

The Mafia 681

Chapter 681 Layla's Ingenuity

With the departure of the Dark Reaper, Vicente was left alone while his people gathered the remaining resources of the facility.

'I wonder why he was here,' Vicente thought.

'He probably came in search of ghosts or other creatures. Dark Reapers are born hunters. But since he broke into this post, he might have already known about this place. That could be an indication of what we'll find in the near future. Let's be more careful next time.' Torne warned his master.

'Maybe others like him have already cleared places like this or dominate such places.' Vicente pondered, feeling that they really should be more careful. Let's spend some time visiting these posts.

'It will be good for the group to strengthen a bit before we continue exploring the secret altars.'

He had to make a one-way trip and a return trip. On the way back, his group would definitely be stronger, as long as they didn't suffer any significant losses in their hunt.

Therefore, Vicente thought it would be better to move on without further stops like today until they had improved their strength with new pentagrams.

He soon left the training ground where the Dark Reaper had been and found Layla waiting for him for a serious talk.

Just as he was about to join his people celebrating the resources they had obtained, Layla pulled him into a dark corner with a few questions in mind.

"What's going on, Vicente? I get the feeling you're more interested in the Cataclysm Order than you should be. You already got the cursed item from those people, and now you're exploring secret areas of the order... What are you planning?" She asked him with a clearly worried expression on her face.

Except for Rory, Onyx, Casey and Sarah, none of the others in the group knew exactly what the place they were about to enter was about.

But when they arrived and realized that it was one of The Vile Altars, Layla couldn't help but feel uneasy.

That was one of the outposts of what was once the largest organization of Dark Path magicians on the continent!

The crimes committed by the leaders of this religion were so great that a book could be written to record each and every one of them!

Knowing that Layla was a follower of the Congregation of Revelations, Vicente said. "Don't be naive, Layla. Have you seen the resources and artifacts in this place? I had my necklace before I knew what it was. But it happens to give me access to places like this. Do you think the history of this place would make me give up those resources and artifacts? We're about to face the damn vampires!"

"But the people of the Cataclysm Order..."

"You don't know anything about it, let's face it. You haven't had a chance to meet the magicians of the order. All you know is what the temple wants you to know. But is it all that sincere?"

After working with me for so long, you should know how convenient changing the truth of things can be." He pointed in Casey's direction as he spoke.

"Dark Path magicians have a bad reputation even outside the temple, Vicente." She commented on what she could talk about.

"If that's the case, do you think Nina will become a bloodthirsty killer?" He asked seriously, looking into the woman's gray eyes.

Layla hesitated for a moment. "I don't know. That depends on her."

"If it depends on her, then do you assume that Dark Path magicians aren't evil by nature but are made that way by their choices and situations?" He asked, making her realize the contradiction she had placed herself in.

"I... I don't know." She said, turning her face away.

Vicente laughed but answered her question. "I plan to make the altars of the order outposts of my family in the future. I don't know how far I'll go, but I won't be hostage to the Congregation of Revelations forever. One day, I will activate the Awakening Altars.

Dark Path magicians will come to me because of it, which frankly isn't my goal, but it will probably happen anyway. That doesn't mean I'm going to revive that religion or try to fight it.

But we have bigger problems with seeing humans as our rivals. Vampires and their allies are our only enemies until we resolve the current crisis."

"And then what?"

"The after doesn't matter. Will we be alive then?" He asked her, narrowing his eyes as he looked at her. "Let me ask you something: what would happen if I were a Dark Path magician without you knowing? Would I stop being what I am if you found out?"

She clenched her fists, recognizing Vicente's test. "If you were a magician of the Dark Path, I would give up my religion. You're my man, so I won't leave you. But since I'd be standing next to someone like that, I couldn't continue being what I am for my organization."

She looked at him silently for a moment and asked. "Why did you ask that?"

"I wanted to know your priorities. Don't be so naive as to think that your superiors care about you. As long as you are useful, they will appreciate you. But as soon as you're no longer helpful, you'll be replaced by someone else. That's how the great powers of the continent work." Vicente commented to her before leaving her alone to think.

He soon arrived at Rory's side and listened to the number of resources and artifacts they had managed to collect.

As much as the Dark Reaper had consumed what was best there, there were still resources and 4th-grade artifacts in the area.

In less than 15 minutes, everything had been collected, until Vicente divided the group into those who would meditate to recover from the previous battle, and those who would keep an eye on the area.

They would stay in this location for a full day, long enough for the whole group to recover and for Vicente to build a 4th-

grade robot armor to stay in this location and guard it for the Fuller family.

A little over 24 hours after arriving there, the group set off in a northerly direction, where they would travel until they entered the Kingdom of Aldoria.

This was a two-week journey for a group with the strength of Vicente's team, so they had a long and winding road ahead of them after leaving this secret outpost of the order.

However, once they left the Chutha Dynasty, the group would be much closer to their goals. In the far north of the Kingdom of Aldoria, on that state's border with the Kingdom of Eternal Dawn, was the first area where they could hunt pentagrams and have special cultivation opportunities!

It would take them at least a month to cross the entire Kingdom of Aldoria, but as soon as they finished their journey, they would reach their first stop for hunting pentagrams!

Chapter 682 Kingdom of Aldoria

Three weeks after leaving the order's secret altar in the Chutha Dynasty, Vicente's group had traveled a long way, leaving the dynasty and entering the Kingdom of Aldoria.

The Kingdom of Aldoria was a prosperous land located in the center-south of the Polaris Realm. Due to its location bordering the central part of the continent, it was a much wealthier state than the Chutha Dynasty and the Kenyth Empire.

The mana and elements in the area were much denser and more vibrant, with a much greater chance of special resources and places like magic wells naturally appearing throughout its territory than in states further south on the continent.

Because of this, the living beings that lived there were naturally more powerful on average than those in the far south of the continent.

There were more forces with Paragons in their ranks in this state, and although there were no known archmages living there, there were rumors of sixth-level magicians passing through from time to time.

Precisely because it had a "powerful" population by the standards of the southern region, the place was naturally rich, with many renowned magicians, where one could find rare resources in the south of the continent with relative ease.

The Kingdom of Aldoria was a hereditary monarchy, like most of the states in the Polaris Realm. But it had one difference from the Seidel Kingdom. In this place, a woman could lead her own family or even be the reigning queen.

The House of Aldor ruled these lands with a firm fist, but there were sects and clans that had their own armies in the area, so it wasn't as difficult to start your own force in this state as it was in the Seidel Kingdom.

Its capital city was located in the center of its territory. The state was characterized by its large area and rectangular shape, which meant that it bordered several states in the west and east, but only one state was in the south and one in the north.

The Kingdom of Aldoria had no major enemies in its neighboring states, so it was relatively easy to enter the state. There were no border guards, so you only had to worry about problems with official forces if you tried to enter a city.

Vicente's group had planned to stop in a city in this kingdom to replenish the resources they had used up since leaving Grandis. But they still had a few days to travel to that stop and were now camped in the Duchy of Valoria, in the south of the state.

The duchy was very far north-south, which would of course prolong the group's journey through this state until they had a chance to reach the northern border of the Kingdom of Eternal Dawn.

However, the party wasn't worried about that as they rested in one of the duchy's forests. After nine more battles against hordes of uncontrollable magical creatures in the last few weeks, they had plenty of opportunities to train their skills and have fun on the way.

The monsters grew stronger as they traveled north, but the group didn't see this as a problem. They all knew how important fighting was for the magical strengthening of their race.

Apart from that, every time they killed a horde of monsters, they would get things that could generate a lot of resources and opportunities for them once they entered the city they were targeting very soon.

So the group was very satisfied with the challenges they had faced so far!

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Another day dawned, and Vicente's group was still stuck in the temporary camp they had set up two nights before.

There, Layla and Lina sat across from each other, drinking hot drinks and talking in hushed tones.

Sarah had just woken up from her sleep, something she hadn't done for about two weeks because of the shifts the group had been taking to rest, cultivate, and keep an eye on the surroundings of the areas they were camping in.

At the same time, Rory had just finished his hours of cultivation when he opened his eyes with a smile, feeling the good feeling of cultivating in a place richer in mana than Seidel Kingdom.

'Maybe I'll be able to become a Sky Sovereign before this journey is over.' Rory thought to himself, excited about the future.

It wouldn't be a short trip. He was aware that it could take two to three years for everyone to hunt down their pentagrams, for Vicente to get his cyan essence, and for them to go after Lauren and then return home.

Given that time, Rory thought he could become a Sky Sovereign by the time he was 23 or 24.

That wouldn't be bad!

It wouldn't be the same as his friend who had managed to become a Sky Sovereign at the age of 19, but it would already place him among the greatest prodigies of the continent's current generation!

Rory wasn't interested in competing with other young people. He just wanted to become stronger to protect himself and help the Fuller family. So he was naturally satisfied with his journey so far, growing stronger and stronger.

As he left his position to join the group and eat breakfast, Casey was watching the surroundings from a tree with many thick branches near their camp.

When he saw Vicente leave his observation position, Casey returned to the side of his staff while Onyx was already on one of Vice's shoulders.

Vicente got right to the point while his group ate. "Let's continue our journey after we've finished eating. According to the Seidel family, we're only five days away from Aldoria City, so let's hurry.

We have many things to sell and others to buy in that city. After this stop, it might be a few months before we get another chance like this, so don't hesitate to buy resources in bulk." He instructed.

After Aldoria City, they would go directly to the area where they wanted to start their pentagram hunt, where the area was supposed to be favorable for people with a similar elemental affinity to Casey.

The group's companions agreed, and each of them had space rings filled with monster body parts, as well as items and resources they had collected from the belongings of some of their previous opponents.

They also had things they had collected at the order's secret altar that even Vicente didn't want to keep, so they intended to sell a lot of things once they entered the kingdom's capital.

With that, after they had finished eating, the group quickly dismantled their camp and left the area not long after, flying not far above the dirt road that lay in that area and that the Seidel family had instructed them to follow all the way to the capital of this state.

Chapter 683 Miss Death?

After a few days, Vicente's group entered Aldoria City, a magnificent city larger than Grandis, where one could find many shopping opportunities for their cultivation and training.

There were even opportunities for 5th-stage blacksmiths, something that was hard to come by even in the northern states of the continent.

Professionals of such a tier were extremely rare on the continent. For each profession, there were only a few dozen 5th-stage experts, very few considering the size of this huge territory and the population there.

As for 6th-stage professionals, if they existed at all, they were so few that they could be counted on the fingers of one's hand. As a result, when looking for study materials, the hardest thing to find was the material for the 5th stage.

As for the 6th stage, you had to be a disciple or have a great relationship with the master to reach it. It was impossible to learn about the 6th stage from books or scrolls because they didn't exist or were lost all over the vast world.

However, as soon as the group entered this magnificent city, they felt a sense of relief after traveling for weeks. No matter how strong they were, their lives were always in danger when they traveled.

Entering a human domain was very nice after traveling non-stop in places like this for so long!

Hell, even the stench of the cities made the group feel good as they entered this place this early afternoon!

However, although this place was great and had many opportunities, it wasn't the best.

"It looks like the city's a little gloomy today," Rory commented as he watched the expressions of the people on the streets. He noticed those who weren't working were walking quickly and avoiding the streets.

"I don't think the local Paragons are here anymore," Lina said, making the group look at her with interest.

Everyone there already knew about Lina's special power, the Premonitory Intuition. It allowed her to foresee things yet to come and see the present differently.

"The Purification?" Layla asked.

"That must be it," Vicente stated as he understood what could be behind the bad mood of the locals.

What if all the Paragons in this place had died? In such a situation, all the powers would change their positions, and even the population would stop behaving normally!

'That must be the case, Master.' Torne said. 'I don't sense any Paragon aura in the city. But from the local fame, there should be about five of them here.'

Vicente said then. "Let's move quickly. I don't want to stay here any longer than necessary.

There aren't any Paragons in the city today, so there won't be much in the way. Let's split up.

Layla, Lina, and Rory, you three will sell the body parts the group has acquired and use the coins to buy pills and potions.

Sarah, Casey, and Onyx will sell the useless pills and potions. You will use the coins you receive to buy food and support items.

I'll visit the local blacksmith association and do some shopping."

The group accepted Vicente's orders, and each went off to complete the mission he had given them.

Left alone, Vicente soon made his way to the blacksmith association building.

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"Mr. Fuller, wait a moment. We'll have your order ready in two minutes." Said a beautiful woman in the most important area of the association building in the city.

Vicente thought he'd face some resistance to get what he wanted there. Still, from what he heard from the blonde woman in front of him, the top echelon of the association had issued an order to all its ranks, giving everyone with the slightest qualification access to study materials.

Something that had previously required Vicente to make friends with the council elders of each association post had changed. He was able to get the books of the 5th stage after only proving that he was at the peak of the 4th stage.

While waiting for his materials, he asked the beautiful woman dressed like a secretary. "Miss, what's going on in the city? I'm from the south of the continent, so I don't know what's happening."

"Oh, about that, our monarch and the city's strongest left four weeks ago to join the Magician's Alliance to fight the monsters... But since then, none of them have returned, and there's no news of them.

We ordinary people still have no information to confirm their deaths. But I'm afraid that the royal family is hiding the truth so that the whole state doesn't panic." She said in an extremely pessimistic tone.

"I can see that. It's a shame." Vicente sighed. "I imagine the elders of this association have also left with the king."

"Yes, unfortunately. That's why we fear this scenario even more." The blonde stated. Her elders would only stop sending messages if the worst happened.

She added. "The remaining blacksmiths in the city are trying to communicate with the association's headquarters, but so far, no one has gotten any results. I fear that not only the elders of our rank have disappeared."

"Times are changing, unfortunately," Vicente remarked to her before another person brought him the books and parchments he had requested.

Meanwhile, Torne commented to him. 'It is very likely that all the Paragons and Archmages of the magical race will be killed soon, master. There are many 4th stage vampires on the continent, but there are very few Paragons. As far as I know, there shouldn't be any Archmages in such a race.

If they succeeded in their plans to create the first Archmage of their race, the first thing they would do would be to eliminate all the 5th and 6th stage experts of the continent.

Once most of these experts were killed, it would only be a matter of time before the 4th stage vampires would carry out their plans to dominate your race.'

'I can imagine. Fortunately, I'm still only a Sovereign. Otherwise, we'd be in their sights as well.' Vicente thought about the great opportunity he had because he wasn't a Paragon yet.

He then thanked the people of the association before heading out to buy some supplies in the center of the city.

But as he walked to the next shop, Torne suddenly pointed out the aura of someone they knew.

But Vicente didn't have time to react when Miss Death's feminine voice suddenly reached his ears.

"Vicente Fuller." Miss Death said in a soft but happy tone. "Do you remember what I told you the last time we met?"

Vicente turned to see the woman, dressed in black and covered with a veil, accompanied by four men.

All of them, including Miss Death, were Sky Sovereigns!

"Miss Death..." He muttered, remembering how she had given him an ultimatum the last time they met.

Chapter 684 I'm Different?

"Miss Death, you said you would hunt me down if I refused to join your group. That's what I remember." Vicente said as he looked darkly at the five people.

"It is good that you remember. Then answer me, what's it going to be?" She asked as a book of darkness formed before her, with her four pentagrams taking shape.

Of these four pentagrams, only one deviated from the usual configuration for Sovereigns, the first one, which was no longer red but orange.

Vicente saw this woman's evolution and made his own pentagrams appear, revealing his frightening configuration with one yellow and two green pentagrams.

Even with one less pentagram, Vicente's magical pressure was even more significant than Miss Death's, and immediately, her four helpers did the same, revealing their pentagrams.

Meanwhile, the people at the edge of the street began to run, feeling the powerful magical fluctuations of these six individuals.

"Miss Death, I'm different now. Do you think you can force me to do anything? I'm afraid you won't be able to do what you want now." He expressed in a confident tone.

Miss Death's men made ugly expressions as they cursed Vicente.

But Miss Death smiled secretly. 'I really like you.' She thought to herself, liking Vicente's persistence.

"Why are you being so impertinent, Vicente?" She asked him as she motioned for her men not to move. "Would it be so bad if you came with me? Do you think I can't be at your side?"

"What I'm not interested in is joining Nixlas' Shadows. I'd rather die than willingly join that damned group!" Vicente said firmly.

"Wretch!"

"Wash your mouth when you talk about our sect!"

"Oh? I see you resent my group." Miss Death spoke calmly. "But we can work on that. I don't like to brag, but I have a very good position in the sect. If you agree to join us, I would kill the person who made you hate our group so much." She offered as she gestured, still holding her Book of Death in front of her.

"Is that so? Then give me Atticus Martin's head!" Vicente said with a provocative smile.

Miss Death completely changed the expression on her beautiful face. Atticus Martin was the name of the sect's master, an Archmage!

Even if she was willing to betray her master, she wasn't, she could never kill that man now.

"Daring!"

"Do you dare to say such blasphemous things in front of us, Vicente Fuller?" One of the men asked hatefully.

Vicente laughed. "Miss Death, I'm not interested in dealing with your group right now. The Purification is here, so I don't want to have to kill members of my race.

Get out of my way!"

The five members of Nixlas' Shadows felt Vicente's pressure and the metals in their bodies threatening them.

"Speaking of The Purification, that's another reason to join us, Vicente." She insisted. "Few organizations on the continent have the slightest chance of surviving this disaster. That's not the case with Nixlas' Shadows. If you join my group, we can thrive and grow amid disaster!" She smiled from under her veil.

"Vicente, I can protect you. I can guarantee your family's continuity!" She said in a louder tone.

"Have I not already told you to get out of my way, woman?" Vicente moved as metal objects attacked the woman's companions.

"Shit!"

They didn't have much of a chance to react as they had to fend off Vicente's attacks.

In an instant, he stepped in front of Miss Death and placed a hand on her neck.

Miss Death felt Vicente's movement and shivered as she realized how strong he was.

A hateful look formed on her beautiful face, and she said. "If you are not going to join me, then there is no need for you to stay alive!"

Shadows of darkness exploded from her Book of Death as corrupted souls emerged and positioned themselves in front of her to protect her from Vicente.

She didn't waver to write Vicente's name in her book, regretting that she had to do so but preferring it to have an enemy like him.

"Goodbye, Vicente Fuller." She finished writing his name.

At that moment, everyone in Aldoria City suddenly felt something, as a terrifying and extremely negative aura came over the place.

The day suddenly gave way to night, while the elements associated with darkness suddenly concentrated in the city, causing other elements to move away from the area.

The temperature dropped, and strong winds formed, causing even Vicente's companions in other parts of the city to feel goosebumps on their bodies.

"Audacity!" A mysterious and extremely powerful voice emerged from inside Vicente's body as all the shadows of the corrupted souls from the Book of Death disappeared.

Black flames appeared above Vicente's name in Miss Death's Book of Death, erasing his name from that deadly weapon.

A throne of darkness formed behind Vicente, causing the five nearby Dark Path magicians to completely lose control of their powers.

They couldn't help but prostrate themselves before him!

Facing Vicente, they felt what it was like to face someone of greater elemental purity, to feel the power of elemental suppression.

Without realizing or understanding what was happening, they all fainted, losing consciousness before the Throne of Darkness.

Half of the city would faint in the face of Vicente's current powers, with the consciousness of his second Magic Gem reappearing after a long time without showing itself.

Even Torne, within Vicente's consciousness, trembled at it, sensing how strong this power had become with his master's growth.

"The master is already capable of fighting High-level Paragons when he can actively use this power!" Torne thought to himself, feeling the urgency for them to add pentagrams to such a magical form.

Meanwhile, Vicente was fully conscious and looked at Miss Death and the four now unconscious individuals.

"You gave me a chance once when you could have made things very difficult for me. I'm going to do the same with you. I'll let you live today. But if I meet you again, I'll do the same thing you told me back then. I'll hunt you down, Miss Death!"

Having said that, Vicente turned his back on this group of Dark Path magicians and left to complete his objectives.

'Be quick, master. I'm afraid you'll get into trouble if you stay in this city for more than an hour.' Torne warned him, knowing something like Vicente's true power would attract the attention of powerful creatures, be they monsters or magicians.

Vicente was aware of it and quickened his pace, not taking long to send orders to his group to get ready to leave the city in 40 minutes!

Chapter 685 Leaving the Presses of Aldoria City

A few dozen minutes later, Vicente and his group reunited as they left Aldoria City together.

"What happened?" Rory was the first to ask, imagining that something related to the surreal phenomenon of moments before was behind his friend's warning.

A few minutes ago, the entire city had been shrouded in darkness, and even the magicians of the Light Path felt oppressed as if they were in the presence of a being of superior purity.

What's more, such a being seemed to have the power of a Paragon!

They were all terrified by this aura and only left the places where they were because of Vicente's orders. But while they had moved, even after the aura appeared, all of the city's Sovereigns were hiding in their houses or shops.

Those below the 4th stage were passed out all over the city, which certainly made it easier for them to leave.

Vicente said, hiding what he had just done. "I'm not sure. I saw Miss Death and her group a few moments ago. They seemed to have run into someone... As soon as I noticed the problem, I sent them this warning.

I don't know what's going on, but we'd better go."

"Miss Death?" Lina asked, surprised that this woman was so far south of the continent. "I wonder why she's here? Her sect is in the north, and considering the current moment, she should be in seclusion in her sect."

"That is indeed strange," Layla commented. "And considering her power, she'd be very useful to stop monsters that might attack her sect... What Nixlas' Shadow is up to?"

Vicente heard this and realized how strange the situation was. He hadn't thought about it before because he was worried about stopping Miss Death. But when he thought about it, it was really strange.

'Those girls are right. It's not normal for someone like her to be in this area. This woman has the potential to become a Paragon and one of the great bastions of magical society in no time.'

As much as the south is generally safer for lesser magicians, that's not the case for someone from a Dark Path sect, master. The Dark Path magicians are especially powerful against monsters. With the right barriers, not even a 6th-stage vampire would be able to infiltrate a sect from our path.

That's why the best place for Miss Death would be her headquarters.'

'She's probably on some kind of mission... But I'm afraid it's not to fight the monsters.'

Vicente thought about it and commented. "She could be taking care of Nixlas' Shadow business in the midst of the crisis. The damned sect could be going after past problems while the whole continent is weakened."

"I hope that's not the case... What if she goes after Nina?" Rory worried.

"Impossible. And if she is, there's a Paragon in Grandis. She might have bigger problems than she thinks she can handle." Vicente commented confidently that such a man wouldn't let Nina be taken by someone like Miss Death.

"Is that true?" Casey asked in surprise.

Lina saw that Vicente knew about the person in charge of the king's security, seeing the relationship between her father and this guy went deeper than she knew.

"Let's not worry about it. I think Miss Death and her group have bigger problems to worry about." Vicente commented. "Did you manage to sell and buy some of the resources we talked about earlier?"

"I managed to sell everything we had. But I only bought half of what we could have bought." Rory said.

Casey commented. "I managed to sell everything we had and get all the items we were interested in. As much as some of the vendors went into hiding after the last aura, I took the liberty of breaking into a few stores and grabbing what we needed."

Rory looked at the man with the long black hair. "You..."

"No." Casey smiled. "I took what we needed and left coins instead of those items. The owners of those establishments didn't lose anything."

"Good," Vicente commented. "That's enough for now. But we'll stop at the last city on our way before we leave the Kingdom of Aldoria. We'll buy what we need there."

Then, we'll cross the border into the Kingdom of Eternal Dawn. By then, we'll be very close to the area where you can hunt your pentagram, Casey."

"I'm looking forward to it."

The group was soon far from Aldoria City, while the people in the city were still mostly unconscious.

Only those Sovereigns against whom Vicente hadn't acted earlier were conscious in this metropolis. But even though they were the only ones conscious, none of them wanted to leave their places, too afraid to risk it after the terrifying aura from earlier.

Meanwhile, Lauren and her group were still unconscious in the place where Vicente had acted against them.

In the midst of this, the blind woman was having nightmares, something she hadn't had for several years.

Perhaps because she had encountered a form of darkness greater than her own, something in her changed at that moment, making her remember certain traumatic events.

'Mother!'

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As Vicente and his group traveled north, the first two months of The Purification passed.

While most of the continent remained in the dark about what was happening in the north, Damien Bloodthorne, the leader of Demonix, continued his murderous mission across the continent.

After reaching the 6th stage by sacrificing the elders of his tribe, the strongest vampire in the Polaris Realm did what he had planned for millennia.

Having fought some of the strongest magicians in the Magicians' Alliance and visited every vampire clan in the Ivory Desert, the Archmage was now on the hunt.

His goal? All the Archmages of the continent's magicians community!

Once he had wiped out all these 6th-stage magicians, he would go after the Paragons. They were the only ones who could stand in his way, so he had just begun this hunt.

But Damien was in a very good mood. The day the continent's coalition of experts had attacked him weeks ago, he had already killed a large number of the continent's Paragons and Archmages!

But today, he was going after a special enemy!

Upon arriving in the Vinia Empire, this pale-skinned, red-eyed creature opened his mouth and licked his lips.

"City of Angels, here I come." He made his way to the headquarters of the Congregation of Revelations, eager to taste blood and collect some of the magical essence of the strongest beings in that organization so that his clan could become even stronger!

Thus began what would come to be known as the Profane Twilight, the beginning of a time of terror for the continent!

Chapter 686 Hunt Plan

While events that would change the continent's history forever were unfolding at the hands of Damien Bloodthorne, several weeks had passed since Vicente and his party passed through the capital of the Kingdom of Aldoria.

In those weeks, they encountered more beasts along the way. But the beasts weren't as chaotic as some of their opponents had been between their passage through Chutha Dynastia and the Kingdom of Aldoria.

The Seven-Day Tsunami was over. And even though the magical beings would continue to be affected by the phenomenon for some time after those days, their strength and restlessness diminished with each passing day.

Weeks after The Seven-Day Tsunami, all the magical beings on the continent had returned to normal.

There were still many magical creatures, especially monsters, in the south of the continent. They wanted to stay away from the northern region in the short term, even though they were no longer so worried about the effects of The Seven-Day Tsunami.

Therefore, instead of encountering fewer of these creatures, Vicente encountered more and more groups of monsters on his journey north.

His group had fought ten times in the Kingdom of Aldoria, but with Lina's innate foresight, they had faced each enemy with relative peace of mind.

Even though they had encountered groups composed mostly of late 4th stage creatures, they had successfully eliminated the problems in their path until they reached the border between the Kingdom of Aldoria and the Kingdom of Eternal Dawn.

After crossing the border between the two kingdoms without a hitch, the group was finally on its way to the area of its first hunt.

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According to the information Vicente had received from the Seidel family, there were two places in the Kingdom of Eternal Dawn where his group could hunt for pentagrams and cultivation opportunities.

The first was Crystal Creek Falls, a mountainous region full of waterfalls and rivers in the central part of the Kingdom of Eternal Dawn. The second was on the northwestern border of that state, a place called the Hot Wasteland.

The Hot Wasteland was an area of great interest to Layla, as it was the natural home of the Arcane Falcons, the fastest race on the continent. A member of this race at the 1st stage of cultivation could fly at a speed of over 400 kilometers per hour. But a peak 4th or early 5th stage being, like the one Layla had to hunt, could fly up to 25 times faster!

In addition to being the natural habitat of Layla's target, the Hot Wasteland also provided cultivation opportunities for magical creatures of the Dark Path. At one end of this area was an interesting place for negative beings, where Vicente wanted to go to collect opportunities for Onyx and Torne.

After the Hot Wasteland, the group wanted to cross the border from the Kingdom of Eternal Dawn to the Hungry Canyon, a high-level domain in the center-north of the continent, where Torne said it would be interesting for the group to hunt for Lina's pentagram and search for resources in the area.

According to the ghost, there were many ruins of great organizations of the past in this area, where they might be able to find artifacts and resources of value even to Paragons.

The group's penultimate stop would be the Pure Enclave, where, according to Lina's family, there were cultivation opportunities for those with Vicente, Sarah, and Rory's elemental affinities. There, they planned to hunt the pentagrams of the latter two and cultivate for a while before moving on to hunt Vicente's pentagram.

As for Vicente's hunting ground, the Seidel family had recommended that he hunt his pentagram in the Pure Enclave, but Torne didn't think Vice would have any luck finding a cyan pentagram in that area. He had recommended that his master go to one of the states in the northern region of the continent, where they would surely find 6th-stage magical creatures.

Anyway, the journey to Vicente's pentagram could take months, so the group focused on just reaching Crystal Creek Falls, which they could reach in another 10 days' journey.

But Casey was already preparing for his hunt for Borbormyst, a type of magical butterfly whose powers were particularly compatible with his own. Members of this race were known for their illusionary abilities as well as their mental strength.

For someone with a mental ability, a pentagram coming from a member of such a race would make a lot of sense to Casey.

Borbormyst wasn't particularly powerful physically, but its members were powerful mentally. Casey's battle would be through his mental powers.

By stopping to meditate today in the middle of the area his group was passing through, Casey was simulating what his battle with the being he would soon be hunting would be like.

While he was doing this, he was sweating like he was in a sauna, with most of his group distracted from him but with Vicente and Lina watching him.

She commented to Vicente. "What do you think of Casey's hunt? I've been sensing something strange with each passing day."

"What do you mean?" Vicente asked in a worried tone.

Lina explained. "I think something bad is about to happen. My ability isn't that precise when it comes to things far in the future. So sometimes I just get a feeling.

For the last six days, I've been feeling a bad feeling growing inside of me. I have a feeling that we will be in mortal danger before or shortly after the hunt for Casey's pentagram."

"Can you give me more details?" Vicente turned serious, having already been helped by Lina's abilities a few times on this journey.

"Not yet. But when we go hunting for his pentagram, I'll have a better chance to understand the danger behind this feeling."

"All right. Keep an eye on it for me." Vicente commented before answering her. "But this feeling of yours is probably normal. We're getting further and further north of the continent, and the purification must already be showing its results.

I expected to face mortal dangers on our journey. But I'll try to be more vigilant from now on."

"Hmm, I'll do the same." She said before turning her attention to the surroundings.

Vicente, on the other hand, soon closed his eyes and meditated to regain his energy and further improve his elemental affinity. He was already at the absolute peak of the 4th stage. All he needed to reach the 5th stage was understanding.

He could achieve this through meditation, special resources, or his next pentagram!

Meanwhile, his first pentagram was beginning to show green lines on itself, while the second pentagram hadn't changed that much.

Even though his first pentagram had evolved more often, it was natural for it to grow faster at first because it was of lower quality at first. But as it became more compatible with Vicente's other pentagrams, its rate of evolution would slow down.

Vicente and his group would stay there for a day until the next day when they would move on to Casey's area of interest, where they would arrive after a little over a week of travel!

Chapter 687 Crystal Creek Falls

After several more days of travel, Vicente's group finally arrived near Crystal Creek Falls.

Situated within a deep valley enclosed by towering cliffs and thick forests, Crystal Creek Falls earned its name from a spectacular waterfall that cascades through the valley. Here, the crystalline water glistens under the sunlight, lending an ethereal beauty to the landscape.

The air in this area is thick with magic, almost palpable, manifesting in the form of shimmering particles that swirl around the trees and boulders. Along the banks of the winding stream that runs through the valley, translucent crystals are scattered, emitting a gentle blue glow. These crystals are known to possess magical properties fueled by mana.

Due to the abundance of resources and mana, this area, covering half the size of Scott Province, serves as a haven for various magical creatures.

As the group entered Crystal Creek Falls, they paused to absorb the tranquil yet promising atmosphere that surrounded them.

Seeing the tall, majestic trees with their leaves glowing in vibrant hues, Casey felt a sense of excitement, knowing they were nearing their destination.

However, Lina appeared serious, sensing that danger was looming closer than ever.

Noticing her demeanor, Vicente whispered, "Do you sense anything new?"

"More or less. But it's undeniable that we're closer to danger than ever," she replied, her body tense with anticipation. "I believe we'll encounter trouble in this area, Vicente. If not here, then shortly after we leave. I'm certain of it."

"Understood. I'll prepare," he reassured her, giving her shoulder a comforting squeeze before turning to Layla and Onyx, their expert trackers.

"You two will lead the search for Borbormyst's tracks, with the rest of us following closely," he instructed, turning to Lina. "Try to anticipate what may occur in the next few minutes. We'll rely on your ability to expedite things."

Lina possessed Premonitory Intuition, a unique power allowing her to passively sense events and actively foresee the future with remarkable clarity. With this ability, she could anticipate forthcoming events and make split-second decisions to avoid potential dangers.

That made her an invaluable asset to any team, capable of steering them away from perilous situations. Moreover, her foresight prowess extended to combat, enabling her to prepare for attacks and defenses effectively.

Despite her lack of combat-oriented powers from the pentagram, Lina compensated with proficient fighting techniques, offensive spells, and strategic prowess, making her one of the most skilled individuals in the Seidel Kingdom, capable of holding her own against adversaries of similar caliber.

What's more, she and all of Vicente's companions wore the 4th-grade, 100% efficient robotic armor he had made.

Lina nodded to Vicente before the group followed Layla and Onyx.

Layla's strength was her extremely high speed. She wasn't a natural tracker. But by moving fast, she could quickly analyze almost everything in a given space.

As for Onyx, he wasn't as fast as her, but he was the most cultivated of the group. His senses were the sharpest, so if there were any traces of a Borbormyst nearby, he would be the first to sense it.

Thus, the group embarked on their quest to locate Casey's next pentagram, specifically targeting individuals of that origin who had ascended to the pinnacle of the 4th stage and the threshold of the 5th stage.

Hunting formidable adversaries initially proved less challenging. Why? The pentagram hunt typically comprised two stages: target identification and engagement.

In the pursuit of weaker entities, their abundance posed a dilemma. Due to their sheer numbers, attempting to pinpoint them using aura detection was akin to discerning a blue metal sphere within a bucket teeming with metal spheres of various hues based solely on their metallic properties.

The multitude of beings boasting comparable cultivation levels rendered the search for lower-tier targets a daunting endeavor indeed!

But that wasn't the case with more powerful creatures. For example, when searching for a Paragon, the chances of the group going straight to the target would be very high because even in the most powerful places on the continent, there were few such creatures.

Even though there were more Paragons among the magical beings capable of forming pentagrams than among the beings that absorbed them, there still weren't many of them.

While an area half the size of Scott Province in this central region of the continent might have had 5 to 10 Paragons of the human race before the Purification, such an area would have had 15 to 25 Paragons of the various common magical races in the region.

That was a lot more than the members of the human race, but it wasn't so much that one who was looking for a being of that stage would have to disregard the search for the target's cultivation.

It was precisely because of this that the group's search for their target would be much faster than other hunts they had done in the past.

After only three hours of searching for a member of the Borbormyst race, the group found their first one, a large, colorful butterfly with a peak cultivation of the 4th stage.

Looking at it from a distance, Lina shook her head negatively. "It only has a yellow pentagram."

The group sighed when they heard this. They were all looking for a green pentagram, the ideal for someone at the 4th stage except for Vicente.

Green pentagrams could be found on 4th stage magical beings. However, for every 10 pentagram-forming magical beings who reached the peak of the 4th stage, only 2 would form green pentagrams. All the others would have yellow magical essences.

Only one magical being at the beginning of the 5th stage was guaranteed to have a green pentagram!

The group didn't go any closer to that being but went back to look for another member of that race that was closer to them.

Since they had already found one of these butterflies, finding the second one wouldn't be difficult. With another hour and a half of searching, they would reach a new destination!

This time, however, they would encounter a Low-level Paragon!

Chapter 688 Battling the 5th Stage Borbormyst?

The group paused as they stumbled upon the 5th-stage Borbormyst butterfly, taking a moment to observe its graceful flight while Lina delved into the future, her three pentagrams glowing in anticipation.

The butterfly fluttered gracefully above one of the many trees dotting the area, trailing behind it a vibrant mist that danced in harmony with the gentle flapping of its wings.

Though it was the size of Onyx, its slender frame marked it as an insect rather than an animal like the black-feathered creature.

Its wings bore intricate spiral patterns, each swirl a mesmerizing display of color. Atop its head sat two long antennae resembling human legs in length.

Even as the group spotted it, the butterfly seemed to sense their presence, redirecting its attention toward them.

"Let's proceed cautiously," Lina advised after a moment's contemplation. "Our primary concern is its poison. Once infected, our minds will become vulnerable, leaving us defenseless.

While its physical strength may not match other beings at its level, a weakened state would render us susceptible to its fatal attacks.

However, victory is within reach if we can avoid its poison."

Vicente looked at Casey and said, "I will weaken it for you. Use the armor's powers together with our allies. But you must wait for its moment of weakness. When it's vulnerable, use your mental power to kill it however you can."

"Okay." Casey nodded as he felt his heart quicken.

Vicente motioned to Rory and Layla. "Prepare the area so she can't escape. Make a circle of flames around us."

Rory could not only combine his skills with Vicente but also with Layla. Specifically, he could use his explosive ability to quickly generate violent flames by using this woman's speed.

As soon as Vicente ordered them, they moved away from the group to form a barrier of flames around the area.

Meanwhile, Vicente moved forward toward the giant insect while the rest of his group moved more slowly in the same direction.

Vicente brought out his pentagrams, altering the electromagnetic fields in the area while casting a long-range spell.

A huge fist of lightning formed not far from the butterfly and struck at it. At the same time, several weapons formed near Vicente before aiming at the creature.

Despite its huge body, the butterfly had far fewer metals in its body composition than beasts of the same size. Moreover, it was a Low-level Paragon, so Vicente couldn't affect it in the same way that he could affect creatures at the 4th stage.

He didn't try to affect the inside of the creature's body but rather attacked it with powerful attacks that could injure it.

Even though Vicente was only at the end of the 4th stage, Torne estimated that his master could fight Low-level Paragons on equal terms!

Unless he encountered a being with a talent or mastery similar to that of a cyan-talented being, he should be able to fight Low-level Paragons with his first magical form at his current level.

As soon as the battle began in the special area in the central part of the continent, he demonstrated this to his companions and to himself.

As soon as his first attacks came close to those creatures, it had to protect itself by dodging or using its elongated wings to defend itself. These were attacks it couldn't ignore!

After the first wave of attacks, Vicente got closer to the creature as metal stakes flew into the environment under his control, heading for the creature's wings.

He couldn't be the one to kill or seriously injure this butterfly. The only one who could do that was Casey; otherwise, he wouldn't be able to absorb the pentagram the insect was forming.

So Vicente tried to hit the wings of his opponent, imagining that this would immobilize the creature and make it easier for all his companions to see.

As soon as he did this, his companions got close enough and immediately began to use their armor functions to try to force the butterfly to stay still.

Feeling that it might die if it didn't take these attacking magicians as mortal enemies, it quickly used its special escape technique.

The mist around it shimmered, and then suddenly, its body shrank 100 times before it flapped its wings and quickly changed position.

When its body returned to normal size, it was already very close to Vicente's companions, ready to unleash its poisonous powder on them.

Lina sensed the giant insect's action against them and didn't hesitate to channel her mana into a special spell.

Aqua Sphere!

Using her affinity for the element of water, she quickly formed a giant water ball and threw it at the butterfly.

Lina acted at the ideal moment, from the best angle of attack. Immediately after her attack, the creature couldn't help but let out a strange scream, caught off guard by this hard-to-

avoid attack.

Instead of hitting it like a stone and throwing it away, the water ball went through it until half of its body was surrounded by water.

The butterfly would have to work for a few seconds to escape, but before it had the chance, it was already falling from the sky while Vicente and the others in the area were working against it.

Vicente's metal stakes finally reached the creature's wings, while the suppressive power generated by each of the surrounding armors fell upon the insect.

The moment it hit the ground, Lina's water sphere broke apart. Still, its wings were already pinned down by the stakes, as Onyx, Sarah, Casey, and Lina used the robotic armor to immobilize it.

Even though their power was equal to that of the peak Sovereigns, they managed to stop the butterfly momentarily as it trembled and tried to escape them.

At that moment, Casey's three pentagrams condensed in his third eye as he finally attacked his target.

Vicente seized the moment and unleashed a deadly attack, forming a giant axe and then casting a spell to create a lightning giant to attack the creature.

The attack power of this axe attacking giant was so high that the butterfly couldn't be bothered with Casey. It used much of what it had to form a physical barrier around itself to avoid being killed by this attack.

'That is your chance, Casey. Kill it quickly.' Vicente thought with a smile on his face.

Chapter 689 Casey's 4th Pentagon

When the lightning giant was about to strike the butterfly with a massive metal axe, the weapon crumbled as if it were made of flowers, reaching the butterfly's defensive barrier but posing no threat.

Unfortunately for the 5th stage butterfly, it had already expended much of its mana in defense. By the time it realized its error, Casey had already infiltrated its mind, beginning to erode its mental structures.

Casey was only an Earth Sovereign, while this beast was a Low-level Paragon. However, even a Paragon would be in a delicate situation if they casually accepted the full-powered attack of a magician like this guy with long black hair.

Casey had no small talent and could fight those up to a level stronger than himself. The moment he entered his opponent's mind, he specifically targeted the parts of his opponent's mind that were responsible for the creature's fighting ability.

By dismantling its fundamental structures that would make the creature more cautious around potential threats, he caused it to shriek in pain, its cries revealing an eerie insect-like voice.

Meanwhile, all of Casey's companions in the area used the mana in their armor or individual powers to force the creature to the ground.

The large butterfly trembled as it tried to get up from where it had fallen. But with the power of the armor that Vicente had created and the metals that the young man had placed around its body, the creature had no way to escape.

In the midst of this, Vicente's third pentagram glowed as he made Casey's job easier by sending out weaker mental attacks, but ones capable of distracting the creature's mind from the main attacks.

Feeling this as his entire body began to shake from the exhaustion of his mana, Casey took his final step, using a firearm charged with the rest of his mana.

Bang!

He fired, having already subdued the creature's mind, only one step away from killing it.

The shot rang out, and in a single instant, everyone saw the creature's head damaged by a 4th-grade bullet, which opened a noticeable wound in the creature's head.

Seeing this, Casey drew a sword from his spatial ring and lunged at the butterfly.

He reached the creature's wound and used his sword to pierce the creature's body through the wound.

As soon as he removed his weapon from the enemy's body, all of the creature's muscles relaxed as its aura began to dissipate.

Seeing the creature's black blood on his sword, Casey fell to his knees on the ground, extremely exhausted.

"Hah... Hah... Hah..." He took a shaky breath but couldn't help but put an exuberant smile on his face.

"I did it!" He muttered as Vicente and the others stopped suppressing the creature and immediately turned their attention to their surroundings.

"Take a recovery potion and start absorbing his pentagram immediately," Vicente told Casey, who promptly did as he was told.

Three minutes after the battle ended, Casey sat in a lotus position over the dead beast's body and began to absorb the pentagram it had created.

A vibrant green essence emerged from that body, and Casey's companions, who didn't yet have an essence of that color, couldn't help but anticipate the moment when they would receive the same as he did.

They were on the hunt, so it wouldn't be long before their next targets were reached!

...

A few hours later, Casey finished his absorption, opened his eyes, and stood up from where he had been meditating while his colleagues recovered and secured the area.

As he did so, he revealed his four pentagrams to all present, showing how much he had grown after this absorption.

His Earth Sovereign aura increased enough for everyone to notice the improvement, probably saving him a few months on his journey to the next level.

But the most remarkable thing was his first pentagram, finally showing signs of progressing to orange!

Everyone congratulated Casey as he demonstrated his current configuration, happy for him, but also for the team, as someone like him with a new skill would help the team greatly on the journey ahead.

"You will probably advance your first pentagram when you become a Paragon. That's good; it will give you a new skill and make you much stronger," Vicente commented as he shook one of Casey's hands.

"I'm looking forward to it," Casey replied in a humorous tone, which was rare for someone as serious as him.

"Anyway, since you're done, it's time to go," Vicente told the group. "Let's continue our journey to the Hot Wasteland. There, some of us may find opportunities to improve our strength."

The Hot Wasteland was of particular interest to several of them. It was vast, with a variety of hard-to-explore areas that made the region famous for its special resources hidden in the most unimaginable places.

The place was hazardous, but if one accepted the dangers and decided to explore, it would not be difficult for even Sovereigns to find opportunities for advancement.

There, they would hunt for Layla's Pentagram, as well as cultivation resources for Torne and Onyx, since the area also had a remarkably interesting section for Dark Path creatures.

With this place in mind, the group left the area shortly after Casey collected the remains of the 5th-stage butterfly.

They were all recovered from the previous battle, so they simply left within minutes of Vicente's decision.

...

Meanwhile, to the north of the Kingdom of Eternal Dawn, a man dressed in a Congregation of Revelations robe was flying rapidly south.

This individual was not just any member of that religion but a 5th-stage Sacred Devotee, someone even stronger than the beast Vicente's group had just faced.

As he flew south, he wore a serious expression, reflecting on the last mission he had received before fleeing from the northern part of the continent, where Demien Bloodthorne was slaughtering 6th and 5th stage magicians.

He wisely set out to complete such a mission where he could hide!

He was devoted to his organization, but frankly, he saw no value in his death. If he stayed alive, he could do much more for the continent's largest magicians organization!

'I will change everything when I find this Dark Path magician,' he thought to himself as he flew toward his target.

'You tried to hide by deleting your data from my organization, but you made a mistake, hehe.' A strange smile appeared on the man's face as he looked at what appeared to be a tracker map showing the real-time location of his target.

His target was in the Kingdom of Eternal Dawn, coming towards him!

Chapter 690 Enemy on the Road

Twenty days later...

Vicente and his group had made good progress on their journey north, having successfully overcome the creatures and challenges along their path.

The effects of The Seven-Day Tsunami had completely vanished, and with many beings on the continent fearing The Purification, the route through the Polaris Realm was now exceptionally clear.

Furthermore, with Casey's fourth pentagram, which endowed him with the ability to alter the temporal perception of his targets, the whole group had grown stronger.

Casey's ability allowed him to make his targets feel that time was passing more or less slowly. He could also induce his targets to behave in more immature ways, reminiscent of their childhood, making them feel as if they were reliving different times in their lives.

How did this help in combat? Well, anything that could delay defensive or offensive reactions, distract opponents and make them weaker helped a lot in any situation.

Not only that but when a magician added a new essence to their magical form, all the others became stronger, even if they didn't evolve qualitatively.

In a way, their magical foundation became more solid and reliable with more pentagrams.

In short, the group had overcome all the challenges in their path and had come much closer to their next destination, the Hot Wasteland.

Today, the group was only a week away from their destination, and they were currently flying toward the northwestern border of the Kingdom of Eternal Dawn.

...

It was late at this point, and the brightness of the day was gradually fading as night approached the area they were passing through.

A few dozen meters below them, a vast forest of sparse woods and grassy fields stretched as far as the eye could see.

Magical creatures of the first four levels of magic could be seen here in droves, but most of them did not move very far from where they lived.

Still, weaker and less rational creatures roamed the area and sometimes got into trouble, which was natural in areas like this.

Vicente's group obviously wouldn't run into anything like that on their way. One big advantage the Sovereigns had over weaker magicians was their ability to fly.

Because they could fly, they could easily avoid problems with several special creatures in forests like the one they were passing through now.

But that didn't mean they were completely free of trouble!

As they flew toward the northwest, the group spotted a colorful dot approaching rapidly from the north.

After observing it for a few seconds, they realized it was someone traveling through the skies just like them.

However, Torne soon alerted his master, "This is a Mid-level Paragon, master. Be careful."

At the same time, Layla couldn't help but narrow her eyes at the sight of this person she didn't know. She couldn't help but recognize the uniform, which was similar to the one she wore on duty.

"This is a member of the Congregation of Revelations," she murmured to the group, indicating the individual's identity. "A 5th-stage Sacred Devotee!"

"What's a Paragon from your organization doing here?" Casey asked, assuming that the strongest on the continent would be up north fighting vampires.

"Only he can answer that. A lowly Sacred Devotee like me would have no way of knowing," she replied, looking curiously at the elderly-looking man who was approaching them rapidly.

"Get ready to fight," Vicente warned his group, prompting everyone to give him a puzzled look.

Layla clenched her fists and was the only one to ask. "What are you talking about?"

"I have a bad feeling about meeting this man. I hope I'm wrong, Layla. But if I'm right, we need to be prepared. So, get ready," he said, as his companions heightened their alertness in preparation for a possible confrontation.

But before they could get close enough to communicate with the man, Lina warned, "This is the problem. That's what I've been sensing for the last few weeks, Vicente."

Vicente's expression grew serious as he instructed, "Casey, share Lina's prediction with all of us."

One of Casey's special abilities was to transmit memories simultaneously to whomever he chose.

That ability could range from sharing an old memory of someone with someone else to even making you "feel" the same thing that someone else was feeling.

In this particular case, Vicente wanted Lina to predict what was about to happen and Casey to transmit to everyone else every single thing she saw during the meeting that was about to take place.

Lina and Casey immediately began to use their powers, making their pentagrams appear as their group stopped flying toward their destination.

Not long after that, the Mid-level Paragon flying toward them stopped just after getting close enough to the group to talk to them.

Seeing the faces of these Sovereigns, he couldn't help but smile at the sight of a group with so many prodigies.

But the one who caught his attention the most was the young man he was chasing, the one who had raised the alarm at his organization's headquarters weeks ago.

He locked eyes with Vicente and said, "Son, you tried to hide, but it was futile. However, I thank you for revealing the corruption within my organization."

"What are you talking about? What do you want?" Vicente asked, as Torne assumed a defensive position.

"What am I talking about? Don't play dumb, Dark Path magician! You tried to elude us, and you almost succeeded. But now I'm here to collect your essence!" the Mid-level Paragon declared, putting away the tracking item he had been using.

Vicente and his companions didn't know it, but all the Magic Gems from the Awakening Temples had little tracking devices on them!

Jasmine had erased Vicente's data from her organization to keep him out of trouble. Still, even she didn't know that her group had something else they could use to track magicians.

Vicente's Magic Gem had given off a disturbing signal, and so this Paragon's mission had been created.

Layla found the situation odd and said. "Senior, what are you talking about? I'm a member of the Congregation of Revelations. What do you mean by this contact?"

The old man glared at Layla with a look of disgust. "You reek of that Dark Path magician, girl. How dare you claim allegiance to my faith? Once he's dead, you'll answer for your treachery!"

"Kill me?" Vicente's frown deepened. "Why do you want to kill me? What have I done other than try to hide?"

"Tsk! You deceitful wretch!

You know exactly why! You're a demon from the shadows! Are you now planning to ally with the vampires and betray our continent?

It doesn't matter. Your dark powers are formidable. But I will end you here and now before you grow any stronger!" The old man said, concealing his true intentions.