he has left the kingdom." The soldier, a level 5 Acolyte, changed the subject.

Vicente's eyes narrowed at this information. Following Casey inside the Seidel Kingdom was difficult enough, but doing it outside the kingdom would be even worse!

Chapter 524 Salvation and Trauma

The Seidel Kingdom was not a strong state. That was the first and most important problem with following someone's footsteps outside of this state. If it were hard enough to do it inside the kingdom, it would be much worse to do it outside, with more dangers, expensive service costs, and much more.

Not only that, but while there weren't many special magical creatures in the Seidel Kingdom, there were areas outside of it where all kinds of creatures were present.

From goblins to trolls to vampires, they were out there!

If Casey wasn't careful, he could die in the blink of an eye!

That was the danger for Vicente's partner. But Vice and his group also ran the risk of losing track of the man and having no way to move forward.

Casey's ability was too phenomenal for Vicente to give up on this guy, so upon hearing this information, Vice became concerned about the continuity of his plans.

"Shit! Where is he going? Did his father leave the kingdom?" Vicente asked aloud.

"That seems to be the case. Fortunately, our informants seem to be able to continue their work for now." The level 5 soldier, one of many the family currently had at that level, said with a sigh. "But that won't be the case for long. We could lose any trace of him at any moment."

"Sigh... I know." Vicente turned and looked out of his office window at the beautiful view of the city he had from there. "But there's nothing to be done. I don't intend to leave Saltstar City or the kingdom for at least another three months."

Three months was all it took for Nina's last year at the basic academy to end and her next four years to be determined. After that, everything would be decided for her, and Vicente finally planned to take his revenge.

"I'll make sure the group keeps an eye on him as much as possible until the end of this period, my Don."

"Hmm, you do that."

This man left just before a mature-looking blonde woman with green eyes entered Vicente's office and brought him some drinks and snacks.

This woman was dressed in domestic attire but looked extremely beautiful and seductive.

Her curves were particularly blessed, with measurements that would make any man desire and fantasize about her.

She had a beautiful smile that easily hid her dark past.

Vicente saw Eve's mother and smiled at her. "Thank you for your time, Mrs. Ostell. There's no need for you to treat me so well."

How could Eve's mother be on the Fuller estate if she was supposed to be a prostitute for The Ruby Devils?

Well, that was just one of the many changes that had taken place in Saltstar City in recent months!

Not long after Vicente and Nova returned from Dryhaven, enemies of The Ruby Devils made a deal with Lukas for firearms capable of killing even Mages.

With such a deal in place, it wasn't long before battles and deaths involving The Ruby Devils erupted in Saltstar City, heralding the beginning of the end for what was once the largest faction in the province's underworld.

It wasn't long before The Ruby Devils lost 70% of their specialists in just over a month of fighting against their enemies. After that, the weakest of the group who survived the local faction war fled, leaving only a few Mages behind.

Some of Vicente's friends acted on his behalf to hasten the faction's demise, and in one night, all the relevant names of The Ruby Devils vanished from this world.

With the fall of The Ruby Devils, Eve's mother and many other women forced into prostitution were freed, with this woman before Vicente having been brought into this family by him about 3 weeks ago.

The forces responsible for the weakening of The Ruby Devils didn't care about the people who fled or escaped. They only cared about taking control of that faction's business and territory.

After years of being forced into prostitution, she had learned to cope with the job and even to enjoy it.

She had been forced into prostitution after suffering much at the hands of her husband's enemies and bad clients. But with the drugs she had been forced to take for several years, she couldn't deny the pleasure of being forced to do things with people of practically every type and background.

At some point, she had just given in to her enemies, thinking that since she couldn't fight back, she could at least enjoy it...

That led her to the depravities that tormented her husband during his time in Long Bay Correctional Facility, as he received regular updates on his wife's situation.

But even though she had learned to enjoy the life of a prostitute, this woman still had her rational side intact. She knew how degrading it all was and how happy she should be to be released.

She had strange thoughts now and felt certain unusual desires, but she didn't miss being a hostage or being forced to do all kinds of things. She knew how to behave in public and kept what she learned to herself or those close to her.

Unfortunately for Nico, their marriage didn't work out after all her experiences.

But she and Nico ended their relationship peacefully; he was relieved that she was now free and was less guilty that she didn't have to torment her ex.

Even though her marriage to Nico was over, she still slept with him almost every day, something she did with half a dozen different men these days...

That was the biggest sequel this woman had won!

Vicente smiled at her as she served him, as she did every day since she got her current position.

As much as she felt and thought many obscene things about Vicente, she didn't show it, didn't dare to disrespect this person who had saved her whole family.

Just thinking about what she would do to him if she had the chance wouldn't hurt anyone!

Chapter 525 Reunion?

A few more days passed...

Today was the start of the Royal Academy of Saltstar City application period!

Every year, the Royal Academy Application Office was opened in the largest cities of the kingdom, where young people and their families could pay the application fees and receive the information they needed for the selection process.

The number of places available each year was limited, and the number of applicants far exceeded the number of places available. As a result, there was great competition to get into one of the Royal Academies.

Saltstar City's post was one of the most difficult to get into as the most prestigious Royal Academy in the entire province.

According to the academy itself, only 1 out of 30 applicants was accepted!

There were 200 places in the academy each year, 20 of which were reserved for people chosen by the academy itself to enter their institution without passing the exams.

These 20 places were not for promising young people recommended by teachers but for the wealthiest and most important people in the state, the children of influential individuals.

The Royal Academy of Saltstar City was among the five best in the kingdom, so even nobles from the kingdom's capital occasionally sent their children to study there.

Therefore, not all of the 20 young people entering the academy this year would necessarily be the children of the nobles of the province.

However, the remaining 180 places were up for grabs by those who applied and paid the fee of 100 gold coins to participate in the two stages of the selection process.

The two stages consisted of theoretical tests. In the first phase, a candidate must take a test with 40 discursive questions. In the second phase, they would undergo an interview and a randomized experiment related to the theoretical knowledge demonstrated in the first phase.

The 180 young people with the highest scores would be invited to enroll in the academy, which would take place in about 3 months.

The exams were scheduled for 10 and 12 weeks from today's date, so registration was already open!

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Leaving home early with Nina and Eve, Vicente made his way to the majestic building of the Royal Academy of Saltstar City, where he intended to register his sister for the selection process of such an institution.

Nina could enter the academy without having to go through such a process since Newton had a high moral standing with the heads of the academy and the king himself. But the professor and Nina thought it would be better if she passed the entrance exam.

Vicente agreed because he liked the idea of his sister achieving something independently. It would give her a new kind of feeling, something that might lead her down the path of study that he wanted her to follow.

Arriving at the academy's entrance, they stood for a few moments gazing at the magnificent place, looking at the golden fences separating the academy's front yard from the sidewalks of this central city area.

Nina excitedly smiled as she felt her hands tremble.

Vicente followed Nina hand in hand as they walked along the same route as many other people, children, and their families.

Royal soldiers stood guard on the outskirts while a few academy members, teachers, and assistants worked to guide people.

As dozens of people passed by, Vicente suddenly met the clear eyes of a blond person and couldn't help but stop at the sight of him.

When this black-haired young man stopped walking, with Nina and Eve looking at him strangely, the blond man who had made him stop looked back at him in surprise, not expecting to see Vice there.

"Vicente?" The man in the academy uniform shouted as he made his way through the crowd.

"Ian!" Vicente immediately remembered his good friend from his academy days in Martell Village, who had split up with him and Rory almost six years ago when this young blond had come to study at the academy.

Ian wasn't rich, but he was astute. He had managed to get into the academy and had studied there until he graduated.

He hadn't gotten a full seat at the Seidel Magic College. Still, he had gotten an internship there, spent a year and a half studying in the capital, and then was sent back to this city.

He was currently serving as an assistant, a position that could guarantee him a full-time place at the college if he was successful in his time here.

When Vicente saw the guy who was at level 5 of the 2nd stage, he smiled in satisfaction, not expecting to see his old friend there.

He had heard that Ian had left for the capital after finishing his studies at the Royal Academy of Saltstar City, so in all the months he had lived in this city, Vicente had never looked for Ian.

Seeing Ian in front of him was a positive surprise. So Vicente smiled and hugged his old academy friend.

"Man, I didn't expect to see you here."

"I say the same." The blond man said before looking at Eve and Nina, not recognizing either of them.

Eve had not yet joined Vicente's group at the time Ian was with him and Rory. At the same time, Nina was very small, enough for someone who hadn't seen her for six years not to recognize her immediately.

Vicente caught Ian's eye and pointed to his sister and Eve. "This is my little sister, Nina. While this blonde beauty is my friend, Eve."

"Oh?" Hearing that, Ian was surprised to see Nina so tall but also so healthy.

He had heard about the tragedy of the Fuller family, and all these years he had wondered what might have happened to Vicente and if that young girl was okay. He blamed himself for never returning to Millfall during his studies at this academy, feeling that he could have given his friend some emotional support.

But seeing how well Nina was doing made him feel less bad about his actions.

'She looks terrific. She's different from Lauren at the same age but much better than I thought.' He thought as he bent down and introduced himself to Nina. 'She reminds me of Mrs. Kate Hogan...'

After talking to Nina and Eve, Ian said to Vicente. "Man, I'm sorry about what happened. It must have been a long way for you to get here."

"Indeed it was." Vicente laughed bitterly.

"Anyway, I can see that you're okay, and that's what counts. Shall we meet later to talk?"

Vicente realized that Ian was busy and that he also had things to attend to. "All right. Let's meet outside the academy at the end of your shift and then go get something to eat."

They quickly agreed on what they would do before they returned to what they were doing there.

Chapter 526 Children's Competition?

After Vicente said goodbye to Ian, he made his way alongside Nina and Eve, quickly arriving at the registration area for the selection process for the Royal Academy of Saltstar City.

The registration hall was crowded at the moment, with many local Barons, Viscounts, and Counts there with their sons and daughters. At the same time, other wealthy people from the province also made their presence felt.

Given the presence of powerful local influences, groups of adults quickly formed, with several individuals beginning to talk about business and other matters unrelated to the day's events.

Vicente soon joined one of the lines that led to the leaders in the area, as he observed many locally known figures among complete strangers to him.

"I didn't expect so many important people to be here today." He commented to Nina and Eve as he watched the older people laughing and chatting while the young people crowded around.

Some of them seemed to be talking just like their parents, talking about their opportunities and future alliances. Others just talked about kids their age, the academy, where they came from, and how eager they were to join the Royal Academy.

Nina looked at many of these young people and felt that she might soon become a colleague to some of them.

As she did so, other young people looked at her, some curious about where this pretty girl came from, others not recognizing her figure and associating her with another who would fail the selection.

The selection process at any Royal Academy was very strict. Few had a chance to succeed. Not just anyone from the countryside had a chance to pass the Royal Academy selection!

"Tsk! Does she think she can do well here just because she did well in that garbage town called Millfall?" A blonde girl looked at Nina with an angry expression on her face.

Next to the nine-year-old girl were two of her and Nina's classmates from the academy where Vice's sister was finishing her basic studies in this city.

"Anything is possible. There are cases of people who passed the academy selection even though they came from villages..." A young blond man commented. "I don't doubt at all that she will pass. She seems quite intelligent to me."

"Are you crazy? She's just a country bumpkin!" The young blonde said as she looked at her friend.

"She's pretty beautiful to me." The young man commented to his brown-haired friend, not letting the blonde hear him.

The brown-haired young man laughed softly and looked at the black-haired girl. "You shouldn't underestimate her, Lara. I have heard that her brother is quite capable. Not only does he have a great talent, but he also owns many businesses."

"He's just a merchant," Lara said. "He can't be compared to our noble families with centuries of tradition!"

The two young people looked at each other and said nothing, feeling that Lara was jealous because since Nina had arrived, she had become the center of attention in their class.

Because she was a deaf girl, some of the class felt sorry for Nina. But Vicente's sister was also a beautiful girl for boys who were already thinking about certain things at that age...

Because she was Newton's student and was considered intelligent by many teachers, even those who didn't feel sorry for Nina looked at her differently, with a certain amount of respect and curiosity.

But there were those like Lara who didn't like Nina and thought she should never have joined their academy.

"Tsk! You two are useless." Lara said as she walked over to Nina's side while her mother watched from a distance as she chatted with the other women there to register their children.

Vicente and Eve saw a blonde girl approach Nina but didn't say anything. They just watched to see what it was all about.

Nina's expression changed at the sight of the blonde girl, who she knew wasn't easy and certainly didn't like her.

"Lara."

"Nina."

The two said each other's names, while their expressions were serious as if they were great enemies with a lot to fight for.

"Good luck with your selection test. You'll need it." Lara said after a moment of silence.

"Luck is a crucial fact in the life of a magician. If I benefit from it, all the better." Nina said, aware that Lara was trying to say she was unprepared and only luck could help her.

"Huh! If you fail, don't say I didn't warn you." Lara said as she clenched her fists and prepared to go back to where she came from after explaining her provocation to Nina.

"Lara, good luck." Nina smiled at the blonde, imagining that this blonde was the one who needed it.

Lara looked at Nina angrily, but at that moment, her mother's hand rested on one of her shoulders.

"That girl has a lot of attitude... She's as hot-headed as her father." The blonde woman said with a smile on her face as she looked at Vicente.

Vicente understood his mother's attitude and saw no problem. "This is children's business. Don't worry. I'm not interested in their little disagreements. As long as she doesn't cross the line, Nina will deal with her challenges on her own."

"I appreciate your understanding, Mr. Fuller." The woman said as she gestured a greeting to Vicente.

Vicente thanked her before seeing the blonde girl give him an ugly look and then complain to her mother.

"Mom, why did you embarrass me like that?" Lara asked as her mother pulled her away.

"Tsk! Girl, don't be stupid!" The blonde woman changed her attitude 180 degrees as she moved away from Vicente.

Vicente didn't know her, but this woman had heard of him, and she was strong enough to understand the difference between the levels of people in this area.

Vicente was one of the eight people she couldn't fathom out of everyone there!

"That girl's older brother is much stronger than me and your father! Don't make trouble with someone you don't know." Her mother advised, giving Lara a reality check.

"This..."

Meanwhile, Vicente massaged one of his sisters' shoulders and said, "You handled the situation well. Other people will try to confront you in the future, even attack you. You always need to be calm and know how to behave.

Sometimes, you can put people like that in their place by using your power or influence. But sometimes you must put your head down and accept whatever it is. That's life."

"All right, big brother. I'll remember that." Nina commented before it was finally her turn to sign up for the exam.

Chapter 527 Friends Talk?

While Nina was answering the questions of the academy employee who was taking her application, Professor Marks approached Vicente and Eve.

"Good to see you again." Marks said as he stopped before Vicente, remembering the first time he had seen them and all that had happened since.

Vicente had used the gift Marks had given him that day, buying items at a discount because of this man's 'coupon.' After that day, Nina also ran into Marks a dozen times on her way to visit Newton.

Marks had even taught the girl a few things during his visits to Newton, having recognized her potential as a scholar.

He also knew about Nina's problems, which made him feel moved and more supportive of her.

In addition, he had met Vicente a dozen times and managed to exchange favors, further improving their relationship.

They both had a lot of contacts and making friends made sense!

"Professor Marks." Vicente shook the man's hand. "When do the academy classes start? I'm looking forward to Nina starting her activities here."

Marks smiled, not doubting that Nina had a good chance of making it through the selection process. The girl was really good!

"In four months. She'll be in my assistant teacher's class if all goes well." Marks said as he looked at Nina. "I'll make some exceptions for her if necessary."

"Then thank you." Vicente smiled. "For now, just help me take care of Nina at the academy. I'm going on a long trip as soon as she gets used to the new study routine. I hope you and Professor Newton can help me with her."

"Oh? Don't worry about it. But if you don't mind, can you tell me what you intend to do?" Marks was curious.

"A friend of mine was looking for his third pentagram, and then he disappeared. After investigating him for a while, I discovered that he acted purposefully after discovering clues from his father. I want to go to him and help him with this problem... Since he's left the kingdom, I might be out of the city for a few months." Vicente replied, not lying, although that wasn't his real goal.

He would really try to help Casey on his journey of revenge!

"I see... All right, I'll do my best to help young Nina. But don't worry; the first year at the academy will be very simple. It's mostly theory and without too many disputes." Marks commented.

"Hmm, that's good," Vicente said before handing the man a spatial ring. "Keep it as a token of my appreciation."

After this brief conversation, Marks saw Nina return to her brother's side and leave after saying hello.

Vicente wouldn't be there much longer once he had sorted out his sister's situation regarding the selection for the vacancies at the local Royal Academy.

He would soon return to the Fuller estate with Nina and Eve, leaving behind the place where several influential people were watching him.

Some of them knew him because they had done business with him, while others had simply heard of him through their contacts. But even those who knew nothing about Vicente might be interested

in him. He seemed to have a good relationship with the head of the academy, Marks, which was remarkable and noteworthy.

So even people from outside the province who didn't know Vicente were interested in him.

"Who is this person?" A young man with brown hair asked the two guards in golden armor standing behind him.

"That person... We don't know, but we can find out."

"Then do it. See what you can find out about the girl as well." The young man said as he watched Nina limping out of the place with her brother.

"We'll sort this out as soon as possible, Your Highness!"

...

Later that day, registration for the Royal Academy of Saltstar City ended, and night slowly took over from the day.

While Nina was at home caring for her anxiety, Vicente was in a tavern in a remote area of the city center, face to face with Ian.

Having arranged this meeting earlier, the two had met and came to this place where Ian had promised Vice that there would be some good drinks.

They had just sat down and started drinking when Ian asked Vicente what had happened since their goodbye in Millfall.

Vicente told his friend in detail about his tragedies and successes at the forge until Ian could understand his old friend's real situation.

Hearing about events in other people's lives from other people was never the same as hearing it from the person who had actually lived it all.

"So that's what happened... Sigh, it's all crazy, man. Your life has gone from calm to chaos since we said goodbye. Even now, you still have so many things on your mind. I'm so sorry, man." Ian said as he sighed deeply.

Vicente had only told him about his public stuff about the Fuller family that anyone investigating him could find out. But that was enough for someone like Ian to think Vice's life was hectic.

Compared to the life of Ian, who was basically studying and working at the academy, the life of a person who had to fight, travel, protect his business from competitors, and deal with criminals was very agitated.

The current chaos in Vicente's life might be less than when he lost his mother, father, and older sister, but it was still something out of the ordinary for a guy like Ian.

"Don't worry. The worst that could happen has already happened, and now I'm used to my routine." Vicente smiled at Ian.

"And what about Rory? Have you heard from him?" Ian asked, remembering that the young redhead had seemed intent on joining Vicente at that time.

"Rory is fine. He joined me after I returned to Martell Village. We've done a lot of things together, and now he's taking care of my family's business outside of Saltstar City." Vicente said. "The next time he comes to the city, I'll tell him about you and arrange a meeting. Are you going to stay here for a while?"

Ian was happy for Rory and nodded. "Yes, I'll be here for at least another year. If everything works out for me, I'll return to the capital and finally get a place at Seidel Magical College. After that, I don't know if I'll come back, and I don't know when."

"That's enough time for you to meet a few times... Anyway, I hope you succeed. I intend to leave Nina here in Saltstar City until she graduates from the Royal Academy. Then I'll send her to the capital. You can help her when she's there." Vicente smiled.

"I will certainly do that," Ian commented, not doubting Nina and hoping that what Vicente had said would really happen.

Then, he became more serious, thinking of some rumors he had heard earlier at the academy. "But Vicente, seriously, what is your current level? I heard that you're a High-level Mage. Is that serious?"

Vicente smiled at his friend, seeing that Ian had found out his level. He said. "Yes, it's true."

"How?" Ian asked in disbelief. They were the same age and talent grade, but Vicente was almost ten years ahead of him in terms of power.

Ian knew how difficult it could be to accumulate mana and resources, so he estimated that it would take him at least ten years to reach that level if everything worked out for him.

"Well, with great misfortune comes great opportunity. My businesses also generate good profits, so I've had access to resources that few others have." Vicente was sincere but did not give details of his situation.

"So that's it... I thought you were getting involved in things you shouldn't be." Ian laughed, feeling relieved...

Chapter 528 Discovery and Counseling?

In the blink of an eye, another three months have passed since the Royal Academy of Saltstar City applications.

Nothing problematic has happened to Vicente or his plans. On the contrary, his family has grown even more during this time, reaching 3 new cities and adding another 150 new members controlled by his subordinates.

Now, more than 500 men work for the Mazzanti family. At the same time, 50 of them are public members of the Fuller family, the Mazzanti family's parent company.

Of the 50 public members of the Fuller family, several had advanced in strength, with the emergence of the group's first Mages in addition to those closest to Vice or those recruited already at the beginning of the 3rd stage.

Among those who had advanced was Eve, who had finally become a Low-level Mage.

She and the newly promoted family Mages still had to go out to hunt their pentagrams, but Bart and Rory were already organizing their hunt.

Meanwhile, Vicente had improved his strength and finally reached the absolute peak of the 3rd stage!

It would still take some time for him to advance to the 4th stage because advancing wasn't just about reaching maximum mana. He also needed to have a good understanding of his elements.

Vicente had a great affinity for his elements, but in order to advance, he needed to have insights and ways of using his elements to the maximum that a High-level Mage could have or use.

That was very important for advancement and also the reason why magicians of the same level and affinity, as well as pentagram configuration, sometimes had very different magical abilities.

One magician at a given level might be at the peak of understanding that they could achieve at that level, while the other might still have room to learn and use their abilities in a better way.

That was what Vicente lacked now. When he reached this requirement, he could immediately attempt to advance to the 4th stage and become a Sovereign!

Given the level he had reached, he was naturally eager to set out in search of his revenge.

But Vicente was still in Saltstar City, caring for his local affairs and Nina.

Nina had graduated from the basic academy and turned 10. She had taken the entrance exams for the local Royal Academy and had placed 11th out of the 180 places available for new students this year.

As such, she was already preparing to begin her studies at the local Royal Academy in the coming days.

In the meantime, she was on vacation, but she didn't lack things to do. She now spent many more hours studying with Newton than she had before.

In addition to her almost daily meetings with that man, she had also been learning more and more from her older brother while accompanying Vicente on some of his routines.

In addition, Nina's physique began to show signs of leaving childhood behind.

Between the ages of 10 and 14, young people mature and go through adolescence. Therefore, it was natural that from then on, her body would show more and more feminine signs, with her curves becoming more accentuated while her charm would increase greatly.

Vicente was aware of this, and every day, he looked at his sister and sighed, thinking that his little girl would soon become a woman who would give him some headaches...

But she would give him more headaches than he expected!

During those months, Nina had been spying on a meeting between Cesar Mazzanti and Professor Newton, learning about the man's vital status and becoming suspicious of certain things again.

Because of that meeting about three weeks ago, she became increasingly interested in spying on her brother.

...

While Vicente was working in the basement of his estate, Nina was now hiding there, watching him as he used his skills to forge weapons for his group.

Vicente couldn't notice Nina because she didn't have much mana in her being, and he had no reason to always scan his surroundings.

The Fuller estate was very well protected, not only by Vicente's men but also by the defensive formations and metal structures that Vicente himself had created. That was a place where he could relax enough to open gaps for Nina to explore.

Just then, she saw her brother's pentagrams and realized he had the same ability as Cesar.

'I knew it!' Nina clenched her fists as she thought there was no way Vicente could deny who he was anymore. 'I was right! Eve and the others lied to me to protect him!'

She wanted to help the family and get more involved in Vicente's business, so with the confirmation of her theories, she took courage and stepped forward.

"Brother!" She shouted, catching Vicente's attention in the noisy, dark basement.

Vicente felt as if he had missed something very important as he looked back.

'Shit!' He saw Nina standing behind him.

"Nina... What are you doing here?"

Nina took something out of her spatial ring and threw it to Vicente. "This is yours, right? Are you the one behind Cesar's mask, big brother?"

Gulp!

Vicente wanted to protect Nina from this, but now all was lost.

"Nina, it's not that simple." He said as he brought his pentagrams back to himself and felt the difficulty of having his identity discovered by a little girl.

How would he explain himself to her? How would he explain to his sister that he was a cruel man with many deaths on his record? How would he tell her that he was a criminal?

But Nina was different from what Vicente thought. "Big brother, tell me the truth. I just want to help the family. I don't care about the things you've done."

'She's right...'

"Sigh... There's no need to hide it now." Vicente said before offering a word of advice. "All right, Nina, I'll tell you everything. But you must assure me that you'll never spy on anyone again. What you did to me could have been very dangerous! Don't do it again!"

She smiled at him, eager to hear the truth. "All right, I promise."

"I'll believe you this time... Anyway, I started acting as Cesar to get resources while keeping my real identity protected. In our society, Nina, people will use other people's weaknesses, like family, against others whenever possible.

That's why we must keep our identities secret when we do dangerous things. That's how Cesar Mazzanti was born."

"But why these methods, brother?" She asked him naively.

Vicente said. "In this world, only family matters. The kingdom doesn't care about you or me. The academy where you will study doesn't care about you. Nobody cares about the suffering of others.

Some powers want us to die. That would be best for them.

So you only have your family. And then you have to do what is best for your family.

I had the opportunity to do what's best for us by doing what you know, so I did it. I don't regret anything I did, and I'm willing to break the law again if I have to."

Chapter 529 Lesson for Nina?

"So family is the most important thing... What about honor and loyalty? The academy always talked a lot about the honor of serving the kingdom and fighting for His Majesty." Nina asked her brother.

"That is nonsense. Only fools believe it, Nina. Loyalty to your family and honor are important, but giving them to a stranger who just wants to use you is a big mistake." Vicente advised as he looked into his sister's eyes.

He asked. "What do you think would happen to Nova if she was crippled fighting for the king? Do you think the king would support her? Or would her family care for her?"

Who do you think suffers from a disturbed war hero? The state or their family, who have to deal with their traumas?

The king doesn't care about Nova or any of his soldiers, Nina. As long as they're alive and serving him, fine. But when something happens, they are discarded and replaced. Only the families of people like Nova will care about her and try to help her somehow.

So I ask you, where does Nova owe her loyalty? To the king? Or to her relatives, to you, to me?"

Nina was silent for a moment, never having heard such direct truths in her life. Children didn't usually have such conversations.

Of course, when she heard that the king didn't care about his soldiers or subjects, she felt something strange inside. But since the person she trusted the most was the one who told her these things, she believed Vicente.

"She owes her loyalty to us and to her parents," Nina answered Vicente's question.

Vicente liked what he heard. "Exactly, because we're the ones who will take care of her if anything happens. And that's what you should expect from people, Nina. Those for whom you're willing to do anything must be committed to you, not to other people or powers.

As for those you don't give your best to, well, they could betray you at any moment because they'll be thinking about what's best for them and not for you.

Keep these things in mind. One day, you'll see it all in practice."

"I understand, big brother. I'll do my best to protect the family, even if it means breaking rules." She said, clenching her small fists.

Vicente laughed when he heard this. "Let me run the dangers that lie ahead. Just don't let the others fool you."

"Hmm, what about the Mazzanti family? Did you orchestrate their downfall, big brother?" Nina asked him.

"Yes. Acting in public got me into a lot of trouble. So now we work behind the scenes without anyone knowing. That's why we can live quietly here in Saltstar City."

"I understand. I want to help the family, big brother!"

"Then continue to study with Newton, get regular medical treatment, and dedicate yourself to the academy. When you turn 14, we'll talk about it." Vicente told her, not wanting to turn her down, as this could be a pyre for everyone.

He felt that since she had found out everything, he would better give her a mission to keep her out of trouble for the time being!

"All right! I'll do my best!" She promised before leaving the basement, leaving Vice behind while she went to get her treatment.

Nina had not only consumed resources to improve her physical condition, but she had also followed a daily protocol given to her by Newton. This protocol served to stimulate the little mana she had in her body to make her more sensitive to this special energy.

Vicente sighed as he watched his little sister leave, feeling bad that she had discovered things he didn't want her to know but also happy that he had the chance to teach her things he wouldn't do if he wanted to keep her away from his secret identity.

Every kind of decision has its pros and cons. The advantage of keeping Nina in the dark about what was happening in the family was that she could live a normal life without getting involved in dangerous plots. But this advantage also had a disadvantage because living like this, she would hardly understand the world as it was, which could lead to terrible losses in the future.

The path she was about to take would probably end her innocence and lead her into danger. But at least she could prepare herself to deal with evil people and learn to deal with problems in the best way for herself.

A naive person might believe the nonsense the academy taught and end up sacrificing themselves for the kingdom. But now, she would never believe such absurdity and would only sacrifice herself for the sake of those she loved and who were willing to do the same for her.

"Sigh... Time really flies. In the blink of an eye, six years have gone by." Vicente muttered as he thought about the time that had passed between his family's tragedy and now. "What must Lauren be like now?"

He thought for a moment but soon returned to his work, thinking that the more he trained and worked, the faster he would take revenge on his targets and see Lauren again.

...

After Nina discovered the truth about her brother, a few days passed without much happening for the Fuller family.

With the passage of time, Nina's classes had finally begun at the Royal Academy of Saltstar City, where a grand ceremony had begun a new cycle for the institution.

After Nina's first few days at the academy, Vicente began to prepare for her departure from the city, thinking about traveling to the Chutha Dynasty, where the sect of one of the enemies responsible for Kate's death was located.

He had information about the Bone Mountains, he was at the peak of the 3rd stage, he had prepared his family well for his absence, and Nina was now practically adjusted to her new routine.

So, there wasn't much left for him to do in Saltstar City or Scott Province, and he was already planning his departure for the next few days!

Right now, he was at home with Nova, saying goodbye to the woman he would be away from for at least a few months.

...

"Nova, take care of Nina for me if necessary. But don't neglect your cultivation. I expect you to become a High-level Mage by the time I return." He said after finishing his daily 'practice' with the blue-haired beauty in his arms.

"I'll try my best." She smiled at him. "But with the resources you've given me, I find it hard not to progress by then. You'll probably be gone six months."

The trip to Chutha Dynasty could take more than 2 months one way, so the minimum time he would be away from Saltstar City would be 4 months. But he would need more time in this state to settle his affairs.

Vicente said to her. "Time will pass quickly. You'll have a lot to do. Anyway, if you can, help my people. I doubt any problems related to the Mazzanti family will affect my people, but anything is possible.

All it takes is for one of my men to bump into the son of a local noble, and endless problem can arise."

"I know. Don't worry, I'll take care of everything."

Chapter 530 Moment of Departure

After saying goodbye to Nova the night before, Vicente met up with Jasmine and Layla on the morning of this new day.

"Vicente, take Layla with you." Jasmine got right to the point when she saw the dark-haired young man in the restaurant where they usually met. "She's not far from advancing to the final part of the 3rd stage and could be useful in helping you gather information about Chutha Dynasty."

Vicente frowned when he heard that and looked at the grey-haired woman sitting next to Jasmine.

"You know I'll be facing a sect with Sovereigns in their ranks, right? Will you be able to keep up with me?" He asked Layla directly.

Layla said. "I plan to help you gather information and escape from this state when the time comes. I won't be joining you in your battles over there. So I should be fine, even considering the level of your enemies."

Vicente knew how useful Layla's super speed was and how beneficial it could be for him to have her as a companion on this journey. So he didn't refuse Jasmine's suggestion, even considering the complex relationship he had always had with the gray-haired woman.

"Alright, we'll travel together. But what about you, Jasmine? Won't this cause problems with your father?" He asked the beautiful pink-haired woman in front of him.

Jasmine shook her head negatively. "Not at all. My father has sent Layla to help me. But I can send her wherever I want. Besides, he won't know anything. And in the worst case, I can just say that I sent Layla somewhere to get an important resource for me."

"All right then." He looked at Layla. "Be aware that I'm in charge, so obey me when I say something. I don't want any trouble on this trip."

"Don't worry about me. I know how to handle you." Layla smiled at Vicente, having had such experiences before.

"So are you ready? I want to leave tonight." Vicente said, ignoring Layla's bold comment.

"Tonight? I'm ready now. Why don't we leave soon?" Layla asked.

"I have a meeting with my family's leaders outside of the city tonight. After the meeting, I'll leave Saltstar City."

Jasmine looked at Layla and said. "Get ready to accompany him on this journey tonight. Don't worry about me, I'll be fine. I don't intend to leave the city while you're gone. And at my current level, few people in the province can stand in my way."

Layla knew that. "Very well. I'll join you tonight when you go to meet your people."

"Perfect. Then I'll see you later." Vicente said as he got up, intending to take care of some local business before this trip.

He had already said goodbye to Nova, but he wanted to talk to his master and go to the local blacksmith association to settle some matters he had been involved in over the past few months.

Vicente had invested a great deal in his position as a blacksmith. He had even reached a position of prominence in the city's blacksmith association unit. He was currently second only to the elders on the council, and as such, he was deeply involved in many of the affairs of the strongest local blacksmiths.

Since he was planning to go to the Chutha Dynasty, he wanted to take the opportunity to get materials, spells, resources, and other useful things to help him become a 4th stage blacksmith.

Since he intended to stay in Saltstar City until Nina finished the Royal Academy, he would need these things after he became a sovereign.

Having such things would be beneficial not only for him but also for the unity of the association in this city, where he could contribute to local development.

Therefore, his trip to the Chutha Dynasty would be financed by the local association, which would give him a strong alibi for his trip to that state, where he was supposed to go to learn and enjoy opportunities...

So, shortly after saying goodbye to Jasmine and Layla, he found himself in front of the association building.

...

Later that day, Vicente already had the funds that the elders of the local council of the Blacksmiths' Association had given him for his trip when he picked up Nina at the Newton residence.

He took her to a famous local restaurant, taking advantage of the fact that he would be away from his sister for months to teach her a few more things while he took her out.

Nina had matured a lot in the months since she had left Millfall. As a result, she did not see her brother's absences as badly as before. She really preferred that he stayed close by, but she understood that he had to go out to solve problems for the good of the family.

So she tried to enjoy this time with her brother but was already looking forward to his return.

After returning home with Nina, Vicente would say goodbye to Eve and Rory, who would remain at the Fuller estate to take care of his duties in his absence.

"Have a good trip, Vice. I'm sorry I can't help you more directly with your revenge. But know that I'll be ready one day and help you with my best efforts to save Lauren." Rory said as he hugged Vicente at the door of the Fuller mansion.

"You've already done a lot for me, don't worry." Vicente smiled at his redheaded friend. "Take care of the family for me. Take care of Nina too. That girl is growing up and gradually figuring out how to fool Eve."

Eve heard that and laughed bitterly, already aware of the things that had happened lately.

Rory smiled at that. "I'll do my best."

"Well, that's all. Now it's my time to go." Vicente said as he looked at the sidewalk in front of his house, where a grey-haired woman was already waiting for him. "I'm going to meet up with Sarah and the rest of the staff and then continue my journey. See you later, my friends."

With these words, he said goodbye to Eve and Rory and left with Layla for one of the city's exits.

After walking for a while, the two began to walk faster as they made their way to Vicente's meeting place with his staff.

A few minutes after leaving Saltstar City, they arrived at a wooded area where Sarah, Bart, and three other Mages were waiting for him.

After meeting these people, Vicente would soon give his orders to the group of Mid-level and High-level Mages.

Rory was supposed to work with them. But since he would be taking over Vicente's duties for the time being, he wasn't there and had already reported to his boss and received orders.

Vicente did the same with these five people as he had done with Rory until he saw some of them leave, with only Sarah staying behind to talk to him.