## The Mafia 621

Chapter 621 Near Saltstar City

Four days after the Mazzanti family's weapons test...

Near the easternmost border of the Scott Province, a creature with pale skin, dark red lips, and a serene look on his face stopped between the branches of the trees in that area. He momentarily closed his eyes, smelling a particular aroma.

As he did so, a smiling bow formed on his lips, while this being, who was already at the peak of the Mid-level of the 3rd stage, clenched his fists.

'I'm close to them!' He thought as he opened his blood-red eyes and looked ahead, aware that Layla and Casey were close by, no more than a few days' journey from where he was now.

Thinking about it, he couldn't help but remember the face of that super-talented black-haired young man he had met months ago.

'I'll soon have you in my hands, young monster! There's no point in you trying to run away! Sooner or later, I'll drink your blood!' He moved again, but he couldn't help but feel full of energy to deal with Vicente.

Whether Vicente was where he was going at the moment didn't matter. What mattered was that he could reach his target if he found the person's friends, especially that magician's lover.

This vampire had great instincts. He knew that Vicente had started a relationship with Layla after they had escaped from him. He could smell it on that woman!

As such, he couldn't help but imagine that he would reach Vicente as long as he reached Layla!

'Wait for me. It'll only take a little longer, young monster!'

As he disappeared from that area, several eyes opened in the vicinity of where he was standing!

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Meanwhile, in Saltstar City...

After testing his weapons a few days ago, Vicente had returned to his family. He finished producing the remaining weapons and ammunition.

He was now fully focused on finishing the 4th stage robotic armors, while the strongmen of his family were already properly armed and in positions around their headquarters.

Meanwhile, members of the local factions dominated by the Fuller family were on high alert for threats from outside the city.

Vicente and his men hadn't made it clear what these threats were, but they had been using the men of these local underworld factions to monitor most of the city.

If anything happened, they would quickly realize the problem and move!

But as much as the family was already poised for action, with their local allies and partners aware of their concerns and plans, Vicente remained at home, hoping to have as much time as possible.

For him, every extra day they had to fight the vampire was a victory.

He had enough materials to create six new robotic armors. He had already produced components for some of them, but it would still take him six days to finish the entire production process for these magical artifacts.

Every day gained was a new armor in their favor to face the vampire, so he didn't want the damned vampire to arrive in town so soon.

But even so, Vicente and his family were naturally anxious to deal with the creature and solve the problem.

From the moment they were free to act again without having to fear the persecution of a vampire, they would have a lot of things to do with the family's future in mind.

Not only that but living in anticipation of the arrival of an enemy was terrible. Nina's lessons had finished a few days ago, but she had been practically stuck at home because of Vicente's worries about the vampire's arrival.

As such, as much as he wanted the creature to take a little more time, he also hoped that it wouldn't take too long.

Meanwhile, he was at home working alongside Benson and some of his family's 3rd-stage blacksmiths, who were there to assist him.

Seeing Vicente in action today was a great opportunity for each of those blacksmiths while he needed help to do the less important and more laborious steps of the robotic armor production process.

Benson enjoyed it the most, watching his disciple work with great attention and a smile on his face.

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Vicente transmuted a few more metals and quickly used his skill to make a mixture of ingredients before shaping the component he was now focused on producing.

The moment it landed softly on the ground, small rays shot out from it, while the ground around it seemed to vibrate with its magical fluctuation.

Benson felt a chill run through his body, already imagining the wonders that the 4th stage robotic armor would be able to do.

'This armor will be even closer to my dreams than the previous one.' The old white-haired blacksmith thought to himself as he looked at just the dismantled components of the armor.

When the last newly-produced component landed on the ground, Vicente let out a deep sigh as he stopped using his skills.

"I need to rest for a while." He said to the blacksmiths there with him, tired after more than an hour and a half of constantly using his magical powers.

Setting aside the materials in his residence's large training room, Vicente stopped next to a table with normal drinks and recovery potions.

He drank a potion first, before downing more than a liter of juice in one go.

Then, one of the blacksmiths stopped next to Vicente and commented. "Your skills are supreme, boss. It's a shame that the resources we need come from so far away and take so long to reach us. If we could reach places rich in high-quality materials faster, we could produce these little beauties on a large scale."

Upon hearing this, Vicente was reminded of something and couldn't help but open his mouth at the thought of the methods earthlings used to transport resources from distant places.

In the Polaris Realm, there were different ways of traveling. The fastest method was individual flight, in which individuals use their own mana to move through the air.

There was also teleportation, but it cost a lot and depended on the construction of unique sites at the point of departure and the point of arrival. But it wasn't a viable method for constant use, only for emergencies.

In any case, none of these options were interesting for carrying large loads. The only way to do this was via water ships, flying ships, or wagons, but they were all relatively slow and time-

consuming.

However, there was a more down-to-earth way of transporting resources!

'Train. A train would do what this man suggests relatively quickly!'

Chapter 622 Trains in Polaris Realm

Thinking about the method of getting around that existed on Earth but didn't exist in the Polaris Realm, Vicente immediately considered the feasibility of such a project.

Traveling by wagons across the continent had many problems. The main one was the risk of being attacked or robbed. That alone represented half the cost of products ordered by people in places far from the points where the products were offered.

But even without the dangers, using wagons was still expensive because they were a slow means of transportation. Each day's journey added more costs to the shipment due to the workers' wages and food.

Although there were many powerful beasts on the continent, few truly powerful ones existed. Certainly, those few powerful beasts were either free or not used by their masters to carry resources around the continent. Consequently, the beasts used to transport resources were relatively weak, which made traveling by wagons slow.

Flying or water boats had similar problems, but related to the weight of the materials on them. Even the fastest of boats couldn't exceed a speed of 50 kilometers per hour.

The dangers of traveling with wagons also existed when traveling by boat, whether they were sea or flying.

Flying boats didn't travel at high altitudes, while ordinary boats traveled by sea, a type of environment as dangerous, if not more so, than the continent's forests.

If Vicente's group could find a faster and safer method, they could facilitate not only their business within the province but also the obtaining of funds for their projects.

"You've just given me an idea," Vicente commented to the blacksmith, drawing the attention of the other men there, including Benson. "What if there was a faster and safer way to transport our resources?"

"That would be incredible. But there are no other ways of doing it." Benson commented.

"Maybe there aren't now. But what if we solved it?"

"Well, we could use it to go from having more resources in less time and at less cost to even thinking about dominating the resource resale business in the province." Benson smiled because that would be too wonderful.

Vicente said nothing before picking up a large map of the province and placing it on one of the tables in the training area.

He then manipulated some lower-grade metals he had with him, quickly making them into the shape of rails and small railcars.

He explained to the group of blacksmiths. "What if we were able to transport resources like this?" He made the small railcars move along the rails, showing what a journey between Saltstar City and Millfall would look like.

"A single railcar could carry the equivalent of 10 common wagons. As for speed, we could reach up to 90 kilometers per hour carrying a few railcars of this type." He explained by making a simple math to understand the capacity of that miniature and what the full-scale version of such a project would look like.

"That sounds interesting. But what difference would it make to travel by railcars? Some wagons do speeds close to that." Said one of the blacksmiths.

"First of all, wagons can only reach those speeds in flat areas. We don't have good roads on most of the continent for traveling by wagon like that. Besides, wagons need beasts and men to control and power them, but beasts and men also need to rest.

That would be different with this little project. These railcars would move using mana and some magnetic effects. That can be done without depending on the physical and mental state of living beings, enabling us to travel non-stop between two points." Vicente explained. "What's more, we can carry much more in one of these than in a wagon. That is almost like a small ship, but simpler, fast, and earthly."

"That..."

"How much would we need to build something like that?" Benson asked with interest. "Wouldn't it be expensive to produce such a large line?"

"I don't think so. The metals to make something like that would be the simplest. I think a line like that, with the railcars and a few stations along the way, would cost the same as three ships." Vicente estimated.

"What about the difficulty of building?" Another blacksmith asked.

"That's the easy part. We could produce the rails anywhere and then assemble them little by little along the chosen route," he replied, imagining that a test would be interesting.

"How about we try to create a more real experiment? Let's make a line between Millfall and Martell Village. The distance between these two places is only a few tens of kilometers, so it wouldn't be expensive to produce it. A test like this would give us a real sense of the costs and dangers of a large-scale project like this."

Everyone was excited by this idea and quickly agreed that putting something like this into practice would be interesting for them to learn what to do and how to bring such a peculiar project to life.

"That's a good idea. We can do it after we finish what we're doing now." Benson replied before asking. "Do you want me to move with some men to study what would be the best route between Martell Village and Millfall?"

"That would help me a lot, master. One of the challenges of this project would be the route our tracks would take. But with the combined powers of magicians with an affinity for earth, metal and fire, we can build even an underground route. That would be more difficult and time-consuming, but it would be the alternative for more dangerous locations."

They agreed to proceed with these plans and soon continued talking about trains. The blacksmiths asked Vicente more detailed questions about the subject, and he taught them about the wonders of trains.

They would do this during Vicente's half-hour rest until, when he had finished recovering, they would put these new plans aside and get back to what they had been doing earlier.

Vicente and his men would continue working on the robotic armor for the next few days, and during their rests or other moments of the day, they would continue talking or thinking about the trains.

At first, trains seemed strange to these people. But the more they thought about it, the more they felt it made a lot of sense, and that could make it easier for them to dominate the province.

Come to think of it, this plan dovetailed perfectly with Vicente's metal city plan!

Chapter 623 The Arrival of the Vampire

Four more days have passed since Vicente thought up the idea of creating train lines through the Scott Province.

This plan was only in the realm of ideas for the moment, while the group focused on dealing with what was most important in the short term.

But the blacksmiths who knew about the plan were already thinking about it, imagining what kind of metal alloy would be interesting to use for the rails and railcars. Driving force was also a critical point that even Benson was thinking about.

That was all they had done these days regarding the experimental train line between Millfall and Vila Martell.

Meanwhile, Vicente had produced with the help of those blacksmiths a total of 4 of the 6 robotic armors he had materials to produce.

Some of the family's Low-level Mages were already wearing these 4th-grade armor and were standing around Saltstar City, waiting for the vampire to arrive.

Vicente wanted the enemy to take at least two more days to reach him while he finished producing the last pieces of armor he could make in the meantime.

Unfortunately, he was destined to be disappointed with his expectations!

On the afternoon of that day, the terrible creature would arrive in Saltstar City, bringing the darkness of his heart to this coastal area!

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In the middle of the afternoon today, the vampire who had been chasing Vicente for months finally stopped in front of this city, soon shaping a hungry smile on his face as he smelled Vice.

'You're here!' He promptly realized as he reached the border between the built-up area of this city and the surrounding forest.

As soon as he noticed Vicente's presence in this place, he ignored the scents of Layla and Casey and turned his attention to the scent of his prey.

He also scanned the surroundings, quickly noticing that, apart from Vicente, only one beast in the entire city caught his attention for its power.

For the rest, all the others around this city were ordinary to him, the kind of individuals who, if they got in his way, he would destroy with a snap of his fingers.

This being was confident that his enemy was 'alone,' probably having forgotten about such a vampire and thinking he had successfully lost him, the vampire moved on towards the Fuller estate.

As he moved, a series of figures moved along with him!

The journey between the cave where this creature had had his body destroyed, and this city had been neither short nor quick. Amid his journey of pursuit, this creature had fed himself and made new servants!

Vicente didn't know it, but he would soon come across this vampire's group!

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"Boss, there's someone fast approaching headquarters!"

Suddenly, a shout sounded from the Fuller estate's main communicator, with this magical device repeating the voice of one of the family's guards around the city throughout that residence.

Upon hearing this, Rory, Nina, Eve, and Vicente were there and immediately changed their expressions, imagining the worst.

'The vampire!' Nina thought to herself as Eve and about three of the family's soldiers rushed to her side.

Vicente frowned and gave his signal.

"Get ready to fight!" He said loudly while using a communication device connected to the handsets of many of his men.

The men on the Fuller estate began to move into position, setting up defensive barriers and preparing to use their weapons.

One group took Nina to the safest level of this place, the family vault.

Meanwhile, Rory moved alongside Vicente, already feeling his heart beating faster.

"Put on that armor." Vicente tossed Rory a device with armor that he had already completed about 70% of, but it would still take him at least an hour to finish. "It won't give you my offensive power, but it will give you 4th-grade protection."

"Okay!"

Rory quickly did as he was supposed to before following Vicente outside the estate.

When they arrived outside, they saw the surroundings totally different from what they normally were. At least a dozen snipers were in visible positions in the adjacent buildings of this city area, while Onyx was already in fighting position along with two men dressed in robotic 4th-grade armor.

The other two were on the city's outskirts, moving towards this place, as were several of Vicente's subordinates and allies.

However, the enemies would reach them before the entire local group willing to fight reached the area!

Just two minutes after the warning from one of the family, the being with white hair, red eyes, and pale skin that shone like a diamond in the daylight appeared in front of Vicente's group.

He wasn't alone. Around 20 late 3rd-stage beings, members of various races, and some vampires like himself were behind him.

Vicente and his companions were not fooled by some of these vampires. Their aura was very different from their enemy's, so it was somewhat obvious that these were recently transformed vampires.

Even so, their auras were terrible, and they looked very powerful.

"You really came all this way. If you had chosen to forget that unfortunate encounter, you would have survived to see The Purification. But I'm afraid you're tired of your life." Vicente said as he took a step forward from his staff while the people nearby realized the problem and began to flee in desperation.

The vampire looked at Vicente with even more bloodlust as he saw the young man stronger and more interesting than the last time he had seen Vice.

"Do you know that? Hehehe, but it doesn't matter. You'll be the one who dies soon, young monster. But I thank you for strengthening this magical essence that will soon nourish me." The vampire said as he licked his lips maliciously.

Vicente said nothing more and then showed his pentagrams while Rory and his men in the surrounding area did the same.

Torne was fully prepared to help his master. In contrast, the lamia on a necklace around Vicente's neck couldn't help but get nervous in this situation.

When the vampire saw them showing their pentagrams and preparing to attack, he moved with his men, attacking first, confident in the strength he had built up.

Vicente was stronger than in their last encounter, but the vampire was also stronger!

However, Vicente's strength was not all that he had prepared for that day!

As the vampire group moved in and the Fuller family men fired their 4th-grade weapons, two men dressed in 4th-grade robotic armor moved in tandem with Vicente.

Chapter 624 Siege Against the Vampire

The moment the vampire lunged toward Vicente and attacked him, two men dressed in robotic armor used their mana to activate the special powers of these artifacts.

Vicente had planned with them what to do to deal with that vampire, so right at the start of the fight, they acted together, with the two of them joining forces to focus on the vampire.

As Vicente used his skills to try to restrain the vampire and form metallic devices around the creature, the vampire suddenly made an ugly expression as he felt a worrying sensation.

He looked sideways and saw two Mages dressed in strange armor launching pillars of electromagnetic waves in his direction.

These two attacks immediately stopped him momentarily in mid-air, causing him to feel an unparalleled suppression.

He momentarily stood still, shocked at the ability of these magicians to act against him.

'Shit! He's better than I imagined!' He directed his mana towards his innate ability, making his blue-green pentagram appear while the powers of those two armors slowly disappeared from the vampire's surroundings.

But Minos had also attacked him together with his men. When the vampire's pentagram showed itself, and his ability began to work, this creature felt the metals in his body moving under Vice's control enough for him to miss part of his movements.

'Oh? It looks like he's more dangerous than ever!' He realized as he felt several metal weapons flying towards his body.

He then looked to the side and saw several guns being fired at him and his group, simultaneously with Onyx and Rory taking action, with the young redhead preparing to join Vicente.

'It's all or nothing here!

His eyes flashed as a silver silhouette appeared around his body, with large wings and a female body appearing around him to protect him.

At that moment, he moved his lips gently, attacking not Vicente but the men in the surrounding area.

Bang!

Bang!

Several sounds of gunfire were ringing out in the surroundings when the vampire acted, with practically all the non-vampires in his group having already fallen in the vicinity.

The 4th-grade firearms surprised everyone in the vicinity. The shots from these weapons easily killed most of the vampire's allies while seriously injuring the vampires transformed by the main enemy there.

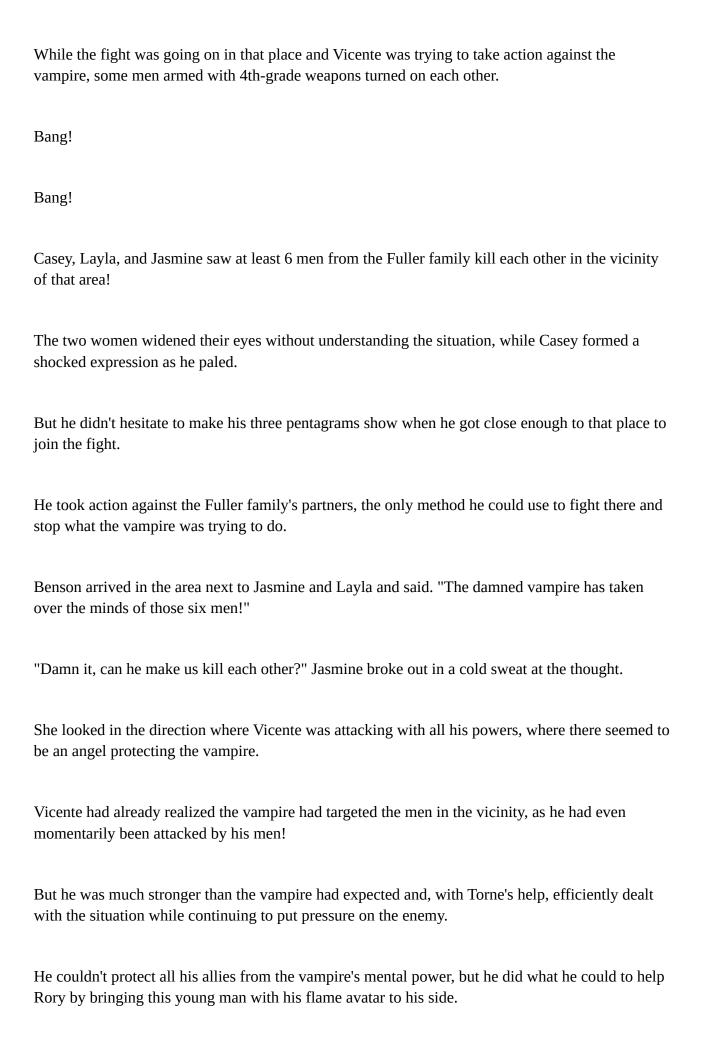
Just 50 seconds into the fight, more than 10 dead bodies lay in front of Vicente's property!

Meanwhile, little by little, the family's allies and partners on the city's outskirts were getting close enough to see the people's movements there.

Casey was one of them, desperately scrambling across the local rooftops to join the fight as soon as possible.

Because of what had happened earlier, he felt responsible for that vampire's arrival in the city. He couldn't help feeling that it was his duty to join the fight and take an active part in killing their enemy.

But as he moved across the local rooftops, he suddenly saw something strange happening in front of the Fuller family estate.



"This is the time!" He shouted to Rory, giving the signal for them to use their powers together.

The vampire found it more challenging to act against the men of the Fuller family, noticing the arrival of Joseph's son.

'Damned Joseph! If you hadn't died, I would have absorbed your powers, and I wouldn't be finding it difficult now!' He glared hatefully at Casey before turning his attention to Vicente, sensing that a new threat to his life was brewing in the vicinity.

As he shielded himself from the many attacks coming at him, not only from Vicente but from at least a dozen individuals in the surrounding area, he felt the atmospheric pressure change, and the mana in the surroundings become denser.

The winds grew stronger and stronger as Vicente transformed the metal objects at his disposal into tiny blades embedded with mana as small as needles.

The vampire's skin solidified like a diamond. At the same time, a shield appeared around him, and the gravity in his surroundings changed simultaneously as his innate ability tried to degrade everything that came near him.

He defended himself entirely in that passive situation, being immobile at that moment while four men dressed in robotic armor, Vicente, Rory, and a few other newcomers, acted against him almost simultaneously.

Amid this, the Duke of the Province arrived in that area of his city, seeing a high-level battle developing where something like this should never have happened.

The nearby buildings were already suffering from the movements of everyone involved in this fight, with several roofs having already been destroyed and walls falling down.

However, he fully understood the situation, and as soon as he saw several vampires under attack, pressured enough to have nowhere to run, he gave orders to his people.

"Protect the citizens and remove the inhabitants up to five kilometers from where we are!" He said this to his men while making his pentagrams appear.

As his people moved, he couldn't help but glance toward the most powerful vampire in the area, sensing that the threat from The Purification was more real than he thought.

'Damn it, we've got to move forward with everything at our disposal, or we're all going to die soon!' He thought to himself as he saw this calamity.

Chapter 625 Successful Escape?

While the 3rd stage magicians in Saltstar City were moving together with noble forces and the royal army to defend the city, the storm over the city worsened, reaching the next level.

The storm became more rigid as Rory and Vicente's abilities combined more perfectly. It unleashed its fury on the city, unleashing violent winds and torrential rains that defied any structure or magical defense.

The skies were utterly darkened with black, ominous clouds as if nature itself was enraged.

The winds howled with frightening intensity, ripping trees from their roots and hurling roof tiles through the air.

Soon, the rain was turning some streets into raging rivers, swallowing everything in its path. Lightning cut across the sky, illuminating the chaos with bright flashes, and deafening thunder echoed through the city.

Some of the buildings closest to where the focus of the battle was taking place were torn from their foundations, wagons were overturned like children's toys, and people clung desperately to anything that gave them the slightest chance of survival.

The sound of destruction was deafening as the storm's power showed its merciless strength.

As the storm roared with relentless fury, the city was plunged into chaos and devastation.

It was a scene of unimaginable destruction, where the actions of two magicians showed their overwhelming power over the works of ordinary men, for the most part.

In the midst of all this, Vicente's family's weaker men had to retreat, no longer able to hold their positions safely.

Fortunately, Onyx, Layla, Jasmine, Casey, Nova, and some of the family's allies and subordinates managed to neutralize the weaker vampires in that group before the chaos generated by Rory and Vicente made the situation difficult even for them.

Meanwhile, Benson, Rory, Vicente, and the four Fuller family men dressed in 4th-grade robotic armor were attacking the vampire protected behind his many defenses.

This creature's situation became untenable as time passed, bringing him to the point where he could do nothing but defend himself.

He had many powers and was naturally very strong. However, he wouldn't be able to protect himself from all these attacks for long and was already gradually feeling exhausted.

No matter how strong a vampire was, these beings were also creatures that depended on their mana. Once exhausted, they would be weakened in their own way.

When Vicente realized that the vampire was close to his weakest moment, he took Torne's powers, suddenly making his aura reach the peak of the 4th stage.

The moment he did this, Vicente stopped using his first skill in conjunction with Rory.

His body suddenly disappeared until the vampire felt something strange and opened his eyes wide as he felt his body rapidly slipping out of his control.

'Shit! He's got me!" He exclaimed to himself, feeling that if he didn't get out of there immediately, he would be killed by Vicente.

He hadn't expected anything like this to happen, let alone that the enemy had so many allies ready to fight. He had formed quite a strong group, but even so, there was no way he wouldn't be surprised by the special weapons used by Vice's men.

This vampire was fully aware that there was no way he could have lost so easily if it hadn't been for those weapons!

If it hadn't been for the 4th-grade firearms and some of that robotic armor, his allies would have kept most of the men who attacked him busy. In other words, even if Vicente had strong allies, he would still have fallen into this vampire's hands if it hadn't been for his special artifacts!

With that in mind, the vampire saw that there was no point in staying there any longer and clenched his teeth as he used what little mana he had left to teleport away.

'If I can change my position to at least 5 kilometers from here, I'll be able to escape!' He thought to himself as he made the space around him distort.

As soon as his ability came into play, he disappeared from that area, dodging all the attacks coming at him.

The men from the army, local noble families, and the Fuller family saw this and were despaired.

"Shit, he got away!" Someone shouted as soon as they saw her attack pass by where the vampire was and hit no one.

Jasmine heard that and came out of hiding, immediately using her ability to search for the vampire.

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Simultaneously with the despair of those people in the area destroyed by the battle against the vampire's group, this being appeared a few kilometers away from the Fuller residence but still inside Saltstar City.

However, as he appeared in the middle of that flooded and half- destroyed street, he suddenly changed his expression when he felt a hand squeezing his left shoulder.

"It can't be..." He muttered as he looked back.

As he did so, he saw a black-haired young man appearing from invisibility behind him while one of the young man's hands cut into his back.

He felt his diamond skin break and the hand of the guy he had hunted for months reach into his heart.

"Oh, yes, it can," Vicente commented as darkness surged around him, in particular, a dark energy covered the hand he was using to squeeze the creature's heart.

The vampire's eyes fluttered as he realized that he had made a big mistake in using his last bit of mana to teleport.

'Shit! He was on my side!' He realized that Vicente was too close to him when he used that ability, which meant he had teleported himself and Vice!

"That's the end of the line for you." Vincent said before using his mana to destroy the creature's soul, simultaneously as his third pentagram glowed.

What Vicente lacked in order to eliminate this vampire in their first encounter was mana density and understanding. His first magical form wasn't particularly interesting for fighting vampires, so he needed to be much stronger than vampires to be able to eliminate them.

But with the improvements he'd had since that encounter and the improvements from Torne, who was helping him at the moment, he'd achieved the requirements to eliminate this Mid-

level Mage!

After using his mana to destroy that being's mind, he extinguished the vampire's soul, making all the life in that body disappear in a single instant.

At that moment, the vampire finally died and fell at Vicente's feet, ending the battle that would mark Saltstar City's history!

Chapter 626 Post-Battle

As soon as the vampire's body fell at his feet, Vicente used what little mana he had left to store the corpse in his spatial ring.

Vampires weren't just terrible when they were alive. Their bodies were precious. That was particularly true for the bodies of noble vampires, i.e. those born into the race.

That seemed to be the case with Vicente's enemy creature!

How could a vampire's body be used? Well, there were several uses for it.

They could be used as a high-level marionette. Their blood could be collected and used as a magical essence to strengthen beings of practically all races. Scholars, theorists, and doctors could study their bodies to improve the knowledge of these types of magicians. Their bones and teeth could be used as components of enchantments. Their skin could be used as components of highly resistant magical garments. Ultimately, each of a vampire's organs had different uses for alchemists, and beasts could benefit greatly from devouring the rest of their bodies.

In a way, the bodies of vampires had as many uses for magicians as the bodies of cows on Earth had for humanity!

There were so many different applications that Vicente couldn't leave that valuable body behind!

'Congratulations, master. With this victory, you will reach a higher level.' Torne commented as he felt not only his own exhaustion but also that of Vicente. 'You and other High-level Mages can use this vampire's blood. Each magician who consumes this blood can raise their magic level in a few weeks.

You can remove the vampire's organs to produce 3rd-grade pills and potions and use the teeth, nails, skin, and bones to create artifacts for the family and the remaining meat for Onyx. That bird will probably approach the 5th stage with such a body and some time sleeping.'

Beasts didn't meditate. They are food or resources especially rich in mana and then slept until they had absorbed all the power of their food.

'Hmm, this will really help us a bit. I'll share this blood with Rory, Nova, and some of my men in Saltstar City.'

As much as he liked Layla and Nova, he knew that his family needed people around to make a difference for them.

Layla could be sent out of the kingdom at any time, so he wasn't sure if he should use that resource on her. She would still serve her group even if she were far away, but he didn't think it was the best time for her to get involved with the Congregation of Revelations headquarters. The same went for Jasmine.

As for Nova, she would at most be sent to the kingdom's capital if she continued to progress, which was not out of Vicente's plans. So he intended to help her in order to be helped back by her in the short term.

With that in mind, he sighed as he saw the chaos in his surroundings, noting that he had destroyed a little more of Saltstar City than he would have liked.

Unfortunately, the enemy was so terrible that he had to use all his power to eliminate the vampire!

'I'll have to give some resources to the local forces.' He thought as he looked at the ruined buildings, flooded streets, and many sounds of innocent people injured or worried about their relatives.

He regretted this situation, but it was out of his control. A vampire and a powerful group had attacked his family in the middle of the city!

Anyway, he wouldn't stand there for long. Soon he would return to the front of his property, where he imagined he would have to justify himself to many people today. But he wouldn't even have to get to his house to face people full of questions. Halfway there, a group led by Jasmine would appear in front of him.

"Vicente, did you make it?" Jasmine asked as the nobles and some soldiers in the surrounding area looked at him strangely.

"Yes, the vampire is dead." He confirmed the city's victory, making some of his allies there sigh in relief.

But then, one of the nobles there, a local Marquis, asked. "Where is his body?"

"It's with me." Vicente turned his attention to the man.

"Can we see?" A Count asked as he clenched his fists.

"No." Vicente smiled. I killed him and prevented him from causing any more disasters in this city, so he belongs to me. I will compensate the city's losses because of this battle, but the vampire's corpse will stay with me."

Those nobles didn't like it, and one of them said. "That's wrong. That's not fair, Vicente... Oh, by the way, should I call you Vicente Fuller or Cesar Mazzanti?"

Everyone else had noticed Vicente's powers and associated his identity with that of the criminal wanted for murdering a 4th stage soldier in Millfall and breaking into a prison.

Vicente already knew this would happen since his pentagram configuration and powers couldn't be used publicly without people noticing.

He smiled momentarily, seeing that at least some of those people didn't seem to fear him.

"You will all sign agreements with me and keep confidential how we eliminate the vampire today." He said in a somber tone as his murderous intent appeared in the air.

"Otherwise, I'm afraid the kingdom will face another significant threat before The Purification." He was pretty clear, not bothering to threaten many of these people with whom he had already done business before that day.

"Vicente!"

"Would you?" Asked one of the Counts there while all those nobles, their trusted subordinates, and some of the soldiers there fretted, already putting their hands on their weapons.

Jasmine broke out in a cold sweat, seeing that the situation had developed in a direction she hadn't expected.

In the midst of this, Nova felt under pressure, sensing that this was their decisive moment.

She stepped forward and said aloud. "All the soldiers here will follow what Vicente is saying. That is my order."

The soldiers who were part of the faction she had already created lowered their tempers while the others looked at Nova strangely.

"Commander, you..."

Vicente then raised his tone while making these less obedient soldiers close their mouths, immobilizing them. "You have no choice. Would you rather die or ally yourselves with someone who can protect you during The Purification? Those who sign the agreement with me will be guaranteed a place in my metal city. Not only that, I will provide each of you with a pill or potion derived from the vampire's organs."

Some were tempted by Vicente's offer, as now the metal city seemed more indispensable than ever, and they could see the potential for Vice in such a place. Meanwhile, a single pill or potion from that vampire's body could help them grow stronger, get closer to breakthroughs, or even save their lives in desperation.

But some of them had not yet been conquered and believed that they could gain more by standing against Vicente at that moment.

"That can't happen. You can't act against us, Vicente! How will you be when the royal forces find out? Are you going to kill us all? Humph! You may have the power, but you can't get away with this!"

"Is that so?" Vicente looked in the direction of that bold Count. "I think the vampire we faced here might have killed you..."

"What?" The man exclaimed without understanding.

But then his body exploded, showing everyone how serious Vicente was!

Chapter 627 Absolute Dominance

Everyone saw those men die, but they couldn't do anything against Vicente or even defend themselves against the blood and remains of that High-level Mage.

Even the Duke of the Province, who had just arrived there, couldn't help but remain silent, seeing that they had no choice but to go ahead with what Vicente wanted.

He swallowed his saliva and took a step forward. "Indeed, the vampire killed Count Park."

Another old nobleman narrowed his eyes, realizing the situation.

"It's a shame, but Count Park wasn't careful enough in the battle. The vampire destroyed his body."

Everyone in doubt put their questions aside and began to comment on how that nobleman had died to the vampire and not because of Vicente.

They would follow whatever Vicente said from now on, so they gave up their position against him and agreed to his plans.

Vicente smiled as he saw the reaction of these old foxes, satisfied he wouldn't have to kill anyone else to impose his dominance.

He said. "Then everything will be fine. I'm not here to steal or threaten anyone's position. But amid the threat of monsters coming to the south of the continent, we can't stand against each other.

I'll send your resources as soon as my men have them ready. Until then, you'll have to wait. I'll send some men to help rebuild the city, but I expect you to do the same.

That vampire came to me because I was the strongest in the city. But he would have wreaked havoc on the whole city if I hadn't acted as I did."

The local nobles and rich men agreed, not having much choice but to do so.

The city was partially destroyed. If they didn't act together to speed up the local recovery, their businesses could be negatively affected.

"I just hope we didn't have too many civilians among the casualties," Nova commented as she looked around with concern.

Nobody wanted civilians to be involved in anything that had happened today. But they still needed to count the local losses to arrive at the figures for the losses that had certainly occurred.

Vicente sighed and said. "Let's go back to my property. We'll make our deals there, and then you can return to your lives."

The group followed Vicente soon after, returning to where much of the battle had taken place.

Arriving at that spot, Vicente's men on the outskirts saw their leader and sighed in relief, feeling that everything had been resolved.

Two of them had died in the battle, and others were slightly wounded or exhausted.

They were mostly happy about this victory, as they had dealt with a group of monstrous creatures and won. That was very good for these men who already knew about the calamity that awaited the continent.

That had been the first test for the calamity of The Purification!

Vicente didn't speak to his men then and headed into his

estate, one of the only ones in the surrounding area that hadn't

been destroyed.

There were a few small battle marks around the building and

the part of the property where the plants and grass were had

been destroyed. But the house's structure was in excellent

condition.

As the group of noblemen, rich men, and soldiers entered,

Vicente went to his office with the most important of the men,

leaving the others outside to sign contracts with them later.

Nina and Eve left where they had been staying all this time,

arriving in the main living room of the residence where several

strange people were waiting to sign Magic Agreements with

Vicente.

"What's going on?" She asked Eve.

Rory was already there beside her and explained. "They've

discovered the truth about Vicente being Cesar Mazzanti."

"Won't that cause us problems?" Nina asked as she formed a

complicated expression.

"Don't worry, Vicente has already taken care of that. They'll

keep everything a secret." Rory smiled at her as he cleaned

some of the wounds on his arms.

As much as the enemy had, for the most part, been under

pressure from those attacking him, that vampire had many

skills and had used them in many ways.

Several men from the Fuller family had been attacked by the

creature's powers.

The only reason something worse hadn't happened was

because the monster had had to fend off his many opponents

for almost the entire fight.

"Are you going to be all right?" Eve asked Rory.

"Don't worry, my injuries are superficial." The young redhead

smiled at the beautiful blonde woman next to Nina. "Luckily,

Casey arrived in time." He looked at the man approaching him.

Casey had a rueful look on his face, having suffered to endure

the vampire's mental attacks after he had prevented that being

from turning more of the Fuller family men against each other.

He greeted Nina quickly and said to Rory, "We were lucky. If that

vampire had sucked my father's blood, everything would have

been different. I would have failed, and more of us would be dead."

"Vampires really are terrible," Eve commented to them as the four watched the Saltstar City specialists come and go from Vicente's office.

That was how the next 30 minutes would pass, until the last of those men would sign his agreement with Vicente, guaranteeing he and his men would not cause any problems for him because of his identity.

One good thing about Magic Agreements was that they didn't have to be signed by everyone in a group. By signing an agreement with the leader of a family, Vicente automatically gets the promise of secrecy from all the subordinates with contracts signed with that person.

So, in just a few minutes, he solved this post-battle problem and saw the last of those men, whether or not they had been

associated with him before, leave his property.

He promised them he wouldn't force them into anything

because of what had happened and his strength. The only thing

they would have to do against their will would be to keep his

identity a secret. For the rest, they were free to agree or

disagree with him, support his plans or not, etc.

When he had the pills and potions from the vampire's body, he

would send each of them a unit, but this should take a few

weeks to happen.

He then stopped in front of Rory, Eve, Nina, Nova, Casey,

Jasmine and Layla, the remaining people there apart from the

men in his family, and sighed.

Chapter 628 Minor Damage

"Will that work?" Jasmine asked as she looked toward the exit, where the last person to sign a deal with Vicente had just passed.

"The chances of it not working out are slim. But if something does happen, our situation will be very different from what it was in the past, and we will now have a golden opportunity in front of us." Vicente said confidently.

In addition to the vampire's body, it would take time for a possible witness who hadn't signed an agreement with him to do something to harm him by exposing his identity to the royal family.

Because of his preventive actions today, this might not happen. But even if it did, it would take weeks for the effect to take result.

That was plenty of time for the group to take advantage of what the vampire's body could provide them and become better prepared to deal with problems on the level of local royalty.

Vicente sighed and said, looking at Jasmine and Layla. "I want you two to handle today's incident from inside the Congregation of Revelations. Try to hold back the news that we've dealt with a vampire here. If that news reaches any relevant outside powers too quickly, we may not have enough time to digest what we've achieved today.

The same goes for you, Nova. Take care of the army and prevent news of this incident from reaching the royal family quickly." He looked at the blue-haired woman standing there.

"Sooner or later, the temple and the royal family will find out. But I want to prevent this from happening for at least 10 days. That time will be enough for us to use up most of what we earned today. After that, it will be very difficult for anyone to take anything from us," he said as he looked at them.

"I won't be able to hold on to this information for long, but I think I can do it for about 10 days," Nova commented.

"Same for me." Jasmine nodded affirmatively. "But the locals will talk about it. It's only a matter of time before it gets out of hand."

"I know. But the local population doesn't have the quick means of spreading it like your organizations do." He commented as he sat down on a large sofa next to Nina.

"I think you should return to your posts and take care of it. When I have the resources from the vampire available for consumption, I'll send you some things." He said to them.

Soon after, the three women left, leaving the core of the Fuller family alone in that living room.

"What about those other bodies outside our house?" Eve asked.

"The lesser vampires have almost no value. We'll use them to the family beasts." Vicente replied.

Lesser vampires, those transformed through the bite of a superior vampire, didn't have the same properties as the body of a superior vampire.

They could feed on other people's blood and become stronger that way. They had greater stamina, speed, agility, and other characteristics than when they were only magicians, and they could live much longer than magicians.

However, they couldn't turn magicians into vampires, they couldn't acquire the abilities of their victims, they were less resistant, less agile, and, in short, a little less of everything.

As such, their bodies, despite having their value, were not as unique as the bodies of superior vampires, those who were born into that race.

"But the monsters' bodies who came with that superior vampire are valuable. You should sell their useless body parts and keep what can be used by our men." He said, looking at Rory and Eve.

"What about the superior vampire's body?" Casey asked.

"You should call Newton for me. I'll follow his advice to separate the parts of the vampire. That being's blood is precious, so I'll share it with the strongest of the family." Vicente said before Rory and Casey left to settle these matters.

As he stood there with Nina and Eve, Vicente sighed, feeling a little tired from everything that had happened that day.

"I'm going to get some rest. Nina, avoid going out for now. The city is in chaos."

"All right, brother."

"Eve, take care of counting our men. See how many we've lost today, and also keep an eye on the civilian casualties. I want to know these figures when I've finished my rest." He said as he descended the stairs, heading towards his training ground.

"I'll do that." She commented as she stayed behind with Nina, happy that they had overcome yet another major challenge.

If all went well from now on, they would only have to deal with the preparations for the calamity set to take place after Nina's Awakening.

From now on, it would be time for the whole family to grow up and become stronger, turning this page in their history and starting a new journey.

'I think our luck will improve now,' Eve thought to herself as she went on to figure out what Vicente had asked her to do.

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Despite the great calamity that struck Saltstar City that day, the local forces would eventually discover that the human losses had not been great.

Only 8 people in the whole city, including the men killed by the superior vampire's manipulation, died today.

The local Mages had acted very quickly and allied themselves to defend the city from the catastrophic effects of the combination of Vicente's and Rory's powers to stop the vampire.

As a result, the city did not suffer as much as the destruction of local infrastructure would suggest!

More than a thousand people were seriously injured, and 10,000 had minor injuries. However, with help already being provided by the local forces, they should all recover perfectly within hours or days.

The damage to the local infrastructure would take the longest to repair. Several buildings were knocked down, and others had their roofs blown off by the storm. Meanwhile, sewage and water supply channels were damaged and would need to be repaired.

However, as the 2nd and 3rd stage magicians would make themselves available to help with local repairs, between 3 and 6 months, the city could be back to normal.

But the cost of this would not be low. Even though most of the repairs required common materials and services, the city would still need to raise 1 million gold coins for this work.

Vicente and 49 other local families would cover this amount, with each party committing to contributing 20,000 gold coins to the city's restoration.

Thus, the first night after the battle against the superior vampire would arrive, while local anxieties and worries slowly subsided.

In the midst of this, Newton arrived at the Fuller estate as Vicente requested.

Chapter 629 Dissection of the Vampire's Body

"Magnificent!" Newton commented as he saw the body of a superior vampire for the first time in his life.

Looking closely at the corpse lying on a metal table, Newton couldn't help but touch one of the creature's arms and feel the firmness of the vampire's skin.

"It's like the books say. A superior vampire has no equal. His skin is like a living shield!" He murmured while Vicente and four other specialists from the Fuller family stood there with him in that area of the residence.

"Yes, it's a magnificent creature when dead. Alive, they're rather dangerous." Vicente smiled as he saw Newton's curious side taking over this specialist.

Newton was a doctor, alchemist, poison specialist, and tamer. He knew exactly how valuable every part of this vampire's body was to magicians and beasts, with an even deeper level of knowledge than Vice had.

But almost everything he had learned had been from books. He and the others there had never been able to study a vampire's body.

Vicente understood the sparkle in the man's eyes but had no time to waste.

"I called you here to help me dismember this creature without running the risk of ruining the parts of his body that are interesting to us." He said as he looked at the alchemist, the doctor, the enchanter, and Benson, who was also standing nearby.

Newton then said. "We should start by draining his blood. As much as popular belief says that vampires don't have heartbeats and, therefore, no blood, this is not the case.

Because they feed on blood, such creatures have blood in their veins. However, there is less blood in him than there would be in a magician of the same weight."

"He must have between 2 and 3 liters of blood," the other doctor said, nodding his head affirmatively.

"How do we collect that?" Benson asked.

Newton looked at the doctor who actually practiced that profession and pointed at the middle-aged man. "That will be Mr. Withers' job. He'll just need a container to hold the blood and a special liquid to press the vampire's blood out of the body."

The man had brought his medical bag, so as soon as Newton said that, he began to take what he would need and put it on the table where the corpse lay.

Newton said to Vicente. "You'll have to create needles capable of penetrating the vampire's skin. None of us have the material or the strength to do that."

Vicente then followed Newton's recommendations and quickly made two needles compatible with Withers' materials and let the man set up the equipment to drain the vampire's blood.

"Boss, you'll have to puncture this vein and this other one here." Withers showed Vicente where the embalming fluid would enter and where the valuable superior vampire blood would leave the body.

Vicente then did what he was supposed to, carefully puncturing the veins of that corpse while following Newton and Withers' instructions.

In less than a minute, the vampire's blood began to fill Withers' 4-liter bottle.

As Withers carried out the procedure under their observation, Newton said. "The next stage is exfoliation. His skin can be used to coat weapons, armor, clothes, you name it.

You'll have to cut him at the points I'm marking, Vicente. It will be easier to remove his tough skin at these points." Newton used a brush to mark specific places.

After three minutes, the vampire's blood had finished flowing out of his body, counting 2.4 liters of black liquid.

Then Vicente did what he was supposed to, quickly skinning the larger parts of the vampire's body until he had removed around 10 kilos of skin, which he would divide between him, Benson, and the enchanter there to produce items for the family.

Moving on, Newton and the doctor again instructed him on where to cut so as not to hit any organs and give them room to collect the vampire's organs.

Vampires had very similar anatomy to magicians.

They had a heart, which only functioned until the superior vampire matured. They also had a pancreas, kidneys, and stomach, but they didn't have an intestine. Even in childhood, superior vampires didn't poop. All the toxins in their bodies came out through their urine or, during level advancements, through the pores in their skin.

In addition to these common organs, they also had Ethereal Conduit, an organ responsible for carrying mana to all parts of the body; Mana Chamber, where mana was stored; Arcane Core, a small organ behind the vampire's Magic Gem; and also Power Nodes around their body.

Special magical beings, capable of using pentagrams, had all these special magical organs.

In addition to the organs that vampires had in common with magicians, there was also the Vampiric Gland, a gland found below the roots of the teeth of these creatures, but also in their stomachs. They also had the Night Gland, another special organ related to processing the blood of vampire victims.

All these organs and others, such as the brain, were highly valued in the production of pills and potions.

Newton and Withers worked together to remove each of them without damaging them until that body had only ordinary bones and muscles left in it.

"Sigh, now we just have to debone it." Said Newton while holding gloves smeared with a kind of wine-red goo, something natural inside vampire bodies.

The alchemist there stored all those organs that he would use to produce resources for the coming weeks and months while Vicente stopped by the two men responsible for dissecting that creature to help them again.

"Boss, this part is easy now. You intend to use its meat to feed the family beasts, right? We don't need to be careful. You just need to cut his muscles around his bones, and then we'll get his bones intact." Withers instructed as he pointed to Vicente.

So, in the next 10 minutes, they would finish removing everything they wanted from the body, getting 2.4 liters of blood, 10 kilos of skin, 39 kilos of internal organs, 48 kilos of muscles, and 30 kilos of bones.

Minos gave the parts of the vampire's body to each of the four professionals with him and Newton in that place so that they could produce whatever resources they could with those materials.

He kept only the blood, a few kilos of bones, and skin. The rest was divided disproportionately between the four individuals, with the alchemist High-level Mage taking the lion's share of the corpse.

Each of them had already been instructed by Vicente on what to do, so they soon split up on that property, where they would produce the resources for the family over the next few weeks.

Vicente said goodbye to Newton, giving the man 100 milliliters of vampire blood before dividing up the portions of blood that he would distribute among his men.

Chapter 630 A Few Days' Seclusion

After finishing dissecting the vampire's body and separating from the five men from earlier, Vicente divided up the 2.3 liters of vampire blood he had with him.

That was the blood of a vampire who had been a Mid-level Mage in life. As such, it was a 3rd-grade resource. However, this was still a superior vampire who could fight Sovereigns.

His blood was one of the most important essences of his existence, so he was not simple.

A small dose of that blood could even help Sky Sovereigns!

However, the blood needed to help a Sky Sovereign or a High-level Mage was very different.

Vicente set aside 600 milliliters of superior vampire blood for him to consume, leaving him with 1.7 liters, which he intended to divide among those he considered most relevant and with the best potential within his family in the short term.

He divided this amount into 5 portions of 300 milliliters and 2 portions of 100 milliliters.

To whom would he give each of these portions? He intended to give the larger portions to Nova, Rory, Casey, Benson, and Bart and the two 100-milliliter portions to Eve and Sarah.

He couldn't give any of this blood to Nina, as she would need to be able to digest it to gain anything from it. Unfortunately, vampire blood decays quickly when removed from the creature's body, so he can't store this valuable resource for her.

As for Jasmine, Layla, and other allies and subordinates who were important to Vicente, he would give them pills or potions when his main alchemist had these resources ready.

As soon as he had divided the vampire's blood, Vicente called those people into his office.

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"I want you to focus on absorbing the blood I've just given you immediately. We have no time to waste, or this resource will decay, and we'll lose the best of it." Vicente said just after giving them the weaklings he had separated minutes ago.

Bart and Sarah were in the city because of Vicente's expectation that they would fight the vampire at any moment.

As soon as they received that blood, they each felt incredible, eager to do exactly what Vicente had just suggested.

"With all of us going cultivating, won't the family be weakened?" Sarah asked, looking into Vicente's eyes.

"No. I have four of my men wearing 4th-grade robotic armor, and Onyx will only go into seclusion after we come out of our meditation." Vicente answered her.

"Besides them, we have Jasmine and Layla in the city. We've also just made deals with several nobles and powerful individuals in the city. The family will be fine." Rory added, confident that they could go into seclusion simultaneously.

With that said, the group no longer raised any questions. Soon, almost all of them were in the training area of the Fuller family building.

Only Bart wouldn't be going there, as he didn't fit in the passage to that area.

Bart would sleep in the garden of the Fuller estate under the observation of the family men and also Onyx.

Meanwhile, all those humans quickly drank the vampire's black blood before sitting down in lotus positions and starting their meditations.

As they all began to do so, Vicente heard Torne say to him. 'Take this chance, master. Vampire blood is different from normal resources. It won't leave impurities in your body, nor will it make your magical foundation unstable.

Unfortunately, it has a negative special effect that will stay in your body for 2 or 3 years. Your body will ignore any resource you want to consume during this period if you try to consume it.

Because of this characteristic, vampires can't get stronger by using resources. That's why that vampire, who was so strong and certainly had a lot of talent, was only a Low-level Mage when you met him." Torne explained.

'So you'll have to make do with that feature until you become a Paragon. After this seclusion, you won't be able to use magical resources to accelerate your cultivation speed.'

Vicente said nothing, understanding that he shouldn't try to consume anything in the next few years, or he would throw away valuable resources.

But he didn't hesitate even after hearing that. After all, vampire blood was very powerful. He could increase his understanding of his elemental affinity. It could improve the solidity of his magical foundation. But most importantly, it could help transform his ocean of mana into a magical core.

After forming the magical core, one eventually gives birth to the soul avatar upon reaching the 5th stage!

Vicente soon began his meditation, feeling an icy sensation throughout his body as he connected his mana to the remaining mana of the vampire in that blood.

Superior vampire blood was strong, and as soon as one consumed it, such an individual would feel as if they were being attacked and would have to 'overcome' these sensations before accessing what could improve them qualitatively.

Everyone in that training room on the Fuller estate, as well as Bart outside that residence, felt more or less the same as they fell into deep meditation.

How long would it take for their seclusion to end? That depended on the amount of blood and cultivation each had when they started this process.

Sarah should be the one who would take the least time to finish the whole process, having received the smallest portion, 100 milliliters, while having the second highest cultivation there, being a Highlevel Mage.

Consuming the vampire's blood guaranteed that they would advance in level? No, but Vicente believed that one or other of them could achieve this feat. Even those who didn't would certainly reach a comfortable position where they could advance to the 4th stage in no time.

As for himself, he hoped to get his breakthrough since he was already at the peak of the Earth Sovereign level!

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The first three days after the vampire's death would pass in the blink of an eye while Vicente's group was still in seclusion in the basement of his estate.

Meanwhile, Saltstar City was already extremely busy, with construction and repairs already taking place practically everywhere in the city, especially in the neighborhood where the Fuller estate was located.

Nothing out of the ordinary had happened in those three days, and each of the local powers was fulfilling its responsibilities, with men from the Fuller family helping with local reconstruction alongside subordinates from the various wealthy local families.

In the midst of this, Onyx was keeping a watchful eye on the city, eagerly waiting to consume the vampire's flesh when his master came out of seclusion.

As he lay on the roof of the Fuller estate, he suddenly felt an aura changing as it grew much stronger, and he couldn't help but notice that someone was about to leave meditation.

'Another Sovereign for the family.' He thought as he couldn't help but wait for his master's awakening.