

# The Mafia 571

## Chapter 571 Breaking into a Sect

?The next day, Vicente and his companions were already on their way as the sun set at the end of the day.

Casey had already taken care of the investigators who had done the compromising work of gathering information regarding Dax for them, having erased their memories of the past few weeks.

Killing someone on sites like Oldbarrow had the potential to cause a lot of headaches. Erasing memories was always preferable.

With that done, the group prepared to move on to Vicente's evil plans.

Vicente was not a soft-hearted man or incapable of making difficult decisions. He may have seemed like a good man to those less observant and aware of his actions, but he was a typical mafioso.

If he had to kill an entire family for the good of his group, he would do what was necessary without blinking an eye!

When Layla and Casey heard that he planned to deal with Dax's family and friends first, they were both a little taken aback, especially this woman who saw the world a little more "pink" than her two traveling companions.

Casey understood the pain Vicente had felt at losing his mother and seeing his family devastated by someone else's struggle. So his surprise was less than Layla's, and he fully understood his ally. Not only did he understand Vice, but he agreed with the plans!

Casey's surprise was related to the fact that he hadn't foreseen that Vicente would go down this bloody path!

Anyway, now the three of them had their plans for the night in mind and were ready to act as soon as the opportunity arose!

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In a remote part of Oldbarrow, there was a large piece of land the size of a neighborhood, with about 15% of the city's total area.

This place had wooded areas inside, but even from the outside, you could see buildings of all kinds, where there were residences, places for teaching and research, and areas for training and recreation.

That is what a sect or the headquarters of large organizations with thousands of members looked like!

The headquarters of such organizations sometimes resembled towns and even had their trade and laws.

The place in question was the headquarters of the Bone Mountains sect, a medium-sized sect considering the power level of the continent.

More prominent sects, such as the organization that kidnapped Lauren, might have headquarters five to ten times larger than this place, sometimes owning entire cities where only their members and allies could come and go.

But for people who had never seen the headquarters of an organization as large as this one in Oldbarrow, the Bone Mountain headquarters was enough to make the three stare at it open-mouthed for a few moments.

As they stood in front of this place, Vicente and his two companions observed this large estate, looking not only for the signs they had to expect but also for how large and magnificent this area was.

"They say the headquarters of my religion is like this, but on a much larger scale," Layla commented to her two companions, a twinkle in her eye.

Since joining the Congregation of Revelations, her greatest dream was to one day serve in the organization's headquarters, where the Temple Master, an Archmage, commanded the most influential religion in the Polaris Realm!

The City of Angels was home to the most powerful of the Congregation of Revelations, a place only members of the temples of that religion could enter or live.

Casey looked at Layla and then at Vicente. "Getting into this place without being noticed won't be easy. The area is huge, so there are many places where we could be seen."

"That is a possibility. But because the area is so large, it will be easier for us to get in." Vicente said as he looked toward the observers near where they were.

They were hiding in one of the trees on the road in front of the sect's entrance, all dressed in special clothes with cloth masks on their faces.

Vicente saw the sign of the changing shifts of observers in this area, something they had studied in their observations of this place over the last few days.

"Time to act." He said quietly before addressing the two. "Don't worry so much about being noticed. With Layla's speed and your mental abilities, your chances are very good."

With that, Vicente moved off, quickly disappearing as he controlled the light in his surroundings and flew towards the inside of the area at the moment of the shift change when there was an opening in the area's magical defenses.

Layla quickly carried Casey on her back as soon as she saw the moment to act, quickly passing the entrance to the headquarters where a shift was in progress.

The sect members in the area only felt a relatively strong gust of wind when she passed by them.

However, no one was too surprised by the situation, and soon, the exchange was over, and the defenses of that area returned to their impenetrable state for those with cultivation up to the 4th stage.

The Bone Mountains were a force with many enemies in the 4th stage. As such, their headquarters was protected by several 4th-grade formations!

Unfortunately, the formations only worked as long as they were activated, and it was impossible to keep them activated 100% of the time. People had to come and go from such posts, which naturally weakened their defenses at certain times of the day.

Vicente's group managed to get into this sect, with Vice soon following his plans there, while Layla and Casey made their way to Sovereign Dax's residence together!

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After separating from his two companions, Vicente went to the residences of Dax's two great friends in the sect.

Chase and Caleb, an Earth Sovereign and a Sky Sovereign, respectively, were two of Dax's friends he would undoubtedly miss, both because of their history together and because they were the kind of friends willing to do anything to help their companions.

As such, Vicente wanted to act against both of them to cause Dax pain and weaken his enemy when he returned to Oldbarrow in a few days.

Chase and Caleb lived in the same area of the sect, in one of the noblest and richest parts of this headquarters, where the Sovereigns and their families of this organization lived.

In a way, Layla and Casey were also moving into this area since Dax's residence was there as well. However, the area of the Sovereigns was quite large, and the residences of Dax's family and those two men were separated from each other.

Chase and Caleb lived closer together, so Vicente would soon be close to both of his targets.

With Torne's help in locating these men, and the portrait of them he had also received from the investigator who had given him Dax's information, he soon decided whom to target first.

'I will deal with Caleb first. He's the strongest and the hardest to eliminate, so I must deal with him before Chase.' Vicente thought to himself as he moved in the direction of the man's residence, using Torne's help to hide his aura even more than he could on his own.

Moving under his invisibility, Vicente soon found himself in the residence of Caleb, a Sky Sovereign.

The estate of Dax's friend was neither small nor simple. With a built area of more than 300 square meters and three floors, this man's residence was quite large and had many people in its vicinity.

Many weak subordinates took care of the man's residence, including some sect members and Caleb's disciples.

As someone who was among the strongest in the sect, Caleb had a long history with the organization, with many talented disciples from several generations.

His disciples ranged from young Acolytes to High-level Mages.

In addition to these subordinates, disciples and other sect members who regularly visited the elders' mansions, as well as magical beasts and other elders, were also at the mansion.

Some of them were stationed around the mansion, probably to protect Caleb from trouble and to keep watch.

Caleb was strong enough to protect himself, but elders like him didn't have to get involved in every problem that came their way!

Vicente saw all the advantages of being an elder in this place and couldn't help but be interested in what sects offered their strongest men.

"That's impressive. This guy lives like a king here!" He commented to Torne as he saw how there were people there to take care of practically everything for Caleb.

Caleb's only responsibility was to cultivate and train. Other than that, he would only have to act if someone of an equal or higher level than him appeared to challenge the sect or if the sect itself planned to act against others of an equal or higher level than him!

Torne commented in Vicente's mind. "The best positions on the continent are to be the leader of one's organization or to be one of the pillars of forces like sects and clans.

Maybe it's even better to be one of the pillars. An elder like Caleb doesn't have as much responsibility as you, master, but he lives better than you. His value to this sect is enormous, and his benefits far outweigh his responsibilities.

When you reach the same level as him, you'll certainly have access to more things than him. But your level of responsibility will be infinitely greater than that old man's."

'Speaking like that, it sounds like you'd prefer me to become the elder of some sect or clan.' Vicente joked with Torne.

'That wouldn't be bad.' Torne surprised Vicente. 'There are organizations all over the continent that give their elders the chance to have their own organizations. If you became a member of such a force, you could continue your business with the Fuller/Mazzanti family and still have the privileges of someone like Caleb.

In fact, you could even use members of the sect to perform services for your family for free. There are many advantages to joining a larger force and not being in charge of it, master.'

'I didn't know you had such an opinion on the matter.' Vicente commented as he approached Caleb's position, unnoticed by everyone around Caleb's estate.

'I don't think it would be a good idea for you to join a Light Path force without at least one Archmage in its ranks. But I'm not against you doing what I said if you find an organization that gives you those freedoms and is strong enough to have one or more Archmages.' Torne revealed his honest opinion.

'Archmages? Do you think there are organizations on the continent with more than one of them?'" Vicente asked doubtfully.

The only Archmage known throughout the continent was the leader of the Congregation of Revelations. So, for people like Vicente, there weren't many organizations with 6th-stage specialists and those that did rarely had more than one of them in their forces.

Torne smiled at Vicente's comment. 'Archmages can easily live for more than 10,000 years without using any resources to increase their vitality. Do you really think there are so few of them on the continent?

There certainly aren't many, but there's definitely enough for some organizations to have two or three of them.'

'I see. I didn't think there were that many peak experts. There's hardly any news about people above the 5th stage,' Vicente commented.

'This is natural. Most of these experts can live for thousands of years. While their lives are long, the people who know them rarely go far. When the people who know them die, they are often practically forgotten.' Torne explained. 'Also, many of them have a habit of spending decades cultivating, and when they come out of their isolation, they don't interact with many people who can understand their greatness.'

'That makes sense... The continent is probably a dark room full of monstrous creatures.'

'That is the best analogy for understanding reality.' Torne agreed with his master's comment.

After he said this, they stopped exchanging ideas when Vicente was finally one door from his destination.

Caleb was meditating in his cultivation room, where only an Earth Sovereign was standing in front of the entrance to this special room.

'Old Torne, are you sure you can help me?' Vicente asked before he made his last move, for once made, there would be no turning back.

'Don't worry. If the old Sky Sovereign before you had his guard up and was looking for us, it would be difficult for me to hide our auras. But I used to be as strong as him, and he's not very attentive now. He won't notice either of us until you act.'

Vicente calmed down and made his move.

He didn't hesitate to use his newly acquired ability to control the mind of an Earth Sovereign sitting next to the only door to this cultivation room.

With a small fraction of Torne's power, Vicente's level was practically the same as that person's.

The man realized that something was wrong, even if he couldn't see what it was.

"This..."

Although he could take Vicente's action at first, he soon became silent as a cloudy look appeared in his eyes, and Vice managed to suppress this person's consciousness.

After controlling this person for a few seconds by squeezing his neck, Vicente moved away, leaving room for him to walk toward the inside of that cultivation room.

When he ordered the man to enter the room, he followed behind the man, so close to this individual that even if he wasn't invisible, it would have been difficult to see him.

As soon as the door to the cultivation room opened, Vicente moved in a different direction from the man, who went to Caleb's side as if he was there to deliver a message.

"Huh?" Caleb noticed the presence of his personal guard and opened his eyes in curiosity.

But just then, he felt something pass through his left chest!

## Chapter 573 Killing Night (2)

?Feeling something in his chest, Caleb looked back and saw nothing. But he was a Sky Sovereign. As soon as he circulated his mana through his eyes, he noticed the disturbance caused by Vicente's ability.

"This..." He opened his mouth as blood spurted with his saliva.

He tried to activate his pentagrams to act against Vicente, but his own subordinate attacked him and slit his throat with a sword.

Caleb hadn't expected this and was surprised by a cut six centimeters deep in his throat.



This time, he couldn't say anything as he felt his surroundings darken, not believing he would die in his own training area like this.

That was a dishonorable way for someone like him to die!

But he had no choice in the matter!

As he pulled his spear out of Caleb's body, Vicente saw the man fall face down to the ground, already unconscious.

Caleb wasn't dead yet, but in no more than 30 seconds, this man would be beyond what 4th-stage doctors could do to save him.

'Tsk! It may look easy, but it cost me 60% of my powers!' Vicente sighed as he looked at the heavily bleeding body while Torne kept an eye on the surroundings.

Vicente was at the absolute peak of the 3rd stage, but to deal a fatal blow to a Sky Sovereign, he would have to use up all of his power and still rely on the enemy not to be on guard.

Fortunately, he had Torne's help and didn't have to use all of his strength. Otherwise, his night's work would have ended with Caleb's death.

'Time to go, master.' Torne warned Vicente before the young man made Caleb's guard return to his post and act as if nothing had happened.

He turned invisible again and headed for Chase's property, which was two blocks away from Caleb's residence.

Vicente had already identified this place before he came to act against Caleb, so when he finished his business with this man, he quickly moved on to his second target.

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While Vicente went to Chase's property, Layla and Casey had already taken action against Dax's son and wife.

Unlike Vicente, they didn't want to kill their targets but to kidnap them.

It would be much easier for them to reach their targets and take them away from the sect than to kill them. Not only that but killing those people might cause even more turmoil in the sect and make it dangerous for them to escape.

After breaking into Dax's estate, they quickly caught up with his wife and son without encountering any difficulties.

There were Sovereigns there to protect the estate and Dax's two family members. However, with Casey's mental manipulation and Layla's speed, it didn't take them long to reach their targets.

Casey easily manipulated their minds to make them walk out of the building with them as if it was just another regular action on their part.

So he and Layla followed Dax's wife and son while acting as if they were the servants of these people.

The sect still seemed to be in the dark about their invasion and Vicente's actions, so the two left this place without hesitation, thinking that he hadn't acted yet or hadn't been discovered.

However, the situation at Bone Mountain headquarters was about to change!

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As Vicente entered Chase's building and was about to reach his destination, distress signals began to appear on that building and elsewhere in that large headquarters.

'It looks like we've been spotted.' Vicente said to Torne, imagining that Bone Mountains had already learned of Caleb's death.

'Time to pick up the pace, master.' Torne said. 'This man is weaker than the other, so just destroy him quickly. We don't need to catch him off guard as we did with the other one.'

Feeling Torne's mana flow through his body, Vincent no longer moved cautiously. He quickly picked up speed as his pentagrams appeared around him.

He was still two corridors away from Chase, but with his powers and Torne's support, he focused on the enemy and brought the metals around that person under his control.

Chase was in his office when he jumped out of his chair, alarmed by the emergency alarm that had just gone off.

'Has something happened?' He worried as he looked out of his window.

He did so for only a second but soon shifted his focus as he felt the mana in his surroundings disturbed by an external force.

"Who's there?" He asked aloud as many metallic objects around him floated in the air and changed shape.

That happened very quickly, and soon, several of these items were flying at him in the form of small blades.

Chase was inside his residence, so he had no armor on his body now.

That didn't help him at all. 4th-grade armor wouldn't be under Vicente's control and would protect him. Since he had nothing like that with him, the blades that could damage even 4th-

grade artifacts attacked him mercilessly.

He raised his defenses, but his strength was not his defense. As an attack-oriented warrior, he was much better at attacking targets.

But without a target in the first moment of this fight, he could only move to dodge the blades coming at him.

'Shit! These blades are really annoying!' He thought as he felt cuts on his arms and legs.

But as he moved towards the exit of his office, he suddenly felt it difficult to move, as if his body was strangely out of his control.

That caused him to miss a step and then be hit by half a dozen weapons controlled by Vicente, all of which hit his vital points!

"Aaaaaagh!" He screamed in pain as he tried his best to move and resist these injuries.

However, being injured and having the metals in his body manipulated by Vicente, he didn't resist when the young Fuller finally entered the office and used his mental ability.

Knocked unconscious in front of Vicente, this man would soon fall into the darkness of death as he was physically and mentally destroyed!

Thus ended Vicente's night of killing and began his escape from this now-alert headquarters.

#### Chapter 574 A Bloody Gift?

When Vicente left Chase's estate, he encountered many magicians moving around the area where the sect's experts lived as Sovereigns' auras grew stronger.

Many didn't know exactly what had happened, so when they noticed the emergency alarms, they didn't go directly to Caleb's house, which had generated those signals. Some moved toward the sect's core, while others remained in position, waiting for word from the sect's leadership.

Vicente wasn't being hunted yet, so he moved, using what little mana he had left to hide his movements.

With Torne's help, he followed the path with fewer powerful people between him and the exit of this headquarters.

Getting into this place had been easy, but getting out would be a few levels more difficult.

'How are we going to leave this place, master?' Torne asked Vicente, feeling unsure of what to do when faced with a problem for the first time.

But Vicente was a former bank robber and a specialist escaping from Earth's prisons. Polaris Realm might be much more complicated than Earth because of the existence of magic, but since he had his own powers, he wasn't too worried about it.

Vicente had already drunk a recovery potion, and his mana reserves gradually improved as he moved. Then he said to Torne. 'The Sovereigns will be very busy finding out about Chase and Caleb's deaths in the next few minutes. I'll use that to my advantage to control the guards at one of the exits from this place!'

'That will leave traces of our passage, master.'

'Not if they kill themselves after I leave the area!'

With that, Vicente would soon arrive at one of the exits of this sect, where the group of guards in the area were already on alert for the sect's internal problem, having already completely sealed off the place with formations capable of isolating this area from the rest of Oldbarrow.

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Forty-five minutes after Chase's death, Layla and Casey were nervously waiting for Vicente outside of the city in a cave where they had agreed to meet after the action that night.

With them were Dax's wife and son, both bound and sitting on the floor in a dark part of the cave.

The two masked youths paced back and forth nervously, worried about Vicente.

But as they did so, the sound of footsteps suddenly came from the cave entrance and caught their attention.

"Vicente!" Layla said as she ran towards the tall, black-haired man who had just arrived.

"How was your mission?" Casey asked, looking into Vicente's eyes as he removed his mask.

Vicente sighed, feeling rather tired after fighting several people that night. "It went well, I'd say." He sat down on a rock in the cave and looked in the direction of Dax's relatives.

"The two Sovereigns didn't expect to be attacked on their residences, so I managed to get rid of them after some effort. In the end, I narrowly escaped from that sect. They didn't expect an intruder to break into their home and attack two elders...

But they still reacted quickly to my attacks. If it weren't for my invisibility and ability to control bodies, I wouldn't have been able to escape." He said, happy that these two had managed to leave the headquarters before things got complicated.

If they hadn't been quick in their mission, they wouldn't have been able to escape!

"Sigh, good." Layla sighed when she saw Vicente looking at them. "What do we do now?"

"We'll go somewhere else and hide for the next few days," Vicente replied, thinking that they couldn't just stay there but that they would also have to move every few days.

The vampire was after them, and the Bone Mountains forces might have magicians who could find something to bring them. So they had to move whenever possible.

"As soon as we find another place, let's get some rest and take care of these two," Vicente said, clenching his fists.

He and his two companions had drunk restorative potions. But this kind of magical resource only restored some of the mana used by its users. Mental fatigue was in no way affected by this type of potion.

All of them, especially Vicente needed some rest, so he didn't focus on the two hostages right away.

'I'll let you live a little longer... Enjoy it. Soon, your dear Dax will see you again.' Vicente thought as he had an evil look, feeling no compassion for these people and no hesitation in doing what he had planned.

Someone might think these two were innocent, and he was wrong to go after them. And that was right. Dax's son and wife had nothing to do with the man's fight with Malik years ago.

But Kate Hogan was also not to blame for what had happened to her, nor was Lauren, and yet she had lost her sight. Then there was Nina, who had lost her hearing; Andrew, who had lost the will to live and left orphans in this cruel world; and finally, Vicente himself was a victim of Dax and Malik's actions.

Vicente would not do what he had planned to do to punish Dax's son and wife. He would do what he planned to inflict pain on his enemy!

He had no scruples and was willing to do anything to achieve his goals!

'Dax, just wait. I'm coming!'

...

Seven days after the deaths of Caleb and Chase, Dax returned to the Bone Mountains, having been warned of the deaths of his two great friends.

Not only that but when he learned of the disappearance of his wife and son, the man rushed back to Oldbarrow full of hate.

Arriving in the city that afternoon with his mistress, Eloise, he went straight to his sect's headquarters to demand an answer.

"Sect leader, what's going on?" He entered the elders' hall with a loud voice while a blonde woman stood beside him with a worried look.

Dax was currently a Sky Sovereign, so when he entered and questioned the sect leader, no one in the elders' hall thought his strong words were inappropriate. And he had every right to be angry!

"Dax, you'd better get ready. Someone is coming for you." The Sect Master, an old man with long, thick white hair and a voluminous mustache, said as he looked at the man seriously.

Dax didn't have time to question that Sky Sovereign when two boxes appeared in front of him.

The Sect Master said. "These two boxes arrived for you yesterday morning."

Dax and Eloise stepped forward until they saw what was inside the boxes.

They were the bodies of his son and his wife, mysteriously placed in square boxes with edges only 50 centimeters wide.

Their bodies were crumpled inside these boxes, with their heads turned up, giving off the terrifying look of people who had surely suffered before dying.

Seeing this, Eloise looked at her companion and saw his eyes turning red with rage, his aura rising, and the veins in his head trembling.

Something was written on the foreheads of his two family members.

'I'm coming, Dax!'

## Chapter 575 Earth Sovereign

It has been ten days since Dax returned to Oldbarrow.

In those days, he and the Bone Mountains sect began an extensive search for those responsible for the deaths of his wife and son.

The group didn't have much success in catching up with Vicente and his companions during this time. These three young men from the Seidel Kingdom didn't take any chances in the early days of the search led by Dax.

And why should they move? Their destination was furiously searching for them!

But the group from the Scott Province hadn't shown up in Oldbarrow for another reason. While they were hiding in the forests of this frontier area of the Chutha Dynasty, occasionally moving to new hiding places, Vicente had reached the turning point in his cultivation.

Two days ago, he had achieved what was necessary to begin his attempts to advance to the 4th stage!



Having reached this point, since he had already waited until this moment to act against Dax, delaying his revenge for one, two, or three more days wouldn't make any difference to him.

So he was in seclusion, trying to get to the beginning of the 4th stage, meditating in a cave away from those who wanted his head, with only Layla and Casey with him.

As time passed, Vicente got closer and closer to the point where he would no longer be a High-level Mage but an Earth Sovereign!

...

It was late afternoon in the Oldbarrow region, where Vicente's group was hiding in a forested area of the northwestern mountains of the Chutha dynasty.

Layla and Casey took turns watching the entrance to their cave in a spot lit by torches and a few fluorescent objects.

But right now, the two of them were talking side by side at the entrance to this place, from where they could better sense the beings near the cave.

"Are you and Vicente together?" Casey asked, having already noticed that Layla and Vice seemed to do strange things when he wasn't around.

She blushed but didn't hide the truth. "Yes, it happened after we rescued you. He said he'd make me his woman."

Seeing Layla lower her head in shame at saying that, Casey laughed. "Well then, I wish you luck. Just be careful not to mix things up. That can prevent problems for everyone."

She understood what he meant and said nothing, aware that work and feelings had to be kept separate. That didn't stop her from having a relationship with Vicente, but she would have to be careful not to hurt herself or those connected to her and him.

"Anyway, soon he'll move on, and it'll be time to move again," Casey commented, changing the subject. "I wonder what his next pentagram will be like... He already has two green pentagrams. I wouldn't be surprised if he chooses a cyan one now."

"A cyan pentagram?" Layla looked into Casey's eyes. "That would be impossible for him to get since he is only at the 4th stage. According to rumors within my organization, only Archmages have cyan pentagrams."

"Oh? You don't trust him?" Casey looked at her with interest.

"It's not that I don't trust Vicente. I just don't understand how he can hunt a magical being at the peak of the 5th stage or the beginning of the 6th stage when he himself will be at the beginning of the 4th stage." She was being sincere.

Casey also didn't think it was possible for Vicente to get something so valuable while he was only at the 4th stage, so he didn't push Layla any further. "That's true. If he chooses a green pentagram, he'll be fine. He'll be able to evolve his first pentagram a bit more, and he'll be an even worse monster than he is now."

"Hmmm..."

"Lucky for us, we're partners with someone like him," Casey commented. "When we advance to the 4th stage, we'll be able to get green pentagrams easily if we go hunting with him."

Layla agreed, knowing that it would take 18 to 36 months to become an Earth Sovereign, even though she was now a High-

level Mage with several resources at her disposal.

Sooner or later, they would reach that level if they continued alongside Vicente, so the thought of the green pentagram she would absorb when she became a Sovereign wasn't too far away for her not to think about it.

Reaching the 4th stage would be the fulfillment of dreams for these two natives of the Seidel Kingdom, where the strongest were individuals with the magical cultivation of Sovereigns.

Layla clenched her fists when she realized how far she had come in such a short time, but she didn't see only the positive side. There were still many dangers and challenges ahead of her to keep moving forward!

While she and Casey were thinking about different things, they both felt a sudden change in the concentration of mana in the cave. They both turned their attention in the direction where Vicente was meditating, smiles quickly forming on their faces.

Vincent was about to enter the 4th stage!

As he sat in the lotus position under a cultivation pillow, the lake of mana that currently existed in his space of consciousness suddenly increased in size, turning from a mere lake into a seemingly boundless ocean.

When one became a Low-level Mage, they would form a mana vortex after condensing the five magic triangles of the Acolyte stage. Then, the mana vortex would turn into a lake at the end of the 3rd stage, when one became a High-level Mage.

As one progressed from the 3rd stage to the 4th stage, the lake would grow to all the boundaries of the magician's consciousness space, becoming a great ocean.

This ocean would eventually give rise to a single point of mana condensation, which, upon reaching the 5th stage, would form a soul avatar.

Vicente was still far from the birth of his soul avatar, but he was getting closer to this important moment in a magician's life.

As he formed the ocean of mana, his strength rapidly increased, with all of his characteristics doubling in power and his mana reserves reaching a level 100% higher than what he had as a High-level Mage.

While his endurance, strength, speed, intelligence, comprehension, magical power, and many other traits developed significantly, his natural-origin pentagrams once again began to evolve a little closer to the next level of quality.

His second pentagram only gained a few cyan lines at its edges, indicating that it would one day evolve to that level if he continued to improve his strength.

But Vicente's first pentagram, which had previously been an intense orange, changed significantly, gaining several yellow lines and inscriptions around it.

It didn't reach the point of a qualitative breakthrough and became a yellow pentagram. Still, it did reach the threshold between orange and yellow.

If Vicente were to undergo a new qualitative evolution after today, this pentagram would immediately reach the yellow grade!

In this way, he would enter the beginning of the 4th stage and become an Earth Sovereign!

#### Chapter 576 Face to Face with the Enemy

'Congratulations, master. You are now an Earth Sovereign,' Torne said with a pleased tone.

Vicente looked at the ghost within his consciousness and felt an unprecedented power coursing through his existence.

Advancing one stage was always excellent. Whenever one advanced one level, one's strength would grow tremendously, and one's previous level would seem extremely insignificant.

The feeling of euphoria after advancing was common, but even though Vicente felt it, he still thanked his slave. "You've helped me a lot, old Torne. You even seized the moment to advance to the end of the 4th stage! Congratulations on becoming a Sky Sovereign!"

"I was lucky. Some of the essences from the resources I consumed in The Skull City were still in my spirit body. When the master evolved, I felt something change in me, and I took the chance to become a little stronger as well," Torne commented. "Anyway, now we can proceed with our plans much more smoothly, master.

With your progress, I think you'll be able to use some of your Throne of Darkness without getting seriously hurt. But now that you've advanced, I can feel how incredible your second magical form is, master."

"Oh?"

"Even with your advancement to the 4th stage, you still won't be able to use the Throne of Darkness casually," Torne said as he looked in the direction of the magical form that still dominated Vicente's space of consciousness, even though his first form grew in size with every advance this young man made.

Vicente commented. "I expected this. When I awakened my powers, I was under the impression that I would not be able to use this essence until I reached my fifth pentagram."

"That won't be necessary," Torne said. "That would indeed happen if you had an ordinary pentagram configuration. But after you reach your fourth pentagram, you will most likely have a yellow pentagram, two green ones, and a cyan one. That will give your magical foundation a similar quality and solidity to what a normal person with 5 pentagrams would have.

So, I think you'll be able to start using your second magical form without any problems once you get your cyan pentagram. Until then, it's best not to rely on it. You'll still have problems using this magical form.

That's how powerful your Throne of Darkness is!'

Vicente kept these words in his mind while he couldn't help but feel excited that his total power would be no longer limited.

He opened his eyes back in the cave where Casey and Layla were at his side; they were both curious to talk to him.

"Congratulations on your breakthrough, Vicente," Casey said with a smile, looking at the guy in front of him and not being able to believe that this guy was between 16 and 17 years old.

Layla said something similar as she hugged her man, feeling happy for him but also motivated to push herself to get stronger and reach the 4th stage.

"Thanks for the words. Now that I'm in the 4th stage, our chances of achieving our goals here have greatly increased. My strength has improved a lot as a result." He smiled as he felt each of his pentagram-related powers grow stronger.

His first pentagram had not completed its evolution to the yellow grade, and the second pentagram was still far from the cyan grade. So, he didn't gain any additional abilities with this advancement to the 4th stage.

However, the range of his powers, the mass of metals he could affect, and the extent to which he could affect the metals in the bodies of living beings all evolved significantly with his advancement!

His ability to manipulate thoughts had greatly improved, and the combination of his powers would be even more efficient from now on.

"When will we act?" Casey asked, eager to leave his hiding place.

"Tomorrow," Vicente answered directly. "I'll familiarize myself with my new stage, and then we'll go and deal with Dax."

"What are we going to do?" Layla asked.

"You will wait for me outside the city. I'll fight Dax and possibly the elders of the Bone Mountains sect. It will be dangerous, so you'd better not come with me." He thought about how these two could best help him. "But be prepared to act. I may need you two to help me cover my tracks when we flee to the Kenyth Empire."

The two agreed and soon began to prepare for this action.

Now that Vicente had advanced, time would pass quickly, and soon, it would be time for them to part!

...

While Layla and Casey made their way to the place where they had agreed to meet Vicente, this young man made his way all the way to Oldbarrow, easily entering the city.

He went straight to Dax's sect, hiding his level while disguising himself as a delivery man.

When he arrived at the entrance to the Bone Mountains sect, he walked straight up to one of the guards.

"Good morning, friend. I have a delivery for His Excellency Dax Lewis."

The mages near the entrance soon checked Vicente for suspicious signs while someone warned the elder Dax about this delivery.

"Where is this package?" One of the guards asked. "The elder said he will receive it."

Vicente pulled an arm-sized box out of his spatial ring and handed it to the guard. "There is also this letter. The person who sent it said to deliver it with the box."

"Hmm, well, I'll do that." The guard said before he took Vicente's last present to Dax.

As he watched the guard leave, Vicente smiled, imagining that this would be enough to draw his enemy to him.

Then he left the area and quietly went to a place he had already chosen to deal with Dax, not caring that members of the Bone Mountains were following him.

...

After receiving one of the body parts of his son and wife that were missing from the previous gift, Dax didn't hesitate to leave his sect's headquarters and head toward Vicente.

In the letter he received, Vicente invited him to come to him and finally settle their differences.

Furious at his enemy's provocations, Dax left his property without thinking much about what would happen, while his men who stayed behind could only imagine the worst.

Soon, other elders of the sect would learn of Vicente's gift and Dax's departure, and the Sovereigns would set out to deal with the problem.

But before people less connected to Vicente's problem with Dax could get to them, the two would face each other for the first time in their lives!

Vicente didn't hide his appearance or his level now, so when he saw this young man, Dax couldn't help but be surprised, as he had never seen such a person before in his life.

Why would someone like that tease him?

"Brat, who are you? Are you responsible for the death of my wife and son?" Dax asked as he stopped in a wooded area near one of Oldbarrow's exits.

Chapter 577 Revenge?

"Dax, you don't know me, but I know you well," Vicente said with a look that was a mixture of anger and satisfaction.

Taking revenge for his mother's death wouldn't bring her back. But it would bring her justice, and he would feel less weight on his shoulders by eliminating the jerk that caused his family's suffering.

It was a son's duty to take care of his parents and bring justice in their name!

This satisfied Vicente, even though he knew he would still be living without his mother and father after taking care of Dax and Malik.

"About six years ago, you faced an enemy in the Scott Province of the Seidel Kingdom. On that day, a carriage full of weak and innocent people was passing underneath where you and Malik were fighting."

As Vicente spoke, Dax narrowed his eyes and remembered that day.

He hadn't just fought Malik once in Scott Province. They had fought three times over three days, and the last battle between them had ended in Dax's victory.

Malik didn't die, but he escaped badly wounded. Since then, Dax had received no news of his rival leaving the Fallen Angels' headquarters.



As for himself, he had won the battle but suffered injuries that took him more than a year to recover from. Fortunately, after his recovery, he found an opportunity for advancement and reached the level of a Sky Sovereign.

Vicente continued. "In that carriage was a family of 5, or rather 6. Of these 6, only 4 survived, one of whom was deaf and another blind." He said as he made signs with his fingers to show Dax what had happened.

It wasn't hard for Dax to understand that people who were important to the young Earth Sovereign had probably suffered the consequences of his fight with Malik.

"Brat, what happened to those people is not my fault! I fought Malik! If something happened to third parties, it was just a terrible coincidence!" Dax shouted angrily, seeing that his wife and son were killed for something so small.

"A coincidence?" Vicente raised his tone as his aura grew stronger. "Among the victims were my mother and the baby in her womb. My older sister went blind, and my younger sister went deaf. Do you think it was just a coincidence?"

"Tsk! Don't give me that shit. Why didn't you protect them since you're so strong?" Dax shouted.

He felt no guilt for the deaths he might have caused along his path to this day. He honestly didn't intend to cause the deaths of weak magicians and believed that it wasn't his fault.

Not only fights between powerful magicians could cause accidents like the one that happened to Vicente's family. Sometimes, natural phenomena could trigger reactions that could lead to disaster for many families.

Would this young man blame nature and fight mana if his family had died because of something like that?

"I was in that carriage but hadn't awakened my powers yet," Vicente said as Dax's expression changed.

"Oh? It looks like that was very good for you, brat! That incident made you incredibly determined and got you to the 4th stage in what? Two or three years?" Dax laughed mischievously.

"But you shouldn't have dragged my family into this, you little shit! Now I have to eliminate a magical genius!"

Saying these words, Dax moved, his four pentagrams, one orangey-red, one orange, one yellow, and one green, appearing one after the other, while parts of a huge skeleton appeared behind him to attack Vicente.

Vicente didn't move as his pentagrams appeared, and soon, the look on Dax's face changed again, this time into absolute shock.

At the sight of a yellowish-orange pentagram and two green ones, the middle-aged-looking man couldn't help but open his eyes and mouth wide.

"What?" He exclaimed in surprise, not expecting Vicente to be so monstrous.

"Dax, you're wrong," Vicente calmly said as he raised one of his hands in the air, making Dax feel his whole body grow heavier while the armor suddenly grew tighter.

"You are not the one who will kill someone. I am the one who will do it! I killed your wife and son so you could feel a little of what I felt when I lost my mother. But I also eliminated your friends Caleb and Chase. Finally, I will go after your mistress, Eloise, so don't worry, everyone you care about will die and go to the same place as you!" The look in Vicente's eyes became as dark as night, while the feeling in the surroundings became even dimmer.

Vicente didn't use his negative elements, but as he gave his hate speech, he couldn't help but bring the negativity of the surroundings closer to him.

Dax felt the hairs on his body stand up as he realized he was facing a monster capable of killing him.

Unfortunately for him, it was too late. Being too close to Vicente, his body was almost completely immobilized by the metals in his cells that Vice manipulated to prevent him from moving.

Amid the feeling of being face to face with death, he couldn't concentrate on the fact that the person in front of him had killed almost everyone he cared about and was still planning to deal with his lover.

He could only stare at Vicente in horror, watching the malicious smile on the young man's face grow as the armor on his body began to suffocate him.

Vicente was in no hurry to kill this person quickly. As he used Dax's armor to eliminate this man, he acted as cruelly as he could, letting his enemy feel his own body being crushed as he watched the smiling face of the enemy who would kill him.

'Old Torne, can I guarantee that he will become a ghost?' Vicente asked with something in his mind.

'I can try something. But it's not guaranteed. What do you have in mind?' Torne asked while he couldn't help but feel a chill running through his core.

'If this guy turns into a ghost, I'll have him attack his own organization while we're on the run.' He got right to the point.

His words to Dax weren't entirely true. He had no intention of going after Eloise alone. He had even thought about killing this woman to make Dax suffer, but on second thought, he wanted someone else to suffer for this person's death.

He wasn't sure if Eloise would fulfill this mission, but he was willing to bet on her as he didn't want to get into deeper problems with the Bone Mountains.

He was strong now but not strong enough to challenge a sect the size of the Bone Mountains on his own.

So Torne understood what his master wanted and soon left Vicente's body to help him achieve his goals there with Dax's death.

## Chapter 578 Flight to the Kenyth Empire?

In the end, Torne manages to transform Dax's soul into a ghost after his death. He used an ancient ghost technique to force the creation of new creatures of this type.

That was not the best way to obtain a ghost, as it diminished the power the being had in life. However, Torne did it to please his master and soon gave Vicente another slave.

Vicente didn't want one of his mother's murderers by his side, so before leaving the area, he ordered Dax's ghost to go after any members of the Bone Mountains who appeared there.

Ghosts couldn't go far from where they were created, so Dax's ghost couldn't go to the Bone Mountains headquarters to wreak havoc.

But Vicente had already expected the elders of that sect to go to the place where he had dealt with Dax, so the limited range of this new ghost wouldn't be too bad for his plans.

Soon, he was out of that area, heading for the place he had arranged with Casey and Layla to meet and head north to the Kenyth Empire.

Vicente, of course, collected Dax's spatial ring, just as he had done with Chase's and Caleb's rings, as well as the wife and son of his enemy killed moments before.

...

"So? How did you do?" Casey asked Vicente as he looked at his friend and saw that he didn't look exhausted or have any signs of combat on his body.

Vicente didn't look like someone who had fought a Sovereign, so not only Casey but also Layla was concerned about the success of their leader's mission.

Vicente smiled with satisfaction as he showed Dax the spatial ring. "I did it. He's dead."

The two were happy for him, both smiling back and offering their congratulations.

"Anyway, let's continue our journey and cross the border," Vicente pointed north, eager to get to the Fallen Angels and deal with Malik.

The two agreed and soon headed for the border, a few dozen kilometers from the Oldbarrow area.

Vicente used one of his swords to make Casey fly alongside him, while Layla could move at almost the same speed as him without much effort.

"How do we cross the border between these two states?" Casey asked Vicente and Layla. "The dynasty and the empire are enemies. Won't it be difficult to cross their border?"

"There are points on the border between these two states that are guarded by forces from both sides, where anyone who crosses the area will run into problems with both sides or possibly get involved in other people's battles," Layla explained to Casey.

"However, there are passes between the two states for merchants and ordinary civilians. As much as the two states are enemies, they each have their special businesses and resources to sell or trade.

The repressive forces of both states make a lot of money from the tolls paid by ordinary people crossing the border, so there is a corridor of peace between these two states, where people like us can go to the empire by paying the fees charged by both sides."

Vicente finished Layla's speech. "Fortunately, I have coins to pay for it."

"I didn't expect that. It seems that coins are above even historical rivalries." Casey commented.

"Absolutely." Vicente laughed. "But that only works for civilians and merchants. If a member of either side's force tries to cross the border as we will, no matter what level that person is, they will be arrested by one of the two sides.

Either the forces of that person's own state will arrest them for the crime of treason, or the forces of the enemy state will arrest them for the crime of espionage.

Except for people with special permits, members of the relevant forces on either side cannot cross the border casually."

"I didn't expect the situation to be this complex," Casey muttered as the group could already see in the distance one of the peaceful corridors of the great border between these two states.

In the next few minutes, they would pay a fee to leave the Chutha Dynasty and then another fee to enter the Kenyth Empire, which would cost the three of them a total of 3,000 gold coins.

Vicente agreed to pay the fee because of the delicate situation they would be in if they stayed in the Chutha Dynasty after killing five members of Bone Mountains.

Thus, the group safely escaped from the Chutha Dynasty and entered the historical enemy of that state, which bordered the Seidel Kingdom to the north of the home kingdom of the three youths traveling together.

...

Meanwhile, near Oldbarrow...

The elders of the Bone Mountains, who had been moved by Dax's strange behavior minutes ago when he received a new gift from his enemy behind the deaths of his family members, arrived at the place where he had died.

Upon arrival, Eloise and three other high-ranking members of her sect looked around while narrowing her eyes in concern, feeling something disturbing.

'That feeling...' She thought to herself as she noticed an evil aura lingering in the area. The elders next to her also realized that something was amiss.

While they tried to understand what was behind it, a ghost unexpectedly appeared from the ground beneath one of the elders. Dax's ghost didn't hesitate to attack the weakest of those elders, trying to weaken that target and possess that body.

"Aaaaaagh!" A scream came from the man's mouth, catching the attention of the others around until Eloise's eyes widened as she looked at the ghost.

Ghosts didn't have the same appearance as the souls behind them before they became ghosts. However, the aura of a person and the ghost they could create were not completely different.

There were differences that had to do with the natural negativity of ghosts and the changing characteristics of that being's powers based on the soul left behind after a living being's death. But a close acquaintance of such a person could recognize the soul-generated ghost!

When she looked at that awful creature, Eloise understood what had happened.

"Shit!" She screamed as her eyes turned red, and she retreated a few meters away from Dax's ghost. "Someone killed him!" She said to those nearby. "That's his ghost!"

"What?"

"How is that possible?" Asked the man who was trying to escape the attacks of Dax's ghost.

"Only other ghosts could do that!"

Eloise commented as she felt her heart pounding in her chest. "If that's the case, we could be in serious trouble. One of us needs to go back to the sect and put everyone on alert. We could be on the verge of a massive attack."

"Elder, you should go back. Old Lee and I will take care of Dax's ghost." The man said as he prepared to attack the creature that was trying to weaken Lee.

Eloise clenched her fists, feeling bad about Dax's death and what the old man intended to do. But Dax was already dead, and it would be better if they eliminated the ghost.

So she set off to warn the sect, while no one there bothered to follow Vicente's tracks for the time being.

## Chapter 579 News Flies?

Four days after Vicente's group escaped from the Chutha Dynasty, they were still making their way to the Fallen Angels' headquarters, which was ten days away from Oldbarrow.

They hadn't been pursued because they had managed to enter the Kenyth Empire before the people of the Bone Mountains began to investigate the traces of those behind Dax's death.

On the other hand, the sect had to deal with a Sovereign-level ghost to clear the space where they could begin their investigation, which hindered them and helped Vicente even more.

Four days after Dax's death, Vicente's group finally noticed movement near the empire's border due to his actions.

...

Not far from one of the main crossroads Vicente and his group used, they could see several specialists flying in the sky in the opposite direction of where they were going.

Looking in the direction of this flying group, the people in Vicente's group couldn't help but notice the high level of magical cultivation of these people. Not only that, they all noticed the same symbol engraved on their armor.

"The Fallen Angels," Vicente muttered as his group slowed from running to walking as he watched them pass.

Layla ignored the bridge about a kilometer away from them and asked. "Could this be because of us?"

"Probably." Casey nodded in agreement. "Vicente was right. The death of a sect's experts is an opportunity for the organization's enemies. It will probably make our journey easier."

Vicente smiled, imagining that this was the case. "Perfect. It will give us time to plan our actions and deal with Malik like I did with Dax."

Layla looked at him and said. "We must be careful, Vicente. The Kenyith Empire has more Paragons than the Chutha Dynasty."

"I know. Don't worry. I won't kill more than I have to or take unnecessary risks. But everything will be fine if things go as well in this state as they did in the dynasty. I'll be at peace with my revenge mission." He said soberly.

"I hope so..."

They walked on until they passed a bridge between two waterfalls in the area, where there was a beautiful view of part of the empire's border with the dynasty but also of the empire's interior.



The Kenyth Empire had fewer forests than the Chutha Dynasty. It was a place characterized by high peaks and rock formations where life could hardly thrive.

There was a desert zone on the state's border with the Seidel Kingdom, while glaciers were on the border with the northernmost state. In the more central parts of the state, rocky reliefs stretched across much of the state. From the small forests of this state came the many local rivers, creating waterfalls like the one near where the party was passing.

Given these characteristics, the empire had a number of peculiarities that made it specialize in certain areas, such as forging, engineering, and other areas that made great use of minerals.

Once they passed that point, they would encounter the empire's soldiers and several groups of travelers passing through the area, but they wouldn't have any problems there.

They would pass through the area and continue on their way to the headquarters of the Fallen Angels sect.

...

As Vicente and his group went to Spiritbell, there was a place built in the mountains of that city where the headquarters of the largest local force was located.

This place was as big or bigger than the headquarters in the Bone Mountains, and it had buildings built around the hills and underground, making good use of the rocky terrain.

The green areas there adorned this large area, while living quarters, training grounds, and a battle arena were located around these areas, near the entrance to the sect's headquarters.

On the highest peak of the area, there was a large 30-meter statue with large wings, the symbol of the Fallen Angels sect.

In one of the most beautiful areas there, built on one of the peaks, was the residence of the sect's elders, from which all the residences had a beautiful view of Spiritbell.

In one of the 50 houses built on that side of the highest peak in the area, a middle-aged man with gray hair was lying on a bed while a few people kept him company in his luxurious bedroom.

Among these people were his three wives and his eldest daughter, each doing something for him, while two of his friends sat on chairs to the right of his bed.

These two friends had just arrived with news for him.

"Malik, it's always good to see you, but today, we're here to talk about something important." Said one of the two men, while he and the friend sitting next to him couldn't stop smiling.

Malik smiled at the two men and asked. "What is it?"

"You won't believe this, but bloody Dax was killed near Oldbarrow a few days ago!" The other man said.

"What?" Malik, who had been slowly recovering from his injuries since the battle with Dax, almost got out of bed when he heard this.

But as he moved, he felt a sharp pain in his back, which he quickly expressed on his face and made the women there move to help him.

"Kane, why have you come to bring this news to my father?" Asked the beautiful blonde woman sitting in the chair on the other side of his old man's bed.

She looked like Malik in many ways, but she had the curves of her mother, who quickly climbed into bed to help her husband.

Kane just smiled at Malik's beautiful young daughter while the man couldn't help but look at Kane and his other friend with a question mark on his face.

"What happened? As much as that bastard is my rival, or rather was my rival, he wasn't easy to deal with!" Malik said, clenching his fists.

He wanted to kill Dax himself. Their history was long, beginning more than 400 years ago, when both were mere Acolytes who participated in an annual competition for young people up to the age of 20 in a neighboring state that was neutral towards the empire and the dynasty.

Since then, they had met and fought on many occasions, with one of them even stealing the other's wife and impregnating her.

That woman was there today with Malik and the rest of the family, so when she heard about her ex-boyfriend's death, she couldn't help but be interested.

Even though their relationship had ended over 250 years ago, she had been with Dax for over a decade.

Kane explained what had happened to them. "I don't know exactly how it happened or who did it. The people of the Bone Mountains think it was someone from the Dark Path... Anyway, the fact is that this murderer killed his son and his wife before luring him to the place of his death with parts of their bodies. Then he was killed and turned into a ghost."

Everyone in the room opened their mouths in shock when they heard this, for all these things that had happened to Dax's family were quite cruel. Even though he had been an enemy of theirs for a long time, they couldn't let on that it was all wrong and undignified for a magician as strong as that man.

"Too bad I couldn't kill him," Malik commented, closing his eyes and smiling. "But his death ends our differences. After all, I outlived him..."

Chapter 580 Malik's Information

?Another six days passed...

Vicente, Layla, and Casey finally arrived in Spiritbell, their last stop before at least some of them returned to the Seidel Kingdom.

As they passed one of the entrances to this city, built on several hills close together, the group followed the city's main avenue while observing the place.

Most of the cities in their kingdom were built on flat areas, so this place was unlike anything they had ever seen. The only place they could think of that looked like this was The Skull City, but Spiritbell was much bigger than such a ghost town.

Spiritbell had more than 300,000 inhabitants and covered a large area, although most of the buildings were very close together, just like in large urban centers on Earth.

From the city's main avenue, they could see many local neighborhoods built on the adjacent hills, where several properties built at different levels completely hid the hills they were on, making it look like a jungle of blocks and concrete.

There were many staircases throughout the city, while many ramps made way for carriages and four-legged animals.

Despite the sizeable built-up area, the lower, flatter part of the city, where the local business center was located, was extremely busy, a sign of the local peculiarity that the neighborhoods in the hills are predominantly residential.

While observing the local peculiarities, Vicente's group arrived at the city's central square, a beautiful tree-lined area where many people came and went, with several others settling on the outskirts of this 10,000-square-meter area in the heart of Spiritbell.

The group quickly found their way to the most interesting places in the area: an inn where they could stay, a place where they could rent cultivation and training rooms, the Blacksmith Association building, and a place where they could buy information.

The group already had a lot of information about the Fallen Angels from the research Vicente had commissioned when he arrived in Oldbarrow. So he didn't need any more information about the sect.

All he needed was details about Malik's personal life and current location.

With that in mind, Vicente and his allies quickly found someone in this place willing to do this little job for them.

...

"I see... You want information on Elder Malik." Said a local informant, a member of the Fallen Angels sect himself, who sold information on the local black market.

"I know a lot about Elder Malik. I know one of his sons, so I have the information you need in my head. I can tell you everything now if you're willing to pay my price."

Vicente nodded as he listened to the heartbeat of the man in front of him in the secluded room of a local auction house. "Name your price."

"500 gold coins."

Vicente placed the coins on the table between him and the person and pushed them towards the young man.

The Mid-level Mage smiled as he took the coins. "Well, to start with the most important thing, elder Malik is in the city. In fact, he hasn't left his estate since he returned from his last battle against Dax of the Bone Mountains. He was severely wounded by his opponent and barely escaped with his life back then.

Since then, he has been undergoing treatments at his home to heal his body and the wounds in his soul.

To tell the truth, he has improved a lot in the past few years. However, he's still not at his best and is still resting. As far as I know, it might take another five years for him to truly recover and return to his former level."

"Oh? I didn't expect that." Vicente commented with surprise, not knowing if he liked it or not.

Honestly, he preferred to deal with this opponent at that man's best state. He wouldn't feel so good about killing a fallen and wounded dog...

But that wouldn't change his plans. It would just make him feel differently about his revenge against Dax.

"Yes, his situation is not so good. Fortunately, he's a very well-

placed elder in the sect who has already made many contributions. The sect master has helped him a lot and made it possible for him to recover." Said this young member of Malik's sect.

"Anyway, as for the people close to the elder, well, there are many people." He smiled. "The old man is a born womanizer. No wonder there are rumors that he has already stolen the wives of at least three famous Sovereigns in our region...

But back to the point, he has six women, four of whom are his de facto wives and two of whom haven't earned that status yet but live with the family. He has a total of 8 children with these wives.

The youngest is 17 and is a level 5 Acolyte. The oldest is 150 and is an Earth Sovereign." His eyes narrowed as he thought of this woman, one of the most beautiful in the sect, with whom he had had some experience in the past but no longer had any hope of ever acting on the same level again.

"A lot of people..." Layla looked at Casey, realizing they might have to deal with a very large group.

"Yes, elder Malik's family is quite large. In addition to his wives and children, he has a living brother and relatives outside of Spiritbell. But I don't know much about them.

In addition to these relatives, he has three close friends in the sect. One is called Kane, and the others are Poul and Milo. They are all Sky Sovereigns.

I heard one of them had arranged an engagement with one of Elder Malik's three daughters, but I don't know if it's true." The young man leaned forward and spoke quietly. "There are rumors that the elder's family follows the old forbidden practice."

Casey and Vicente didn't understand, but Layla couldn't help but open her eyes wider as she wondered if he was talking about a disgusting practice that existed in some parts of the continent.

"You're not saying that they have inbred sexual relations, are you?"

The young man laughed as he nodded affirmatively. "Rumor has it that the elder gets along very well with his daughters, haha. I don't know if he'd really give one of them to one of his friends."

"Really?" Vicente asked, looking at the man in surprise.

He knew of cases like this on Earth, but on his homeworld, such things were frowned upon and even forbidden in some places. As for Polaris Realm, he had never heard of such cases here, so when he heard about it for the first time, he couldn't help but be surprised.