

The Mafia 641

Chapter 641 New Resources

In the blink of an eye, Vicente and Rory counted up all their gains from exploring the place apparently forgotten by magicians.

There were a total of 50,000 gold coins, 30 magic stones, 20 potions, and 31 pills for Dark Path magicians, about 80% of which were classified as 3rd-grade and the rest as 4th-grade.

That in itself was much better than what Vicente had gotten at the order's secret outpost in Kenyth Empire.

But it was obvious that this would be the case. After all, this place had not been found by any Dark Path magician before they entered it. Thus, all the support items from this outpost were available to them.

In addition to these resources, there were 15 3rd-grade armor, 3 4th-grade armor, 25 weapons of different types, all of them 3rd-grade, and only 2 4th-grade swords.

Some artifacts compatible with beasts were also found, such as a riding cell, claw extender, chest armor, and a suit to wear over wings.

There were various medicinal plants and herbs around, all in their defensive states, as they had been collected by members of the order in the distant past and kept locked up in this place.

They no longer had their pentagrams on them, which is a common feature on the dead body of a special plant.

However, resources like this were highly durable until they lost their bodies' special effects, so they could all still be used as ingredients for magical products.

In addition to these items and magical cultivation resources, there were also spell techniques, ways of producing things using abilities based on negative elements, and materials with information about this organization and its rivals.

Vicente and Rory collected everything, completely cleaning the place in less than 40 minutes after they arrived.

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"Impressive! I didn't expect us to get so many things!" Rory said as Vicente stood next to him, looking at a map on one of the walls of the last level of this area.

"This is just the beginning, my friend. There are other places like this that we'll be exploring in the future!" Vicente said, finishing locating their next target.

"Oh? Where do we have to go this time? And more importantly, how many places like this can we visit in the future?" Rory smiled in anticipation.

"The next place is in Chutha Dynasty. And there are at least seven more outposts similar to this one around the continent."

Rory's eyes lit up at Vicente's words.

Vicente looked at his friend and warned. "But don't get your hopes up. Some of these outposts have probably already been visited before us. It's quite likely that, at some point, we'll come across a place like this that's totally clean."

If they had found such a place and taken everything there, they had to consider that others might have already done this in other areas of the continent!

"As long as we find a single one of those places with as many resources as this place had, it'll be enough to make any trip we have to make worthwhile," Rory commented excitedly.

Vicente nodded in agreement before making his way back to the upper levels until they reached the area where this place's Awakening Altar stood.

As they were passing by, Rory couldn't help but ask. "When will we be able to use a place like this? It would be great if we could awaken Nina's powers in a place like this."

Unfortunately, that won't happen in time for us to do that with Nina. I need to become a Paragon to activate an Awakening Altar." Vicente sighed as he said this.

"Is that right? I didn't think it would take that much to activate a place like this." Rory said in a disappointed tone.

"Don't think about it too much. We're close to achieving our goals and being able to use a place like this."

Rory didn't say anything. He just looked at the place in a special way, feeling how far they had come in such a short time.

After a minute of silence, he opened his mouth to ask Vicente. "When are we going to the capital?"

"I will concentrate on producing the robotic armor in the next few hours to fulfill what I told you earlier," Vicente said as he walked towards the training area on the second basement level of this place. "You should use this time to account for what you need to acquire and bring here from the capital."

Rory nodded to his friend before going to do what he should: assess the structure of the place and see what his men would need to live and work there.

He had to account for not structural items but basic materials, such as items to store food, food itself, and places to rest and relax.

The place had all the basic structures working perfectly and in good condition. But one would need to bring in beds, communication items, surveillance, training items, etc.

In less than an hour, Rory would count up everything he had to buy to make this place habitable again.

That was also a rather negative environment, so for Light Path magicians to cultivate there, they would need magical tools to increase the density of positive elements in the area.

So, by the time Vicente finished producing the robotic armor at the end of that day, Rory would be ready for them to set off toward the capital.

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After leaving the order's secret altar under the watchful eye of a 4th-grade robotic armor, Vicente and Rory would only take two days to reach the vicinity of the capital.

The site of that altar was not far from Grandis, so by the end of the second afternoon after their departure, they would have reached the grandiose city where the royal family lived.

Arriving there, Vicente gave Rory the coins he had obtained from the altar they had just explored, authorizing him to buy everything he needed to transform the outpost.

The two then parted ways as they entered the city, with the red-haired young man going shopping and the black-haired young man heading towards the royal palace.

The king had summoned him, so Vicente intended to deal with this immediately!

Soon, he would feel that people were watching him until, near the city center, royal guards approached him, recognizing him.

"Vicente Fuller, welcome to Grandis." A Sky Sovereign said to Vicente as he stopped in front of the young man. Next to this guard were three other Sky Sovereigns, men trusted by the king.

"His Majesty is expecting me, right? Please take me to him. I want to see what this is all about." Vicente said as he greeted the men.

They did what they were supposed to, and soon, Vicente entered the royal palace of Seidel Kingdom!

Chapter 642 Meeting the King

After a few minutes, Vicente was face to face with the local monarch in the royal throne hall!

In the most important seat in the kingdom was a middle-aged, brown-haired man seated beside Sky Sovereigns, a man and a woman on either side of him.

On the sides of the area were other guards, among them the men who had brought Vicente there.

But there was one person in particular that Vicente couldn't help but glimpse as he entered.

'That man is a Paragon, master.' Torne had warned him as soon as Vicente had entered that hall.

The Paragon who was standing there had noticed Vicente's gaze in his direction the moment the black-haired young man had entered the area and had understood what the young man had noticed.

But Vicente turned his gaze back to the local monarch not long after, turning his attention to the man who had summoned him to this place.

The king and his two most trusted advisors couldn't help but stare at Vicente in silence for a moment.

This young man was already a Sky Sovereign!

How old was Vicente? Only 17, and yet he was already on the level of some of the old guys around this hall!

"Your Majesty." Vicente made a respectful gesture with a smile on his face.

"Vicente Fuller, it's good to see someone so young and so strong in my kingdom." King Seidel smiled back at Vicente while gesturing with his hands. "It's been a long time since I've encountered a young genius like you. But the heavens have not been unfair to my domain. Having someone like you in Scott Province will be very important to us in the future.

But before we talk more about that, are you related to the Fuller family of Chilldale?"

"No, Your Majesty. I just have a surname similar to that family's. I don't know them." Vicente lied.

The Fuller family of Chilldale was like a plan B for him in case he failed. How could he bring this family into his plan A problems? That would only ruin the alternative he had arranged for Nina and Lauren!

"Really? It's a shame, then. In any case, whether or not you're part of a traditional family in my kingdom makes no difference." The king became more serious as he raised his tone. "Vicente Fuller, you are a native and citizen of these lands. The kingdom needs your strength, so I hope you won't abandon us at this moment of great importance."

Lina was still traveling back to the capital. Traveling by carriage was slower than flying, as Vicente and Rory had done. But she had sent the information to her father about what she had gotten out of her conversations with Vice.

The king knew that Vicente had no intention of becoming a Seidel Kingdom noble, so he had to find another way to at least keep this young man in his lands during the aftermath of The Purification.

"You have a sister to look after, but you also have more growing to do. Don't be fooled by your current cultivation. I can help you more than you realize." The king said confidently.

"I look forward to receiving your advice," Vicente said courteously.

The king explained. "I guarantee your sister, Nina Fuller, a place at my Seidel Magical College. As soon as she graduates from the Saltstar City Royal Academy, she can begin her studies at the kingdom's main magical training center.

I know that Newton is Nina's master, so I'll transfer him here, too, so that he can continue to accompany her. I'll offer one of my properties in the city for your family to use during her stay in Grandis, and I'll put four royal guards at her disposal to ensure her safety.

That's what I'm offering your sister, Vicente. But I'll give you much more. As long as you are willing to be in my domains after The Purification, I will give you pertinent information to strengthen you." King Seidel said this with a confident smile on his face.

"I know you and some of your family's Sovereigns haven't gone out to hunt your pentagrams yet. I'll give you information about your next magical essences.

What do you think of that? Can you lend me your strength until we solve the monster problems in the Seidel Kingdom? Don't worry. You won't have to give up your journey across the continent.

Once the greatest danger has passed, you can continue on to the north of the continent. I know someone as talented as you wouldn't waste time living here for long."

The king's proposal was quite sensible and tempting. He wasn't demanding anything too difficult and was even willing to give Vicente many advantages.

Vicente was even a little surprised by all this as he listened to the king's voice, but it made total sense when he thought about it. He would probably become a Paragon in the future, so the king had to start this relationship between them on a positive note.

The logic was simple: If he helped Vicente now, this young man could help him in the future.

Vicente had no problem with exchanging favors. "I'm interested to hear in more detail what Your Majesty has in mind.

As you may already know, I absorbed vampire blood not long ago. I won't be able to use special features for a while, so I want to wait for this period until my hunt.

Some of my companions are still at the peak of their 3rd stage, so I want to give them time to join my group when we leave to hunt our pentagrams. But any information I can get now would be of great help."

King Seidel already knew all this, as Lina's group's investigation had been very thorough. She had informed him of many things that were obvious and others that she thought were due to her hunches about what she had seen of Vicente in her conversations with him.

And she had gotten a lot right, making the monarch aware of many of Vicente's plans.

"I can help your whole group. You want to go hunting when Nina graduates, right? I can help you get information on interesting magical beings for your whole group. Before you leave for the north, you'll be moving to my city with her, so I'll give you all the most detailed information then.

For now, I can only talk to you about the places of interest to you, Rory and the woman called Sarah.

Have you heard of The Pure Enclave?"

Chapter 643 Deal

"No, I've never heard of it," Vicente said sincerely.

He had never heard of The Pure Enclave. In fact, much about what was at a high level on the continent was unknown to him and 99% of the people in the south of the continent.

Certain information one would only discover by traveling around the continent, experiencing life in different places, and having unusual experiences.

And even if Torne knew about such a place, they had never talked about it. There were so many things to talk about that the old ghost could not make his master aware of everything he knew.

"The Pure Enclave is an area in the north-central portion of the continent," King Seidel began to explain. "Such a place is famous among high-level magicians because of the 'pure' part of its name.

Over 200,000 square kilometers, this region in the north-central part of the continent has special areas where some of its most common elements are found in their purest forms without interfering with other elements.

There are perfect spaces for magicians with an elemental affinity for lightning, earth, fire, and air. As long as one goes to the right place in this area, they will be able to find unparalleled cultivation sites for themselves and magical creatures with extreme elemental affinities to them.

If you're lucky, you might even be able to find a Magic Spring compatible with your elements!"

Vicente listened to this with surprise and great interest. It was rare for areas where one could find their elements in their purest state and without the presence of other elements. Places with such a characteristic would naturally be valuable to anyone since cultivation in such a place would be much faster than anywhere else.

If what the king had just said was true, then such a place would certainly have beasts with strong affinities to these elements, which meant that the pentagrams there would be more attractive to those who visited the region amid their hunts.

"That's all true, master. The Pure Enclave is a magnificent place. However, you're unlikely to find your fourth pentagram there. But it's a good idea for us to pass through that area so that your subordinates can take advantage of the opportunities there,' Torne commented in Vicente's mind.

"I see. That seems like a great place for Sovereigns." Vicente commented.

"And indeed it is." The king smiled when he saw that he had caught Vicente's interest. "But The Pure Enclave is just one of the high-level areas that I know about. We can point you to other areas, give you maps of them, and provide information about the kind of danger you might encounter on the way to each of them and also within those areas.

Although my state isn't strong from the point of view of the north of the continent, we have a lot of information about the lands to the north, Vicente. As long as we make a deal today, you'll have access to all of it.

Ultimately, I can even point you to powerful sects and clans on the continent for you to join once you leave the kingdom. As long as you want, I'll help you with all this."

'That's a terrific offer. You should accept it, master.' Torne commented to Vicente.

But this old ghost didn't even need to say that. Vicente pretended to think about it for a while, but after a moment of silence under the observation of the many people in the royal throne hall, he gave his answer.

"This agreement sounds good. If it goes how Your Majesty explained, I see no problem signing an agreement today."

The king smiled at Vicente's answer and couldn't help clenching his fists in satisfaction as he rose from his throne.

Vicente was a monster. His potential and combat proficiency were incredible. It would be incredibly important to anyone to be at his side and to have this young man owe them favors!

This agreement would require the king to hand over information to Vicente, which would cost him nothing. After all, he already had it. But it would be worth a lot for Vice, and it would definitely be enough for him to owe King Seidel a debt.

Not only would he fulfill the current agreement, but he would undoubtedly have a different approach to dealing with the king in the future, which would make him see this monarch as someone friendly whom he could bring over to his side.

This deal was much better for the king himself than for Vicente, which naturally made the monarch beam with satisfaction when he heard the black-haired young man's answer.

Not long after Vicente's reply, he and the king signed the proposed Magic Agreement, and soon, several of the men who were in the vicinity left.

However, the Paragon would stay behind with the king's two most trusted individuals.

Just as Vicente was about to leave, the Paragon moved, stopping in front of him to the surprise of everyone, including the king, the woman and the old man at the monarch's sides.

"That..." The three of them were surprised because this individual had never moved in such a way since arriving in this city.

The Paragon ignored the three surprised individuals and introduced himself to Vicente, "Kid, my name is Dawson Beckman. I'm a member of the Whitevale sect from Trevora Kingdom. What do you think about joining my sect when you leave the south? In Whitevale, you will have opportunities to become a Paragon like me or perhaps even stronger."

"Senior Beckman..." The old man next to the king muttered, not expecting this expert to show himself and even introduce himself to Vicente.

Dawson laughed and said. "This young man here is stronger than you think. He noticed me the moment he entered this hall."

The king looked at Vicente strangely. "Is that true?"

Vicente smiled subtly. "Senior Beckman's aura is very distinctive. He didn't expect me to understand him, so he didn't prepare to hide... Anyway, the Senior's proposal is tempting. But I need to learn about the forces in the center-west of the continent.

I have some issues to resolve, and I don't know if I'll be free to do so if I join an organization in the short term. But I'm willing to visit your sect and see if we have an affinity after I resolve this matter."

"Are you talking about your older sister's kidnapping?" Dawson got straight to the point.

The royal family had abundant information. They just didn't know that Vicente was Cesar Mazzanti because young Fuller had been very careful about keeping this alternative identity a secret.

Even though Layla and Jasmine had helped him hide his data from the Congregation of Revelations, that family had information about this young man.

Also, the mind of a Paragon was not simple. The intelligence of someone so strong had to be high, so he realized what was in Vicente's way without this young man going into detail about his goals.

Chapter 644 The Behavior of an Expert

"So you know about this..." Vicente muttered after Dawson's question, but he didn't hide the truth to get out of a commitment to this man. "Yes, this problem is what makes me want to maintain my independence for the time being. One day, I'll find those responsible for it."

"I see." Dawson looked at Vicente as he narrowed his eyes, aware of which organization had done such a thing. "Then I wish you good luck with your plans. When you no longer have this issue standing in your way, use this if you're interested in entering Whitevale." He gave Vice a pendant with his mark on it.

Vicente thanked the man and kept the pendant with him before saying goodbye to the people around the Paragon.

As Vicente left, King Seidel couldn't help but ask. "Why didn't the Senior insist on your attempt? You could convince him by giving him information about Nixlas' Shadows or even help him more easily achieve his goals while becoming a member of Whitevale."

Dawson narrowed his eyes as he looked at the place Vicente had left. "Someone like that boy can't be limited. If he wants to get into trouble, he'll get into trouble, even with people stronger than him around.

Nixlas' Shadows is not simple. I don't want my Whitevale getting involved in a confrontation with that group because of a single young man. As much as he has the potential to become an Archmage, it wouldn't do any good if my organization fell in the middle of his journey.

So it's best to let him go and sort out his affairs. If he goes to Whitevale after sorting out his problems, my sect will be able to benefit from him without getting involved in a possible war."

"That..." The old man next to the king thought about it, aware that Nixlas' Shadows was stronger than Whitevale.

"Ultimately, he's not ready to join any group yet. Pressing him today would only alienate him from my sect." Dawson said as he turned away from the three Sovereigns. "Today was just an approach. In the future, my people may make a more tempting invitation, and with some insistence."

The three said nothing more as they let the expert return to his position.

Dawson had another reason not to insist. Vicente had just made a deal with this kingdom to protect this territory after the consequences of The Purification, in case that terrible event really came to life.

So Vicente wouldn't get very far for years to come, and there was no guarantee that this young man would survive the aftermath of the calamity.

The strongest were often the first to die in catastrophic events!

'After he gets his fourth pentagram and fights off the monsters coming south, it will be time for another attempt.' He thought to himself before putting the matter aside for the moment.

The king had already put this matter aside and said to his two trusted individuals, "He wants information he and his people will need to hunt pentagrams in about three years. Gather the essentials for the time being, but the more profound parts of it, only leave them to him when he's about to leave. In the meantime, send him and his people in Saltstar City preliminary information every three months. I want you to introduce them to all their options on a trip to the northern center of the continent."

"What about the north of the continent?" The old man asked.

"Don't give him any information about that area. If The Purification does happen, that place will be too dangerous for a hunt. It would be better if he and his group focused on reaching their new pentagrams in the north-central part of the continent. There will be enough opportunities for them there."

"All right, Your Majesty." The two said before leaving to get their respective subordinates to help them with their mission.

The agreement Vicente and King Seidel had signed was already valid. Still, the royal family wasn't going to hand over everything they had at once.

Their agreement set deadlines for the royal family to give Vicente information on interesting locations for his group's pentagram hunt.

For now, Vicente would receive everything the royal family knew about The Pure Enclave within 6 days.

The Pure Enclave might not be the best place to get pentagrams for all the magicians who would be traveling alongside Vicente in just over 3 years. But it would certainly be an interesting place for Vice, Rory and Sarah.

King Seidel had mentioned such a place on purpose, after all...

However, other places could be more attractive for other members of the Fuller family, who would still be moving up the stages and eventually travel with Vicente's group.

As for the places that could help other family members, the royal family would only inform Vicente of these over the next few months.

Anyway, because of how this agreement was made, Vicente would be staying in Grandis for the next week. But that didn't go against his plans. That was all the time he and Rory needed to get on with their shopping in the capital!

In addition to things for the secret altar they had just found, they had to buy materials for the production of 4th-grade items.

Vicente had already run out of the materials he had bought in Chilledale, and he would need to buy more if he wanted to produce more 4th-grade items.

As such, being in the most important city in the kingdom, where there was the best supply of materials in the state, Vicente wouldn't miss the opportunity to place some orders during those days in Grandis.

He and Rory had plenty of coins after passing through the secret altar earlier, and they also had interesting things to sell to get more coins.

For the next few days, they would draw the attention of the local powers with their purchases, not bothering to hide their significant purchasing power.

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Four days after Vicente and Rory arrived in the capital of the Seidel Kingdom, Princess Lina Seidel and her group finally arrived back in Grandis from their trip to Scott Province.

As soon as they arrived in the city, the group was surprised to discover that Vicente was already there and had even made a deal with the local monarch.

But this was exactly what the king wanted, so there was nothing for them to question or try to get involved in.

Apart from Lina, everyone returned to their respective duties around the city, having finished the business of the previous trip.

However, this princess couldn't help but take the matter of Killian and Nina to her father!

Chapter 645 Guidance from the King

"I see... So Killian is friends with Vicente's younger sister, Nina." King Seidel muttered while the old man and the woman who always accompanied the king couldn't help but frown.

"Do you think he's up to something..." That woman was commenting to Lina when the princess shook her head in denial.

"I don't think so," Lina said confidently. "I've spoken to him, and I don't think he's up to anything. But you know how young men are. The girl, Nina, is pretty, and in two years, she'll look much more like a woman than a girl.

She's deaf and has a motor problem that makes it a bit difficult for her to move around. But perhaps that creates an extra charm for some men."

Lina had extensive experience with men's interest in women. Beautiful women like her quickly learned the truth about the relationship between men and women. After all, 'predators' would seek out beautiful women like her whenever they could!

Even though she was a princess, she had already dealt with the gaze or comments of at least a few dozen men!

She knew that in two years, Nina would be totally different from what the girl was now, and some men would look at that girl with desire in their eyes.

She didn't know what kind of man Killian would become. But he was a man, and being so close to Nina from now on, it would be natural if he developed some feelings of protection and affection for her. But for that to develop into something more would be as simple as the snap of a finger!

The king's right-hand woman understood what Lina meant very well, having even more experience with men than the princess.

"This could become a problem, Your Majesty. His Highness may not have bad intentions, but everyone here understands how young people are. It only takes one slip-up for the situation to become significantly complicated."

"Maybe he isn't interested in her, and they're friends..." The old man on the king's left said.

This mature woman looked at that old man and asked, with a funny look, "Do you believe that friendship exists between a man and a woman? Men can only be friends with a woman who doesn't have any attributes that attract them. Conversely, a woman can feel offended by not attracting the slightest interest from a man she likes.

Look at the problem we could have. If His Highness likes that girl, we'll have a problem with the prince having a relationship with Vicente Fuller's sister. But if he doesn't like her and she likes him, she might feel offended that he doesn't feel the same way. We'd end up with a similar problem with her brother."

"That..." The old man hesitated, but on second thought, he really couldn't disagree with that woman.

In his entire life, he and all his friends and contacts had only really been friends with women who were unattractive to them.

Such women were not necessarily ugly but had attributes far removed from what these men considered ideal and attractive. For example, some men liked short women. A beautiful, tall woman could be unattractive to them.

The king sighed as he listened to the two's comments before saying. "There's nothing we can do but warn Killian. Give him my message: if he gets involved with the Fuller girl, he'll have to take full responsibility and prevent a problem from arising between our family and Vicente Fuller."

"Wouldn't it be better to call him back to the capital?" Lina asked as she looked suggestively at her father.

"No. Vicente and Nina will find out Killian's real identity in the future. If I call him now, we could create a misunderstanding in the future. It's better to leave things as they are."

"Sigh, fine." Lina sighed as she left the responsibility of the matter to her father after warning him. "Anyway, I'm going to visit Vicente Fuller. Do you know where he is?"

The white-haired old man next to the king said. "He and Rory Point are staying at the Majestic Lake Hotel & Spa. They intend to leave the city in the next few days."

"But already?" Lina asked in surprise. "Your deal was settled so quickly?" She said, looking at her father.

"He has many plans in mind to prepare his family for the possible consequences of The Purification. It seems that he and the nobles of the Scott Province are going to build a special city near the border

of the Snow Province to stop the monsters going to the Scott Province." The king said, aware of Vicente's plan with his allies.

In another situation, he could cause problems for individuals with such plans. But since he had made an agreement with Vicente for this young man to help protect the state, it wouldn't make sense for him to stand in the way of someone trying to do just what he wanted.

The king didn't really care how Vicente would fulfill his promise. As long as this young man stayed in the state and contributed during the worst of the crisis, that would be enough for the king.

The fact that Vicente had powerful men in his group wasn't a problem either. The law preventing the formation of groups for military purposes served to prevent organizations from trying to seize power in the kingdom.

But Vicente had no intention of doing so. His interest in these lands was financial, and he intended to leave for the north of the continent in the future.

The king could see that he didn't need to worry about Vicente and that they could live well with each other. As such, he pretended not to see what was happening in that province.

"Oh? Then I'll hurry." Lina said as she set off, leaving her father and his trusted advisors behind.

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Later that day, Vicente and Lina entered the best restaurant in Grandis. They soon settled down in a secluded part of the establishment, chatting while waiting for their food.

Looking at the beautiful woman in front of him, who was dressed in a silver dress that showed off Lina's curves well, Vicente couldn't help but look at this beautiful woman with interest.

"Your Highness, do you usually have this kind of encounter with your family's partners?" he asked in a provocative tone while he had a suggestive smile.

She understood what he meant and laughed before taking a sip of the golden drink they were consuming.

"No, I'm not usually interested in having one-on-one conversations with my father's associates. But I can't help but be interested in a genius like you." She answered him while Vicente couldn't help but stare at Lina's beautiful pink lips.

He asked. "How interested are you? I'm not afraid of offending your father."

Chapter 646 Vicente and Lina's Negotiation

Lina blushed when she heard Vicente's question. Although she had already had two boyfriends, she had never done anything with either of them, and even in the hottest moments of her relationships with those men, neither of them had ever spoken to her like that.

But Vicente was staring at her unashamedly, almost as if he were a wolf waiting for the moment to eat his prey.

She was dressed, but in front of him, she felt naked and small as she had never felt before.

She wanted to create a friendly relationship with him. After all, it would be great to have a friend as talented and powerful as Vicente. But without realizing it, she forgot what men were like.

It was easy for her to analyze the problem of Killian being so close to Nina. But understanding some problems about herself wasn't as easy as doing the same with other people.

"You know my position, but you talk to me like that." She muttered as she couldn't help but show her agitated breathing.

He smiled at her. "Isn't there such a thing as friendship in the kingdom? I thought such things were more common than people say."

"Yes, they are. But not with princesses. I have several friends who get involved with men outside of marriage, but none have my position. So they can afford to choose whether or not to get married without ever having done anything." She said as she felt as if time was passing more slowly.

However, she couldn't help but feel a strange sensation in her chest as she spoke to Vicente.

She was embarrassed, but she couldn't help but feel aroused, too!

"But it's not like that for me."

"Are you promised to someone?" Vicente pressed her.

He could take this meeting the way Lina wanted it: as a meeting between two people with common interests who could one day become friends or at least close allies.

But of all the women he had ever met, Lina was the most beautiful. She even managed to surpass the beauty of Nova, Sarah, Shelby, and Layla, the women he had relationships with so far.

The princess was beautiful, but she was the woman who came closest to Vicente's standard of beauty. She was a brunette, with ample measurements in her hips and bust and a way of speaking and behaving that made him want to spend more time with her.

Seeing an opening for him to try to get closer to her in a deeper way, he couldn't help but seize the opportunity to take this relationship in a different direction than Lina had intended.

"No."

"You've dated before. Why didn't you do anything with them?"

"They weren't good enough."

"Were they royalty from other states?" He asked her.

If Lina were to marry a nobleman or rich man from the kingdom, she would naturally have the highest position in that marriage, giving her some advantages. But if she were to marry a prince from another state, things could be quite different, and her fiancé's side could demand more of her.

"No. They were nobles. The kingdom's partners don't have any unmarried princes or princesses around my age available to marry now." She was sincere.

Princesses like her couldn't always marry princes from other states, which was best for sovereign families of states. Sometimes, someone like her ran out of options to help their family with a good marriage. This was bad for the family but very good for women like her, as they got a few extra freedoms because of it.

"Then it seems to me that you can do whatever you want, Your Highness." He got up from his seat and slowly walked over to Lina.

She got up from her seat too and walked backward slowly, away from Vicente.

"What do you want?" She asked him as she saw him coming closer and closer to her.

They were in a special room where anyone would have to ask their permission to enter. As such, they had enough privacy to do anything there.

When she came up against a wall behind her and could no longer back away, he stopped 15 centimeters away from her, looking down into her eyes.

Vicente was over 1.9 meters tall, while Lina was 1.6 meters tall.

He brought his face close to her left ear and said softly. "Let me show you what those two were incapable of making you feel."

She shivered as she felt him wrap one of his arms around her waist, but he didn't kiss her. He only went 90% of the way and stopped very close to her.

She closed her eyes, feeling hot and like she was suffocating. Too nervous to say anything or stand still in the tension, she let herself get carried away.

'I'll give you what you want this time...' She thought as she moved forward the remaining 10% until her lips touched Vicente's.

What harm could a kiss do? She had already done it with her first two boyfriends a few times, but she had never felt more interested in doing it with those men than she did now with Vicente.

'The next time we meet, I'll make sure you follow my plans, ' she thought as she felt Vicente's tongue enter her mouth. 'That wasn't supposed to happen, least of all here.'

But as she thought, she gradually put her thoughts about what they were doing to one side as she felt how good it felt to kiss that man.

Without realizing it, 10 minutes passed while Vicente was still kissing her.

But he wasn't just kissing her anymore. One of his hands was under her clothes, touching a part that only her mother had touched when she was a child but which, for more than a decade, had only been touched by herself.

Her dress was no longer so well-fitting on her body, and parts she would have liked to avoid being seen in public were now in full view.

However, she didn't care. In the heat of the moment, she just wanted to finish sorting out what she was doing.

She felt as if she had an itch on one part of her body and couldn't help wishing she could 'itch' it until the sensation passed.

She would soon have her hands under Vicente's clothes, too!

In the midst of all this, the waiters of that restaurant would have to wait for dozens of minutes outside that room, not understanding why their customers had left a 'do not disturb' sign at the entrance to that VIP room.

But the princess was there, so they must have been taking care of very serious business of great importance to the kingdom!

So, a whole hour passed before Vicente and Lina finally received their food, which had been remade twice while they were 'negotiating' with each other.

Chapter 647 Magicians Alliance

After Vicente and Lina had finished what they had done in that VIP room of Grandis' best restaurant, the two received their food.

She couldn't help but remain silent while the waiters served them, too ashamed of what had happened in such a place to say anything or look at the people there.

As soon as the last of the waiters left and left them alone again, Vicente let out a laugh as he saw how red she was.

"Why are you laughing?" She asked as she looked at him.

"It's nothing. You're adorable, Lina."

"You... What you made me do here was shameful! Did they hear us?" she asked, concerned.

"You made a lot of noise."

Gulp!

"But no, there's no way they could have heard us," Vicente said confidently. "There are sound formations in this room. That must be to protect the big deals that are occasionally made in this establishment."

"Sigh! I hope so. Otherwise, I won't have the courage to walk around in public anymore," she said as she relaxed a little.

But she couldn't complain to this man for taking her here. As much as she hadn't planned on starting her sex life in a place like this, she couldn't help but feel incredible.

Despite all the problems, what she had just experienced had been incredible enough for her not to feel angry with Vicente.

"Next time, take me somewhere more suitable for these things. Let's not do this in a restaurant where we might be discovered, and it's not comfortable," she said as she began to eat.

Vicente looked at her with interest. 'Already thinking about next time, huh?' He smiled.

"Of course. You can come tomorrow to my room where I'm staying." He suggested.

She looked at him momentarily as she chewed her food, but when she felt something in her private parts, she couldn't refuse the opportunity. After a moment, she said. "All right."

"By the way, you're staying in the capital until what day?" She asked him after she had eaten a little more and the tension in her body had eased.

"I'm staying for two more days. Then I'll go back to my place."

"That's it?" She asked in surprise.

"Yes, I'm very busy. After this departure, I don't intend to return to the capital any time soon. But it would be nice to have someone in the capital to help me..." He said in a suggestive tone, looking into Lina's brown eyes.

"Help you how?" she asked.

He was direct in his words: "With orders. From time to time, I will have coins and demand for materials that are difficult to obtain in Scott Province. I need someone to place the orders I need at the right time.

If I had someone able to go to Saltstar City every 6 or 8 months and then come to Grandis, that would help me a lot."

She said to him. "Since you've made an agreement with my father, it's only natural that I help His Majesty keep track of your progress. I can help you with that. Other things in the province interest me, too."

"I can imagine." Vicente laughed.

Soon, they would talk about more serious matters, such as some of his plans and his future hunt for pentagrams.

"I'll be moving on to the fourth stage soon," Lina commented to Vicente. "If you don't see any problems, I can join your group. I know you'll be hunting pentagrams in a powerful area of the continent, so I could benefit a lot."

She was sincere in this part of the conversation. She wasn't trying to get close to the man who had taken her, but being a magician looking for an opportunity to grow.

If she depended on her family, she would hunt pentagrams in the Chutha Dynasty. But if she went alongside Vicente's group, she could go to the strongest places someone at the 4th stage could go.

The pentagrams and cultivation opportunities of such areas would naturally be much better for her!

"Would your father allow something like that?" Vicente asked. "I don't mind letting you join my group, but you must understand that we will face great dangers on this hunt."

The Purification is about to take place around the time my group leaves, so we may face many monsters and even vampires.

You can also advance in a short time and get your pentagram sooner if you don't go with us."

"I know, I've considered it through. I actually made this appointment with you today to talk about it. Although it would be safer for me to use my family to hunt for my fourth pentagram, the fact is that I can go further by following alongside your group."

I'd like to join you when the time comes. She said with seriousness in her voice and expression.

Vicente sensed that she wasn't rushing into anything and didn't try to convince her otherwise. "All right. You can come with us."

She smiled in satisfaction, remaining silent for a moment until the waiters served their dessert.

She was calmer now and no longer showed any nervousness.

When they had finished eating, Vicente asked. "By the way, do you know if the Magicians Alliance is doing anything about the monster situation around the continent?"

The Magicians Alliance was an ancient Polaris Realm organization in which human states, sects, and clans were part, representing the common good of their magical civilization on the continent.

It had served human dominance over the continent a long time ago, but its structures still exist today.

Lina's father was part of this group, so she knew a few things about the Magicians Alliance today.

She answered him, "The Magicians Alliance isn't as strong as it was in the past. Although it still exists, human dominance over the Polaris Realm has undeniably caused this organization to lose some of its purpose.

As it currently stands, it couldn't stop The Purification problem on its own. And many forces around the continent don't even know about the monster problem yet.

My family only found out about it after an alert from a Num in Scott Province. Before that, we were in the dark about the current situation.

So, several states on the continent may be in the dark about the problem developing to the north, which could contribute to the Magicians Alliance not having the support it needs...

Sigh! Maybe we need a calamity for the Magicians Alliance to return to its former glory." She closed her eyes and shook her head in pessimism.

"I see. That's worrying." He commented in an unhappy tone.

"But the Magicians Alliance knows what's happening and is already moving. The group's experts have action plans to prevent and contain the crisis. And men are already traveling the continent to disseminate information about the crisis developing in the north." She added.

Chapter 648 Departure from the Capital

After his conversation with Lina, Vicente returned to his business with Rory in the capital and finally received more detailed information about The Pure Enclave.

Over the next few days, the Seidel family would give him a continental map with the options for getting to The Pure Enclave, information about the dangers of traveling to such an area, and even what one could expect when entering such territory.

The information in question even included names of places in cities on the way to The Pure Enclave, names of specialists, and stores that might be interesting for Vicente's group to pass by or encounter on their journey.

There were also places, people, and organizations to avoid and even an explanation of the power divisions of each state they would pass through on their journey.

And with this information, there was nothing more for Vicente and Rory to do in the capital.

Rory had already bought everything he thought necessary for a group of family soldiers to start operating at the secret altar of the order they had found. On the other hand, Vicente had already placed all the orders he could afford at present.

So, on the morning of their seventh day in Grandis, they would bid farewell to the royal family and set off from that city towards their group's secret altar!

...

Time passed quickly after Vicente and Rory left the capital, and they were soon at the location of the secret Cataclysm Order outpost.

On arriving there early one evening, the two quickly left all the items Rory had bought for that place in the area.

They didn't set anything up but left the items for each space in their respective areas so that when the family men arrived, they could set them up themselves and organize the place.

Rory and Vicente would only take half an hour to do this until they stopped to cultivate mana in the training room of that place.

They would do this for a whole day, and then the next day, they would leave that altar under the protection of the 4th-grade robotic armor Vicente had left there.

...

"What will we do at this post once it becomes operational?" Rory asked Vicente just after leaving the tree that gave access to the secret altar in the depths of the forest they were in.

"You will come here with your group and establish a key post for our family in Diamond Province. Subsequently, each of the High-level Mages under your command will receive missions similar to the one you, Bart, and Sarah had when we arrived in Saltstar City." Vicente answered his friend's question as they moved away from the place they had just left.

"You want us to take over underworld factions in cities around the province?"

"Yes." Vicente nodded affirmatively to Rory. "You mustn't leave this post unless one of our men gets into trouble. But I want them to avoid trouble as much as possible. Let's take on the province's underworld forces without drawing attention to ourselves."

"I understand. That shouldn't be too difficult, but it will be laborious. We'll have to get to know the provinces' cities and the underworld groups in each area to decide which are the best targets... It might take a few months or even more than a year before we get any results." Rory warned his friend.

"I know, don't worry. Just do the work here so that when Nina and I come to this province, its underworld is already under the family's control."

"Don't worry, that's enough time for us to achieve that goal," Rory said confidently.

They would fly back to Scott Province just as they had on their journey to this area, which should take them around 20 days to reach the land where the metal city was currently being built.

Along the way, Vicente and Rory would talk a lot about their plans for the family's expansion, the number of men going to Diamond Province, how long it would take for the first group to leave Saltstar City and also about resources.

Vicente warned Rory that Lina would probably become their reliable contact there and would travel between Saltstar City and the capital from time to time. The group should watch her movements, as Vice intended to send messages via the princess.

Why have his men risked themselves traveling around the kingdom if he could get the princess to use the royal forces in his favor?

Anyway, Vicente had recommended that Rory avoid the Fuller family entering the capital or cities that were heavily dominated by royalty.

As much as he had his agreement with King Seidel, he wanted to avoid problems or things that would make him have to promise more to that man or even set him against the local monarch.

...

Vicente and Rory's journey back to Scott Province would be as uneventful as their journey to the kingdom's capital.

After about three weeks since leaving Grandis, the two would enter their homeland, where they would soon reach the site of the future Metal City.

For the time being, the place was far from the name 'city.' However, in the two months or so that Vicente and Rory had been away, the place had changed enough for the two to realize it as soon as they saw the area.

After Vicente greeted one of the beasts he had tamed on the outskirts of the land where his city would be built, he and Rory would see the view from that flat place.

After about two months, the site of the city's core and primary village was completely excavated to create a sewage system, drainage, and drinking water supply.

Meanwhile, the outlines of the first streets, the square, and the properties that would be built there were already ready. The men working there only needed to finish preparing the drainage, sewage, and water supply system in order to pave the streets and start building the first houses and businesses.

Meanwhile, a small water treatment plant and a sewage treatment plant had been built in the corners of the large area.

The men there had also continued mining in the place where Vicente had started mining before, while the hole he had left had not accumulated rainwater so far.

It rained during this period, and water accumulated there. But with that group's magical tools, they had removed the water in their path. As much as they wanted to create a large water reservoir there, that area was still too interesting for mining for them to abandon it.

After a short observation of the area from afar, Vicente and Rory would approach their people to take a closer look at the place.

Chapter 649 Metal City Timetable

Upon entering the camp, Vicente and Rory were soon greeted by the people in the area.

Most of the men were working, so after waving to them and saying a few words, these individuals soon turned their attention to their respective works.

But the leaders of the construction of this place were soon around Vicente and Rory talking to these two, curious about what had happened in those two travels but also prepared to inform them about what had happened so far.

No incidents involving beasts have occurred in the last few months. On the other hand, human groups have passed through the area on only two occasions but left without causing any problems.

Sarah was nearby without hiding, so few would have tried anything against the individuals there.

Apart from that, the group had been busy these weeks building the foundations for the future city that would be built there.

For now, they were only going to build the central square and the buildings around it. However, the entire drainage, sewage, and drinking water system was already being prepared to receive future expansions without any need to alter the part of the city that was now being built.

Meanwhile, although the terrain was good and the structures there didn't have to be complex to support simple buildings, every construction needed a solid foundation.

The foundations were being prepared, and soon, the homes and metal buildings of this place could begin to be erected.

Vicente and Rory listened to all this in a 15-minute conversation with the professionals behind this town's early development until one of them asked.

"How long will it take for the village on this site to take shape?" Rory asked as he looked at the area's chief builder.

"I believe that for this place to be considered a village, we would have to finish building the whole area around the central square." Said an old man with reddish-white skin and white hair on his face. "Each building will take an average of 15 days to build. So I imagine we'll have this place in the shape you want in about six months."

"Good," Vicente commented. "I intend to make this place look like a sustainable village after that period for the nobles who might be interested in joining us."

Those of your group interested in bringing their families here, authorize it after the first buildings are finished. I will pay 10 gold coins a month to each family that moves to this place at that time." He said as he looked at the construction leader there.

The other head builders and magic professionals heard this and were impressed.

For Vicente, 10 gold coins wasn't much. But for every worker there, it was an absurd amount. If the workers listened to such an offer, it was possible that the work would go faster just so they could bring their families to this place!

With 10 gold coins a month, their families wouldn't have to work to have a good life there!

"How long will this last, boss?" One of the men asked.

"Until this place becomes a city of at least 5,000 inhabitants. By then, it will have enough opportunities to motivate people to want to be here. But until then, I'll pay my workers 10 gold coins a month for the mere fact that their families migrate here," Vicente answered sincerely.

Five thousand inhabitants might not seem like much, but it would take more than a year to build infrastructure capable of accommodating less than half of that population with the workforce they currently had.

But even if these individuals could only take advantage of this opportunity for a year, that would be enough for all of them to earn a lot of coins.

Their families didn't have to come to the area and do nothing. Their family members could come to this place to help with the work and earn more coins.

So even though it wouldn't last long, the people there couldn't help but relish the possibility!

After this conversation, Vicente and Rory would accompany the head builders to analyze the works in the most important part of the area.

It wasn't possible to understand much about what was going on there without an explanation, but with those men by their side, it was easy to imagine what the area would look like in a few months' time.

After doing this, the head builders returned to their work, leaving Vicente, Rory, and Sarah alone.

"Were there any problems while we were away?" Vicente asked the black-haired woman next to him.

"No. You know, builders argue occasionally, but it hardly ever becomes a physical confrontation." She commented in response.

"Well, arguing is fine," he said as he looked into her eyes. "Anyway, you'll be here for a while longer. Rory will have to attend to other matters, but when another Sovereign becomes available to come here, I'll swap shifts."

"Don't worry about me. Staying in this place isn't bad." She smiled at him.

"We'll stay here for two days." He looked at her in a way that Sarah couldn't help but understand his motivation. "I'm going to help with the metal extraction once again and get some rest from our journey here."

She said nothing while Rory shook his head, understanding what Vicente intended to do.

'Lucky son of a...!' The young redhead laughed to himself as he walked away from the two.

He had his girlfriends around the province. One of them was in Saltstar City, and the other was in Millfall. But he wasn't like Vicente, who seemed to have a woman everywhere he went!

...

A few more days had passed since Vicente and Rory had entered Scott Province.

After passing the construction site of the future metal city, Vicente and Rory left after two days there and were now near Millfall.

For the first time in a long time, Vicente was passing close to this city, which he had left shortly after forging the end of the Mazzanti family and had not returned to until that day. But it wouldn't be today that he would return to where his magical journey began.

He would follow Rory directly to Martell Village, which was only a few hours' ride from Millfall on horseback.

With Rory and Vicente's current flying speed, the journey would only take them 40 minutes.

So it wouldn't be long before Vicente and his friend stopped in front of the village, a place he hadn't been back to for almost two years.

The village was currently completely under his control, so the moment he and Rory entered it, neither of them had to hide their identities.

Upon entering the village, Vicente and Rory were soon faced with a very different place from the one they had left when they moved to Millfall.

Previously, only the center of the village had been paved, while the surrounding streets were dirt, which meant there was a lot of mud and dust in the village, depending on the weather.

But that wasn't the situation now. All the built-up areas of the place had been paved over, and new buildings had been constructed, greatly increasing the village's size.

The village was practically becoming a city and had not yet become one because of bureaucratic issues.

However, this place wouldn't become a city because Vicente didn't want that to happen.

Much of the local growth was due to him, so he didn't intend to open the doors of this place to people who weren't committed to his group.

He currently had 12 warehouses here, and everyone in the village either worked for him or had a close relative who worked for him.

The teachers at the only local academy were all under his influence. At the same time, even the guards of the Duke of the Province's family were committed to following Vicente's rules.

The same went for the subordinates of noblemen with livestock farms or plantations near the village.

As such, the place was very different now compared to then. When Vicente and Rory entered it, people in the streets greeted them in respect, seeing the area leader returning to the village after a long time away.

The people greeting them in the streets would not get in their way. They would do so while keeping their distance to avoid getting in the way or disturbing the local leader.

Vicente and Rory would enter the old estate that had been home to the core of the Fuller family before their trip to Saltstar City.

Vicente clenched his fists as he entered the building, feeling several memories flash through his mind.

The fact that he had taken revenge for his mother's death couldn't help but make him different as he entered it.

But he would soon pull himself together and move on, soon arriving at where Benson and the other blacksmiths he had sent here were.

Arriving there, Vicente was greeted with smiles and words of welcome from the men, and his master couldn't help asking him if the king had caused them any trouble.

Vicente explained to his staff. "The king just wanted to make me an offer. We made a partnership agreement, and now I'm back... Anyway, how are you? Have you studied the area so we can go ahead with our tests?"

Benson let out a sigh of relief and said. "We're fine. We've managed to study the Crow Woods area and define the best route for the railroad we're going to build to Millfall.

We've also defined what the metal alloys for the tracks and train carriages will look like and where we can extract the ores that will form part of these metal alloys.

There's almost everything we'll need nearby, but some special metals we'll need to buy."

"That will make things easier."

"I've gone ahead with our plans and already bought as much of this material as I thought we'd need," Benson said with a smile on his face.

"That's even better." Vicente liked what he heard.

"I believe if you stay here for a month, we can build the entire railroad line to Millfall and test our project, Vice," Benson added. "You'll be able to stay here for that long?"

Vicente didn't think long and nodded in the affirmative. "Yes. That was my intention."

"Should I stay here with you?" Rory asked.

The future metal city was near Millfall, so Rory had come to Martell Village alongside Vicente. But he wasn't needed for Vice and Benson's plans.

"No. You'd better return to Saltstar City. Finish preparing the group that's going to Diamond Province. When I return to the city, we'll talk about your departure for that new post." Vicente said as he tapped one of his friend's shoulders.

"All right. See you in Saltstar City in a few weeks." Rory said before saying hello and goodbye to everyone there.

He intended to stop by his mother's house first but would be leaving the village in the next few minutes.

The journey to Saltstar City would take a few days, even for someone of his level, so he intended to leave as soon as possible.

As soon as Rory had left, Vicente, Benson, and the other 3rd- stage blacksmiths on that estate would go together to a site in the village, which was on the main street there.

"Vice, we believe this will be the best place to build the station in the village. The location is privileged. From here, we are less than a kilometer from all the warehouses in the village. Also, there's enough space here for us to build a place big enough for unloading and loading resources from the area." Benson explained as he showed a plot of land on which two warehouses owned by the Fuller family were located.

"Hmm, the place looks good. But where would the rail line go through?" Vicente asked, seeing that behind that piece of land, there was a street and houses on the block across the street.

"We can do it on the street. The properties on the block by the train station have an exit onto the village's main street. As for the street where our railway line will be, we can close off half of it and the pavement on the side of our land. The properties on the other side of the street will still have access to one lane of the street, so it won't harm their owners."

Another blacksmith said. "We'll still have space in our warehouse for storing resources and space for handling resources brought in and sent out from this station."

"We can change what we do now a little later. If it works out, we can expropriate some property in the surrounding area and build something better."

"All right. Let's get on with these plans," he said as he walked towards the Crow Woods. "I want to see the route you've chosen. Are there any beast problems along the way?"

"Yes, that's the biggest problem we've encountered," Benson said. "For powerful magicians, these beasts are no big deal. There are, at most, Acolytes in the area. But I don't know what the defenses of our train cars will be like, so I don't know what could happen with Acolytes traveling through the area."

"Our trains will be very safe. I intend to have Mages become the drivers to provide mana capable of running the trains. So the beasts you mentioned will hardly cause any problems for the train."

The problem would be the tracks. We can't allow beasts to put things on the tracks or even cross our tracks at the wrong times."

"If the boss can put his magnetic characteristics on the rails and make them work continuously, we can create something capable of driving away beasts and beings from even the beginning of the 3rd stage with ease, even using a method of collecting mana from the air." Suggested one of the blacksmiths as they moved along.

There were two methods of energy source for magical devices: the mana of a magical being and the free mana in nature. In a way, using mana from nature was almost like using light from solar energy on Earth.

It could be done, but it wasn't a method that worked perfectly all the time or that could cheaply create enough energy to sustain many operations.

In the case of using free mana in the air, devices were generally unable to perform very complex and powerful operations when using this alternative.

So even if Vicente could create things capable of imitating his 4th stage powers, by using this option, the products he created would be much weaker, as suggested by that blacksmith.

"That's a good option... But let's see the terrain you've chosen first." Vicente said.

After analyzing the terrain today, he and this group will start building the railway line between Millfall and Vila Martell tomorrow!