

The First Order

- Chapter 1151 – 1158

Chapter 1151: Don't need anyone's protection

Actually, most people did not understand the battle tonight.

The group of knights from the Tudor family who attacked were led by a certain illegitimate son who harbored hopes of returning to the clan. The few hundred of them were divided into two teams. One team would suppress the caravan with their arrow fire and extensive mobility around the perimeter, while the other would remain hidden in the shadows, ready to attack at any moment.

They had come here extremely well-prepared this time, and everyone also analyzed the situation beforehand: The trade caravan's guards should all be from the Knights of the Inferno, but they were not riding proper warhorses. Furthermore, they were not wearing their heavy armor or carrying the Knights of the Inferno's armaments. Therefore, if the Knights of Tudor were to really charge in, the nearly 300 of them, who were equipped with warhorses and armaments, would be enough to defeat this trade caravan.

As for Melgor, they naturally had considerations for him as well. The illegitimate son had already made a meticulous plan after taking his men to scout the battlefield yesterday. Once they broke through into the camp, they would immediately surround Melgor and kill him.

At that time, even if Melgor could recite a few spell incantations, it would still be worth sacrificing a few lives in exchange for killing a sorcerer.

It was just like someone was holding a pistol, but as long as you rushed forward quickly enough with enough people, the threat of the pistol would not be able to affect the final victory.

However, grenades were a different thing.

Moreover, these were not normal grenades either. Not only could they be dropped without a trace, but they could also be stuffed into your hands or pockets from several hundred meters away!

Who could stand that?

When the battle started, Old Xu hid in the shadows and helped Ren Xiaosu locate the enemies' positions while Melgor pretended to recite incantations as a cover. When the grenades were thrown out one by one, the scales of battle tipped.

Ren Xiaosu did not intend to waste any more time. For a max-level account like him to come and seal club, it would be disrespectful to himself to waste any more time than necessary.

All of a sudden, the people from the Tudor family were so dazed by the explosions they did not even know how to put up a fight anymore.

Actually, the young man from the Tudor family also had an ace up his sleeve. His father had instructed him that if he did not succeed in the end, he should charge in and sacrifice himself.

As long as his illegitimate son died at the camp, his father could use the Bloodline Summoning spell to descend onsite and try to take Melgor's life as quickly as possible.

If it succeeded, the illegitimate son's father promised him that his name would be written into the genealogy book.

This might sound very absurd, but that illegitimate son was inexplicably excited. It was as though it were a very glorious thing for him to be included in the family tree.

However, he did not know that adding an illegitimate child's name to the genealogy book was not something his father could decide.

This was a lie. What was sad was that when the father lied to his son to send him to his death, there was no tinge of mercy at all.

In the end, their plan to kill Melgor did not succeed. The moment his illegitimate son died, his father tried to get summoned over with the Bloodline Summoning spell. But just as the ice sculpture's head was formed, it was blown away by a grenade that followed soon after.

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At this moment, Melgor was surrounded by a group of unaware companions. Everyone was commending him with every word of praise they could come up with, leaving him at a bit of a loss.

Someone even begged Melgor to tell them the details and explain that magical spell he cast. With that, Melgor became even more at a loss.

Melgor wanted to say he should be the one who most wanted to know what had happened!

And since Melgor did not know what was going on, he could only keep smiling until his face stiffened.

Throughout this, Qian Weining only thanked Melgor once for his hard work and did not ask any further questions.

In Qian Weining's eyes, this was just a battle between the Houses of Norman and Tudor. He was not willing to get involved for no reason.

There was only one thing on Vice President Qian's mind right now. How could he get rid of Melgor from the trade caravan?!

To him, Melgor was a ticking time bomb if he stayed with the caravan.

For example, more than 30 of his subordinates had died tonight, but Melgor was still fine as he was.

Qian Weining even wondered if all his subordinates would end up dead before they made it to Ghent City. He wondered if he should even give his all to ensure the mission would get completed? He might end up dying along the way too!

Amid the commotion, Ren Xiaosu leaned against the side of a carriage and looked at everyone with a smile. Suddenly, his gaze connected with the young sorceress, An'an. Then An'an quickly got into her carriage.

The middle-aged woman, Chen Jingshu, asked, "Did Melgor say anything?"

"No." An'an shook her head. "A lot of people are asking him about the sorcery he used, but he refused to explain."

An'an and her companions knew how to speak the language of the Magi since they learned it in their childhood, but they did not know what the incantation for the Boiling Airburst spell was. Meanwhile, Melgor recited it so quickly that An'an and Chen Cheng could not make out what he was saying.

Therefore, they could not confirm whether Boiling Airburst was really used.

"I didn't expect a junior sorcerer like him to be a hidden expert." Chen Jingshu muttered, "Could the House of Norman really be helping him from behind the scenes?"

"But we've investigated Melgor before. He's indeed just a fringe sorcerer. Even if the House of Norman had helped him, they couldn't raise a fringe sorcerer to become an archmage within two years, right? Aunt, what are your chances against Melgor?"

Chen Jingshu shook her head. "It's hard to say. His sorcery is extremely explosive. If I get hit by it, I'll either die or suffer serious injuries. It's too dangerous to fight against someone like that."

Of course, highly explosive spells were one of the reasons why the House of Norman could gain a foothold in the Kingdom of Sorcerers.

An'an muttered, "First, there was the appearance of the strange Ren Xiaosu, and now, a strange Melgor has shown up too. I keep getting the feeling that if this continues, we might not be able to reach Ghent City successfully. The people who came to kill Melgor are all from the House of Tudor. That clan never lets their smallest grievances go unanswered, so they'll probably send an archmage over the next time."

Chen Jingshu frowned in response. "It's very dangerous indeed."

"Why don't we split from the caravan first?" An'an said, "That Ren Xiaosu is also going to Ghent City, and he previously told you he wanted to leave the group as well, so why don't we wait for him there? When the time comes, we can send someone to wait at the city gate. We'll definitely spot him then."

Chen Jingshu pondered it for a moment before saying, "There's something I want to tell you all. We can't leave him behind now. If there's really danger, we have to protect him too!"

Chen Cheng and An'an did not know that the founder could make people cry, but Chen Jingshu did. In a situation like this, how could she abandon the suspected descendant of the founder and run away?

Next to them, Chen Cheng suddenly said, "But have you guys noticed that Ren Xiaosu looked very relaxed the entire time? I suspect he's actually waiting for those archmages to arrive."

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An'an carefully recalled the situation wherein Ren Xiaosu followed them in Vaduz City. That young man was not even anxious in a large city like that and managed to trap them inside the blacksmith's workshop in the end. Furthermore, he even had some extremely strange ways to track them down.

Chen Cheng's guess was actually very absurd. After all, who was so bored as to pit themselves against archmages? They were all masters who had practiced sorcery for 10 to 20 years and were extremely dangerous.

But for some reason, An'an suddenly felt that Chen Cheng might be correct.

Chen Cheng looked at An'an and Chen Jingshu and said, "I don't think he needs anyone's protection."

Chapter 1152: Handling the matter personally

In the dead of the night, while everyone else was asleep, Melgor suddenly asked, "How'd you do it?"

The spooked horses had already been calmed down by Qian Weining and his men. The entire camp was silent, so Melgor had to whisper to Ren Xiaosu.

Ren Xiaosu glanced at Melgor but did not answer his question. "What's your dream?"

"Dream?" Melgor was slightly taken aback. Ren Xiaosu was acting like his life coach.

"Yeah, your dream," Ren Xiaosu repeated.

"I don't have any dreams." Melgor said in a low voice, "When I was young, my greatest wish was for my father to stop gambling on stones and give up on his sorcerer dreams."

"Then did you talk to your father about it?" Ren Xiaosu asked.

"Yes, but he said that as long as there were no sorcerers in the family, the entire family's wealth would just be a bag of money others could easily take away from us." Melgor said in a low voice, "Of course, I also understand this principle. Power is the moat that protects one's wealth. Otherwise, it just slips away like sand in one's hand."

"Actually, the sales of the Eyes of True Sight are just a scam backed by the magus order." Ren Xiaosu sighed and said, "And it's specifically designed to target the middle class like you."

"Mhm, I understand that." Melgor said, "You asked me what my dreams are, but actually, I don't have any at all, nor do I have any ambitions. It's just that after becoming a sorcerer, I thought that this was an opportunity that my father had exchanged with his life, so I decided I had to make a name for myself no matter what."

Ren Xiaosu thought to himself, *'It's good that you don't have any dreams or ambitions. You're just the kind of talent that the Prosperous Northwest's branch is looking for.'*

"By the way, Ren Xiaosu, do you have any dreams?" Melgor asked in turn.

"Me?" Ren Xiaosu recalled for a moment and said with a laugh, "I don't have one either. In the past, I only wanted to help my little brother survive. But now, I want to lead a group of people to survive. I can't call it a dream. I'm more like the little guy going with the flow in this era. It's just that this era needed me, so I appeared."

In conclusion, Ren Xiaosu just drifted with the current for the past 19 years of his life. The places he went to were not places he wanted to go to but places he was forced to go.

He had no choice but to go to the Li Consortium, the Yang Consortium, the Central Plains, the Sacred Mountains, Mt. Zuoyun, and the Zhou Consortium. Only going to the Northwest was a decision he had made seriously on his own.

But what could he do about it? Even people like Qing Zhen, Luo Lan, and Yang Xiaojin, who hailed from prominent families, had their struggles in this era. It was already the blessing of a lifetime that a refugee like him could get to where he was today.

In this era, everyone had their own sorrows. The only thing everyone could do was to try their best to swim upstream while trying not to drown, all so they could struggle out of the water and get a breath of fresh air.

But most hopeless of all was that when you thought you were safe, the next wave might already be crashing down on you.

Melgor asked next, "What's your purpose in coming to the Kingdom of Sorcerers?"

Ren Xiaosu thought for a moment and answered, "Actually, it's fine even if I tell you. At the beginning, my goal was to destroy the Kingdom of Sorcerers. But after meeting you, I changed my mind. My plan now is to support you in governing the Kingdom of Sorcerers!"

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Melgor thought he must have fucking gone crazy to actually hear such an understated yet extremely aggressive reply from someone.

Melgor lowered his voice and roared, "Am I crazy or are you crazy? Destroy the Kingdom of Sorcerers? Support me in governing it? You know nothing about the power of those sorcerer clans!"

This time, Ren Xiaosu finally spoke his mind. He said with a smile, "You don't know anything about the Northwest's power either. Calculating the time, it's been almost a month since my people found out that I was held hostage. They should already be on their way."

Melgor was stunned. "Who?"

"Those who would like nothing more than to turn the entire Kingdom of Sorcerers upside down with me."

Melgor was stunned for a long time. He suddenly realized the conversation had gone back and forth and he still did not know how Ren Xiaosu had killed those people.

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In the darkness of the night, 200 enemy soldiers who attacked the trade caravan retreated unscathed. They rode their warhorses and sped northwards, bypassing all the main roads along the way. It was as though they had the power of clairvoyance as they narrowly avoided the sentries set up by the House of Winston.

These people had been lurking in the Winston family's territory for many years, so they naturally knew how the sorcerer clan would handle any unforeseen situations.

The leading rider stopped his horse in the mountains and said, "Dismount."

After that, the 200-odd knights jumped off their horses. Then they drew their daggers from their waists and stabbed their horses in the necks.

The sound of the horses collapsing could be heard. The soldiers were going to have to take the mountain route from here, and the horses could not take them. Rather than leaving these warhorses for the Winston family, they might as well be killed here.

As a matter of fact, a warhorse was extremely valuable in current times.

But most importantly, if they did not kill these warhorses, they would lead the Winston family to their previous hiding place when they were found.

Of course, the horses were not aware of the situation. They just wanted to go home.

Before dawn, this group of knights nimbly scaled small hills and walked for dozens of kilometers. Finally, at daybreak, they located a small village.

The villagers did not panic when they saw them. A middle-aged man, who looked like a farmer, led them back to the village without saying a word.

The leading knight called out to the villagers, "Pack your clothes and prepare the carriages. We'll take a detour and evacuate via the Voss family's territory."

After that, everyone in the village got down to business.

No one could have expected this small village hidden in the mountains of the Winstons' territory was actually an evacuation hub arranged by the House of Tudor.

This place was only a hundred kilometers from the Voss family's territory. As long as they moved fast enough, they could get there within a day. At that time, the House of Voss would naturally help them to fend off the pursuit of the House of Winston.

The Voss family had the same deference for the Tudors as the Winstons had for the Berkeleys.

The leading knight came to a secluded hut and closed the door behind him. He said to the young man inside, "I want to relay some intel."

Afterwards, the young man hesitated for a moment before taking out a dagger and slitting his wrist. He allowed his blood to drip onto the ground, which then formed into a strange magic circle.

When the ice sculpture fully materialized, the knight knelt down on one knee and said, "Esteemed Lord Kayle Jefferson William Kris Tudor, the mission has failed. Melgor has mastered the Norman family's Boiling Airburst spell. This was an ambush by the Norman family!"

The ice sculpture said, "Understood. You all are to lie low in the Voss's territory for now. I'll bring some people and handle the matter personally."

Chapter 1153: Middle name

"Are there any traditions in the magus order? Tell me whatever you can think of, just to kill time," Ren Xiaosu said to Melgor.

Melgor was no longer riding in the carriage. Instead, he rode his horse and traveled alongside Ren Xiaosu.

As Qian Weining and his men had suffered multiple attacks that reduced their numbers, many of the horses were freed up.

Only Li Chengguo and Liu Ting, who were diligently studying the language of the Magi, were still traveling in the carriage.

Melgor thought for a moment and said, "We do have an interesting tradition. Middle names."

Ren Xiaosu was stunned. "I read about middle names when I was in the Central Plains. Apparently, in some places outside of the Central Plains, people would put their pet names or a name of significance in the middle of their names. So people's names in those places are usually very long."

"Some sorcerers have very long middle names too." Melgor explained, "The reason why I say this tradition is interesting is that these middle names are all related to the spells they specialize in."

Ren Xiaosu's eyes lit up. "Tell me more."

“For example, the middle name William came about because William was the first sorcerer in the Tudor family to discover the Bloodline Summoning spell. If a sorcerer is extremely good at that spell, they’ll add William as their middle name to showcase their power,” Melgor explained.

Ren Xiaosu clicked his tongue. “They’re that honest?”

Melgor did not know whether to laugh or cry. “That has nothing to do with honesty. It’s for the honor! You have to understand that the mindset of sorcerers is very different from people in the Central Plains. For example, the Central Plains people who migrated over here in the past would not open the gifts they received in front of others. Meanwhile, we sorcerers tend to open them immediately.”

Ren Xiaosu said disdainfully, “I can understand if it’s about opening gifts, but I can’t accept that people would directly give away their strengths by stating it in their middle names.”

In a place like the Central Plains, everyone’s mentality was to keep their means of fighting and strength hidden. After all, it would be very easy for them to be disadvantaged in battle if their trump cards were made known to others.

Ren Xiaosu felt that if the enemy knew he had the Shadow Door, the black saber, Old Xu, the black sniper rifle, the Explosive Poker cards, City Crusher, the Potato Shooter, the Eye of True Sight, Wish You All Happiness, Haiya...

Hmm... that actually did not seem easy to deal with. After all, he had a myriad of superpowers.

But if it were someone like Wang Congyang or Zhang Baogen whose powers were made known to others, they could indeed get targeted easily.

Therefore, in Ren Xiaosu’s opinion, this was similar in principle to not revealing one’s wealth. There was no need to tell others about one’s own power too! Hiding and using it to carry out sneak attacks on others, wasn’t that much better?!

Ren Xiaosu looked at Melgor. “Are there any other middle names? Tell me about their corresponding spells too.”

“Mhm.” Melgor said, “There’s Jefferson. He was the first sorcerer to discover the Ice Rend spell, and Kris was the first to discover the Meteor Shower spell.”

“I see.” Ren Xiaosu nodded.

“Actually, most sorcerers’ names aren’t as long as you think. Like I said before, the majority of sorcerers only specialize in one or two spells, so they have at most one or two middle names.” Melgor said, “Of course, some sorcerers have particularly long

names. Did you finish reading *The Sorcerer Chronicles*? There's a biography of someone named Logan Benjamin Jefferson Alexander Owen Voss in it."

Ren Xiaosu was stunned. "That's such a lame name."

Melgor explained, "But actually, he doesn't know that many spells. He was one of the biggest charlatans at the beginning of The Cataclysm. When people saw that he had a bunch of middle names, they thought he was skilled at casting many types of spells, so they respected him very much. But later, they realized deception was what he was best at."

Ren Xiaosu suddenly recalled the doctor he had encountered in Stronghold 113's town. At that time, he had wanted to copy the other party's medical skills, but he ended up copying a bragging skill instead. When he tried to copy his skills again, he was informed by the palace that the other party did not actually possess any medical skills.

"Not bad." Ren Xiaosu sighed and said to Melgor, "So it turns out that middle names can also be used for bragging. Moreover, everyone believes it once it's used as a middle name!"

"Mhm, so even though middle names can be used as a reference, they can't be fully trusted." Melgor glanced at Ren Xiaosu. "But the people in the Kingdom of Sorcerers are not as honest as you think. Some also know how to bluff, while others may choose to hide their trump cards. Of course, most people still don't resort to deception using their middle names. Because most sorcerers really think it's an honor to have one."

Ren Xiaosu had already experienced for himself the cunning of people in the Kingdom of Sorcerers. So he would not judge their middle names to determine what spells they were adept at.

Would honest people poison Russell? Would honest people suppress those who helped them make it out of The Cataclysm? No.

If the Kingdom of Sorcerers' citizens were truly honest, Ren Xiaosu might feel a little guilty for causing trouble here. But in fact, if they had known their place, the Northwest would not have formed a blood feud with this place for over a 100 years.

"I get it now." Ren Xiaosu said, "So what's your full name?"

Melgor hesitated for a moment before saying, "Melgor Smith."

"Wait a minute, where's your middle name?" Ren Xiaosu asked with a chuckle.

Melgor gritted his teeth and explained, "I don't specialize in any spells yet. I can only add a middle name after I become an archmage."

“That’s such a pity,” Ren Xiaosu lamented.

‘*Pity? My ass!*’ Melgor’s face was burning hot as though he had been publicly condemned. Although they were friends, Ren Xiaosu really had an innate talent for hurting people’s feelings.

When it was almost noon, the trade caravan finally arrived at Winston City.

Compared to a major county in the south like Vaduz, Winston City looked more dilapidated. As a matter of fact, this was the political center of the Winston family, yet it still couldn’t compare to an ancillary city of the Berkeley family. No wonder the Winston family had to bow down to the Berkeley family.

Ren Xiaosu said to Melgor, “Get back in the carriage. There might be people in this city who’re after your life. Don’t act too conspicuously.”

While he was talking, Chen Cheng actually ran over to Ren Xiaosu from behind. He looked at Melgor next to him. “We’ll be entering the city soon. I have something to discuss with you. Shall we step aside and talk?”

“There’s no need.” Ren Xiaosu said, “I’m Lord Melgor’s steward. If you have anything to say, just say it here. There’s no need to avoid Lord Melgor.”

Chen Cheng hesitated for a moment before saying, “If you’re interested, we’ll meet you at the entrance of the relay station at 10 PM tonight. We’ll bring you to meet a few people.”

Ren Xiaosu asked, “Who?”

Chen Cheng said mysteriously, “Don’t ask for now, but I believe you’ll be interested in meeting them. Remember, come alone.”

“That won’t do.” Ren Xiaosu shook his head and said, “I have to bring Mel along.”

Chen Cheng was stunned. “Who’s Mel?”

Melgor answered with a livid expression, “That’d be me.”

“Oh.” Chen Cheng looked at Ren Xiaosu. “Why do you want to bring him along?”

“Someone’s trying to kill him, so as his steward, I have to protect him at all times, of course,” Ren Xiaosu explained with a smile.

Chen Cheng clenched his teeth and said in a low voice, “If you think he can be trusted, it’s fine to bring him along. But let me remind you, he might be with the Normans.”

Ren Xiaosu shook his head in dismissal. "He's not."

"That's good."

Chapter 1154: Why don't we run away?

Ren Xiaosu did not know who Chen Cheng wanted him to meet, but he was interested in anyone related to this group of bounty hunters.

He still had not found two of the clues the palace wanted him to search for. He reckoned those two clues were related to these bounty hunters.

Ren Xiaosu felt the quest reward this time would probably be very special. He had never done a quest that spanned such a long duration before.

"Who's this?" Melgor asked curiously. "I noticed you constantly running over to their carriage and thought you had laid eyes on that girl or the woman."

"Watch your mouth." Ren Xiaosu raised his eyebrows. "I already have someone that I like. Don't get me into trouble by spouting nonsense like that."

"Then who're they?" Melgor asked.

"Bounty hunters," Ren Xiaosu answered.

"Eh?" Melgor looked at Ren Xiaosu and then at Chen Cheng's back. "Are they here to kill me?"

"If they were here to kill you, would I let them live until now?" Ren Xiaosu chuckled and said, "Do you remember what you said about tying a crossbow on your arm to shoot frogs when you were young?"

Melgor said exasperatedly, "I only tied a crossbow on my arm to look chivalrous, not to shoot frogs. I didn't show you my love letters so you could mock me."

"Then why did you two go frog catching?" Ren Xiaosu asked.

"Is this the time to be talking about frogs? Talk about the bounty hunters instead," Melgor snapped. "Are you trying to tell me they're the ones wanted by the magus order? It's very dangerous to be in their company. The entire magus order has orders for their arrest. If the magus order finds out that we've been hanging out with them, we'll be finished."

"Even if you don't hang out with them, there'll still be people trying to kill you. From the moment that girlfriend of yours secretly sent you money, it was destined." Ren Xiaosu

said nonchalantly, "Don't worry, they've disguised themselves very well. As long as you don't tell anyone, their true identities won't get exposed."

"Wait a minute, I remember you asking about the bounty hunters before we set off from York County. Yes, you asked about them in my Sorcerer's Tower. Did you already meet them at the time?" Melgor asked suspiciously, "Where did you see them? What do you know about the arson that happened the night before we set off?"

"Huh? Is that so?" Ren Xiaosu said, "You probably remembered wrong. Don't go off-topic and talk about me. We were just discussing the bounty hunters. Come with me tonight, lest you be left alone at the relay station and get killed."

"OK." Melgor agreed. To be honest, he really did not dare to be on his own right now. There were too many people who wanted to kill him on this expedition. Only by being around Ren Xiaosu did he feel a sense of security.

The relay station in Winston City was also a little more worse for wear than the one in Vaduz. Melgor had paid for the best rooms for Ren Xiaosu and himself, but Ren Xiaosu could still detect a moldy smell when he entered his room. Moreover, Ren Xiaosu could see rat droppings on the ground at a glance, so it was obvious the room had a rat infestation problem.

There were holes in the blankets, and the cups in the rooms were covered in a layer of dust. If they wanted to visit the outhouse, they would have to walk 200 meters to the latrines in the backyard. The smell of the toilet was so foul they could barely open their eyes.

The sanitary conditions in the Kingdom of Sorcerers were terrible. Although the guest house at Fortress 178 was also dilapidated, it was not to the extent of the situation here.

Such cities without sewer systems were too far behind in development compared to the Northwest.

Ren Xiaosu and Melgor roomed on the first floor. At 10 PM, Ren Xiaosu brought Melgor along and quietly climbed out through the back window. They did not take the front door.

The relay station's floor was composed of wood flooring, so anyone passing through the hallways would surely creak the floorboards. If Melgor and he were to go out the front, the entire trade caravan would know they had headed out.

But what Ren Xiaosu did not know was that about an hour after they left, someone came creeping to Melgor and his windows facing the backyard.

Qian Weining was sneaking around with his trusted aide, who was holding two thin *nanmu*¹ pipes in his hand.

“Are you sure they’re both asleep?” Qian Weining asked in a whispered tone.

“Mhm, our people have been keeping watch at the door for a while now. There hasn’t been any movement in these two rooms for an hour already.” His trusted aide said, “They must’ve fallen asleep.”

“That’s good. Did you prepare it?”

“Yes. Yao Bo just finished preparing it. The sedative in these two tubes is enough to knock them out until tomorrow afternoon. By then, we’ll have already left.”

“Alright.” Qian Weining smiled and said, “I can always count on you. Let’s do this.”

After that, his trusted aide used a match to light the substance in the *nanmu* pipe. Then he placed the other end of the pipe to his mouth and gently blew the smoke into Ren Xiaosu’s room through a gap in the window.

The smoke was not stinky. Instead, it smelled refreshing. Any person in the room only needed to breathe it in once, and they would quickly fall into a deep sleep.

Qian Weining had brought his trusted aide here to ensure that Ren Xiaosu and Melgor would get a good night’s sleep. He really did not want them to follow the trade caravan anymore.

If Melgor were to continue traveling with the trade caravan, they would probably get wiped out by the Tudor family before they could even reach Ghent City.

Thinking of this, Qian Weining felt very angry. They were supposed to carry out a mission in the north, but before they could even approach their target, their forces ended up shielding others from disaster instead.

And yet, nothing happened to the other party, while they suffered heavy losses. Who could stand that?!

After Qian Weining’s trusted aide blew the sedating smoke into the two rooms, the two of them hid under the wall and waited quietly. Qian Weining did not want anyone to know about this yet, so he and his trusted aide could only handle it themselves.

The weather in June had become very hot, and the nights were also a little stuffy. The mosquitoes in the backyard of the relay station were almost the size of coins, leaving Qian Weining and his trusted aide with multiple bloody bumps on their heads.

Qian Weining asked, “How long until it takes effect?”

“It should’ve already taken effect.” His trusted aide said, “Sir, I’ll go in and check.”

“Mhm, be careful,” Qian Weining reminded him.

His trusted aide pushed open the window of the room and jumped in. As soon as he entered, he stuck his head out again. “Sir, there’s no one in here!”

Qian Weining was shocked. He hurriedly jumped into the room to check, but he realized the bed in the room had not been touched yet. It was obvious the occupant had stealthily left soon after arriving at the relay station.

When his trusted aide ran to Melgor’s room to have a look, he realized Melgor was also nowhere to be seen.

Qian Weining immediately felt a headache coming on. Was it that difficult to get rid of Melgor?

Was it?!

“Sir, where do you think they’ve gone?” Qian Weining’s trusted aide wondered. “Melgor doesn’t have any acquaintances in Winston.”

“I know where they went.” Qian Weining said coldly, “Didn’t I say earlier that he’s with the Norman family? He must’ve gone to exchange intel with their spy!”

“Then what should we do?” his trusted aide asked.

Qian Weining sighed and said, “Why don’t we run away?”

Chapter 1155: Established

Summer nights were a little stuffy. Ren Xiaosu and Melgor followed Chen Cheng as they made their way through multiple alleys in Winston City.

Chen Cheng handed a black cloak to each of them. “Put these cloaks on. When we entered the city today, your faces were seen by a lot of people, especially Lord Melgor’s. If anyone finds out you were secretly having a meeting with others in the middle of the night, the House of Winston would probably start investigating immediately.”

Ren Xiaosu put on the cloak and pulled over the hood.

Melgor glanced at Ren Xiaosu and thought to himself that the guy seemed to be very proficient at hiding his tracks. In silence, he also put on his cloak.

Dark clouds gathered in the sky. From time to time, they could even hear the dull rumbling of thunder above the clouds.

Being early summer, that definitely signaled an impending thunderstorm.

Chen Cheng said, "Great timing. No one will discover us once it starts raining heavily."

After that, he turned around and walked forward. Ren Xiaosu asked calmly, "You haven't said who you're taking us to meet yet."

"You'll know when we get there," Chen Cheng replied in a low voice. "Why? You scared?"

"Yes." Ren Xiaosu answered, "I'm scared for both of your safety."

Chen Cheng was speechless.

As they were talking, the sound of footsteps came from up the street. Chen Cheng pulled Ren Xiaosu and Melgor into the shadows of the alley. There were no street lamps to illuminate the night in the Kingdom of Sorcerers. This made it very convenient for infiltrators to move around freely.

The approaching party consisted of six people who were chatting as they walked. Each of them was carrying a kerosene lamp and had a longsword slung on their belt. They were wearing the Winston family's standard-issue military uniforms with tall hats.

These were the city's patrol guards.

After they left, Chen Cheng started moving off again. Ren Xiaosu looked at the flaking street signs they passed: Bailey Street, Rum Street, Dove Avenue.

Chen Cheng finally stopped at 18 Tulip Street. The stone slabs on the long street resembled pieces of a rectangular chocolate bar that spread outwards. The buildings on the sides of the roads were at most three stories high. The arched windows set into the walls exuded tranquility.

Chen Cheng walked towards 18 Tulip Street. However, he did not knock on the door. Instead, he directly took out his orange Eye of True Sight and placed it on the peephole of the door.

The Eye of True Sight pulsed slightly, and the peephole on the door seemingly sensed its call of power. It turned gently, and with a click, some sort of mechanism seemed to activate.

Chen Cheng walked towards an arched window next to the door. He turned around and smiled at Ren Xiaosu and Melgor before walking head first into the window. In an instant, Chen Cheng disappeared from sight.

Melgor whispered, "He's actually a sorcerer?"

“Mhm.” Ren Xiaosu confirmed, “And his Eye of True Sight is of a higher grade than yours. Why don’t you join them? Look, these bounty hunters are all doing better than you even though they’re wanted by the magus order.”

Melgor was speechless.

Ren Xiaosu continued, “Speaking of which, we’ll have to find an excuse to get you a higher grade Eye of True Sight. If you keep holding onto that white Eye of True Sight, others will look down upon you...”

Now that Melgor could be considered one of the Prosperous Northwest’s supporters, Ren Xiaosu naturally wanted to find a way to package him more presentably.

Melgor might not know it yet, but his kindness and simpleness had gained Ren Xiaosu’s approval. He had established his status in Ren Xiaosu’s mind.

“Should we go in?” Melgor asked softly.

“What sorcery is this?” Ren Xiaosu examined the window and said with interest, “It seems like sorcery is even more mysterious than the superpowers we have in the Central Plains. It’s mainly because there’s already a developed framework and legacy system to pass down these spells. If we can bring this back to the Central Plains, there’ll be a breakthrough in our intelligence efforts.”

Currently, the transmission of intelligence in the Central Plains basically relied on technology such as radio transmissions. But if the intelligence agents could master simple sorcery, the transmission of intel could become even more secure.

Moreover, a whole other world had to be behind the window before him. It was perfect to use a place like this as a safe house.

All organizations in the Central Plains were accustomed to using technology for their counterespionage. But with the introduction of sorcery, those people would probably get caught off guard.

However, the Northwest was destined to not learn the Tudor family’s Blood Summoning spell to transmit intel.

It was not that this spell was difficult, but that no one back there had that many children they could sacrifice.

According to Melgor, almost every male archmage in the Tudor family’s main household had hundreds of children. At such a scale, they could use their children as intelligence tools. In fact, the status of illegitimate children in the Kingdom of Sorcerers was way too low.

There was also a relatively famous illegitimate child in the Central Plains: Luo Lan.

However, Luo Lan's status in the Qing Consortium could be said to be above everyone else. Even before Qing Zhen took over leadership of the Qing Consortium, Luo Lan was put in sole charge of Stronghold 113.

"What's the name of this spell?" Ren Xiaosu asked, looking at the window.

Melgor replied to Ren Xiaosu, "I don't know its name, but I've heard of this spell before. It's some sort of an enchanted doorway that opens up to a hidden space."

"Is this kind of sorcery common?" Ren Xiaosu asked.

"It's common. Many sorcerers use this spell to hide things." Melgor said, "Basically, only the caster knows how to open the doorway. Unless the caster tells you how, it'll take you a long time to figure out how to get in."

"Since it's very common, why don't you know... Never mind, I know." Ren Xiaosu patted Melgor on the shoulder. "Let's go. I'll help you get your hands on those spells. You can have whatever spells you like. I promise!"

'If you have to ask, it's because you've earned it!'

After that, Ren Xiaosu stepped into the window in the wall. When he stepped through the enchanted doorway, he felt as though he had passed through a curtain of water. The view in front of him instantly changed.

There was no longer a quiet street in front of him, nor was this a quiet residential home anymore. Instead, it was the interior of a palace bustling with life!

As melodious singing reverberated, Ren Xiaosu saw many people dancing in a ballroom in the center of the palace. There were also many people holding wine glasses in their hands and sipping on golden champagne. Everyone in the palace appeared extremely elegant and dignified, both the men and the women.

On one side of the ballroom, a young woman in a fancy dress was singing. Beside her, more than a dozen musicians were playing their instruments.

The song the woman was singing was in the language of the Magi, so Ren Xiaosu could not understand what it meant. Melgor followed close behind, while Chen Cheng, An'an, and Chen Jingshu were already waiting behind the enchanted doorway and looking at them with smiles. "Welcome to this place! A lot of people are waiting for your arrival. To be precise, they're waiting for you, Sorcerer Melgor."

Chapter 1156: Who says I'm doing it alone?

“Waiting for me?” Melgor was taken aback. “Why are they waiting for me?”

A moment later, the commotion over here apparently alerted the lovely young men and women in the ballroom, and they walked over with a graceful demeanor.

Even the singing in the ballroom became much softer.

The luxurious palace was exquisite and magnificent, and the marble floor beneath everyone’s feet was polished to a mirror finish.

The chandelier hanging above the ballroom floor was made with crystals, while the glittering decorations that could be seen in the corridor were seemingly made of pure gold!

But on this occasion, a fringe sorcerer like Melgor suddenly became the focus of everyone’s attention.

Before those people arrived from the ballroom, Melgor cast a pleading gaze at Ren Xiaosu. When Ren Xiaosu gathered that they did not have any malicious intent, he quickly moved aside and made space for Melgor.

A young man dressed in a black tuxedo came up to Melgor and said with a smile, “Hello, Sorcerer Melgor. We’ve all heard about your deeds. You can say we really admire you.”

Startled, Melgor asked, “My deeds? What deeds?”

“About how you single-handedly defeated the House of Tudor’s knights, of course.” The young man smiled and said, “Let me introduce myself. My name is Forbes Winston.”

Ren Xiaosu was taken aback. He looked at Chen Jingshu with a questioning look in his eyes that seemed to say, “Why would these bounty hunters get involved with the sorcerer clans?”

Chen Jingshu and An’an had departed from their usual appearances. Chen Jingshu was dressed in a black, low-cut evening gown which vividly accentuated her enchanting figure. Meanwhile, An’an wore a long white dress. The two of them did not look like they were bounty hunters at all. Instead, they looked more like members of the sorcerer clans.

Chen Jingshu whispered, “I’ll explain later.”

Amid the laughter and chatter, Forbes Winston invited Melgor over to the palace. As they walked, he said, “Our House of Winston has a long-standing feud with the House of Tudor. Sorcerer Melgor, since you defeated them, you’re definitely a friend of us Winstons. Moreover, you hail from a decent family that isn’t affiliated with any of the

sorcerer clans, so we can be friends without worries. I wonder, are you willing to be friends with us?"

Melgor was a little lost. He wanted to ask Ren Xiaosu for help but realized Ren Xiaosu didn't intend to save him.

When those people walked over to the ballroom, Ren Xiaosu asked Chen Jingshu in a low voice, "Have you bounty hunters revolted or something? I thought y'all hated the sorcerer clans?"

"These people are different." Chen Jingshu held up a champagne flute and said, "They're all in favor of revolution."

"Revolution?" Ren Xiaosu wondered.

"To tear down the barriers established by the sorcerer clans and agree to establish a school where all the magus arts will be taught systematically through a planned curriculum. No one could hoard the spells for themselves anymore." Chen Jingshu said, "On top of that, they're also enemies of the House Tudor."

Ren Xiaosu frowned as he looked at the people in the ballroom. "Are they all from the Winston family?"

"That's right." Chen Jingshu said, "But they're only a small portion of the Winston family's younger generation."

"A small portion and there's already so many of them?" Ren Xiaosu lamented, "I've really fucking underestimated the virility of sorcerers."

And what was even worse was that Ren Xiaosu saw a young couple kissing off to the side. Based on what Chen Jingshu had said, those two were goddamn close relatives. What a disgusting sight!

If the youth of the sorcerer clans continued down this path, Ren Xiaosu had reason to suspect their intelligence might degrade to the point where they wouldn't even know how to cast spells a few generations later. Genetic diseases would cause their entire clans to collapse slowly.

Ren Xiaosu looked at Chen Jingshu. "I'm guessing y'all aren't stupid enough to believe that they're on your side, right? Do they know that y'all're bounty hunters?"

"Of course not." Chen Jingshu smiled. "And just as you thought, we're only making use of each other."

Looking at the extravagant decor of the palace, it did not seem like a place a group of people who wanted to revolutionize the era would like.

“These kids of the House of Winston are all fringe figures in their clan. They can’t bear to see others inheriting the authority of the family, nor can they accept that they can’t obtain the most important meditative visualization diagrams of the clan. So they sought external help to break the intrinsic order.” Chen Jingshu said, “With such ambition, it naturally presents us an opportunity. I think you can also get to know them through Melgor.”

Ren Xiaosu curled his lips. “Sorry to disappoint, but I’m not interested.”

“I don’t know what your purpose in coming to the Kingdom of Sorcerers is, but I know you’re unfriendly towards the Magi.” Chen Jingshu said in seriousness, “Since your interests are aligned, why don’t you make use of them?”

Ren Xiaosu grinned and said, “Maybe it’s because I’m strong enough.”

Chen Jingshu was at a momentary loss for words. She was dumbfounded and did not know how to continue the conversation.

And neither did she know just how powerful Ren Xiaosu was when he said he was strong.

“Are there any young sorcerers you know who really want to revolutionize the era?” Ren Xiaosu asked. “What I mean is, those who can cast aside their aristocratic attitude and do things seriously.”

Chen Jingshu answered, “Yes, but they’re few and far between. Some of the young sorcerers studying in Ghent City are sincere about pushing for reforms.”

“I don’t mind getting to know them.” Ren Xiaosu said with a laugh, “Aunt Flo, please make the necessary arrangements when we arrive at Ghent City.”

Chen Jingshu said, “... Will you die if you don’t annoy people? So what about these people?”

“Them... um... I really don’t have any interest in dealing with them.” Ren Xiaosu said, “I don’t need their help.”

As long as Melgor’s reputation was good enough, people would follow him.

What Ren Xiaosu needed to do was very simple. He needed to completely destroy the order in the Kingdom of Sorcerers and let the new era enable Melgor’s rise.

As for opposing voices, Ren Xiaosu would have to “reach an agreement” with them.

Chen Jingshu looked at Ren Xiaosu and said, "You can't change an entire nation all by yourself."

Ren Xiaosu responded with a smile, "Who says I'm doing it alone?"

Chen Jingshu looked at Ren Xiaosu seriously. "You're thinking of forming an alliance with us bounty hunters?"

Ren Xiaosu was stunned. "Oh, sorry, I wasn't referring to y'all. You're not strong enough yet."

Chen Jingshu was speechless.

What Ren Xiaosu was trying to say was, "Sorry, but the strength y'all have displayed so far is way too weak to be my teammates." But he stopped himself from saying that. After all, he had to unite all the forces that could be united. Moreover, Ren Xiaosu really needed the bounty hunters to help him get in touch with the young sorcerers in Ghent City. He needed those people to form a considerable force around Melgor.

Because, after he left the Kingdom of Sorcerers, Melgor would need his own supporters to take charge of this kingdom.

Ren Xiaosu suddenly felt like he had turned into Zhang Jinglin. Back then, Zhang Jinglin had probably sent the 6th Combat Brigade to the Central Plains with the same thought!

Chapter 1157: Russell's descendants

The atmosphere in the palace behind the enchanted doorway turned joyous again, and the singing drifted across the ballroom once more. When Chen Jingshu was invited to dance, Ren Xiaosu stopped talking with her.

Chen Cheng was also invited to dance by a girl from the House of Winston. Only An'an rejected all invitations and remained by Ren Xiaosu's side.

Melgor was surrounded by a group of people asking about details of the battle, and some of them even asked him what it felt like to kill. It seemed the youth of the House of Winston had not even experienced a proper battle before.

Ren Xiaosu silently shook his head. He felt that these people could barely help him.

Besides, he really disliked interacting with aristocrats.

In comparison, this place was very similar to the consortiums in the Central Plains. However, Ren Xiaosu preferred the atmosphere in the Northwest.

When An'an saw his expression, she suddenly asked, "Do you despise them?"

“I can’t say that I despise them. It’s just that we don’t share the same ideals. I think it was the wrong decision for y’all to get involved with them,” Ren Xiaosu said.

An’an said, “Aunt was just testing your attitude. I stayed behind to tell you to go along with the plans of those good-for-nothings later. Then you’ll understand why we got involved with them. We never expected they could do much either.”

Ren Xiaosu was stunned. An’an’s words left him a little surprised. Could the bounty hunters have other motives?

Melgor suddenly waved at Ren Xiaosu. “Ren Xiaosu!”

When Ren Xiaosu walked over, Forbes Winston smiled at him and asked, “Who is this?”

Melgor said, “Oh, let me introduce him to everyone. This is my steward.”

Initially, Melgor wanted to forcefully pull Ren Xiaosu into their awkward conversation. After all, they had come here together, so why should he have to handle all of this alone?

But when Forbes Winston heard that Ren Xiaosu was a steward, he said with a polite smile, “We have fine dining prepared for the stewards and servants in a side chamber. Mr. Ren Xiaosu, you can dine there while waiting for Sorcerer Melgor.”

Ren Xiaosu raised an eyebrow. He had not expected the sorcerer clans to be so fixated on class differences. The moment Forbes Winston heard he was a steward, he was not even interested in exchanging civilities with him.

These good-for-nothing members of the clan claimed they wanted a revolution. But once they rose to the top, the aristocracy would still remain the aristocracy. There would be no change to the world at all.

Ren Xiaosu felt that Russell would also have been surrounded by such people back then.

Not everyone would carry sincere beliefs and a sense of responsibility during a revolution. This was just the way of the world.

When Melgor heard that, he got a little angry. He wanted to pull Ren Xiaosu away and leave, but Ren Xiaosu took a step back and said with a smile, “Then I’ll go and find something to eat in the side chamber. Lord Melgor, I’ll wait for you there.”

After that, a servant led Ren Xiaosu to the side chamber.

Melgor was initially very angry. But when he saw Ren Xiaosu wink at him before he left, he immediately put on a smile again and continued patronizing the fops of the House of Winston.

Ren Xiaosu got to the side chamber. To his surprise, it was all abuzz here too. The servants and stewards of the other sorcerers had all gathered. Although there was no drinking, everyone was dancing and chatting.

Compared to the main hall next door, the people here appeared much more relaxed. No one was snooty.

However, Ren Xiaosu did not join in. Instead, he just leaned quietly against the wall and waited for the banquet to end. He closed his eyes and tried his best to listen to the noise in the main hall in case someone suddenly attacked Melgor.

A middle-aged man slowly walked over to Ren Xiaosu and stood next to him. Ren Xiaosu opened his eyes and sized him up, but he didn't intend to interact with him at all.

"What's your relationship with Ren He?" the middle-aged man asked with a smile.

Ren Xiaosu stared at the middle-aged man before his eyes. "I'd like to know the answer to that question as well."

Only now did Ren Xiaosu realize Chen Cheng had not brought him here tonight to introduce the young sorcerers of the House of Winston to him, but to introduce him to this middle-aged man.

The reason the bounty hunters were willing to mix with the younger generation of the House of Winston was to have another moat to protect themselves.

Ren Xiaosu had to admit these people were really bold. No wonder they were still alive and kicking even though the Magi had been hunting them down.

The middle-aged man said, "I'll introduce myself. I'm Zhang Haoyun, just a minor individual."

"Since you can come and talk to me about something Chen Jingshu can't, it shows you're nothing minor in the bounty hunter organization." Ren Xiaosu said calmly, "Speak, what do you wish to talk about tonight?"

"Don't worry too much." Zhang Haoyun said with a smile, "I'm not planning on using you for anything. I really just want to understand how much you know about Ren He."

"Y'all were the ones that called me here, so shouldn't you tell me what you know first to show your sincerity?" Ren Xiaosu said with a grin.

“Ren He was the founder of the Assassin Sanctuary. It was founded to fight against the CIA and extremist organizations. Later, after he reached a compromise with the CIA, the organization went underground and began its contact with the leader of the Magi, Russell.” Zhang Haoyun said, “He was from the Central Plains and had a son. He’s also the founder of the Riders in the Central Plains and the Qinghe Group.”

Zhang Haoyun looked at Ren Xiaosu and said seriously, “He’s the origin of our entire organization’s faith. I’ve already shared that much with you. That should be enough sincerity.”

Ren Xiaosu was a little surprised. He had thought the organization in the Kingdom of Sorcerers would also be called the Riders. He did not expect it to have a different name.

And this was the first time he had heard of the “CIA.”

However, it seemed that the two organizations, the Sanctuary and the Riders, had different functions. The Riders was born from its faith and dreams to challenge limits, but the objective of the Sanctuary was really to kill.

Perhaps, it was because Ren Xiaosu was the first to bring up Ren He’s name, so both parties built a foundation of trust.

As Chen Jingshu did not know much about Ren He, they called Zhang Haoyun over to communicate with Ren Xiaosu.

Ren Xiaosu looked at Zhang Haoyun and said, “Actually, I don’t have much information to share with you since I know very little about Ren He.”

Zhang Haoyun frowned. “What information can you tell me then?”

Ren Xiaosu thought for a moment before saying, “What I can tell you is that both the Qinghe Group and the Riders are still around in the Central Plains, and I’m considered a friend of theirs.”

“Why did you suddenly come to the Kingdom of Sorcerers by yourself?” Zhang Haoyun asked.

Ren Xiaosu remained silent for a moment before saying, “It’s probably fate that led me to find out about my background. Please answer my question. What happened to Ren He’s son? Why did Ren He take away the black Eye of True Sight to save him?”

Zhang Haoyun answered, “Only Russell’s descendants can answer that question.”

All of a sudden, the voice from the palace in Ren Xiaosu’s mind said, “Search for clues related to Russell’s descendants. Quest progression: 3 of 4.”

Chapter 1158: Bro, I came here to hide from you!

“Russell has descendants?” Ren Xiaosu was surprised. “Didn’t *The Sorcerer Chronicles* state that he was never married in his life? And it even said that he didn’t have any children.”

This information was specifically noted in *The Sorcerer Chronicles*. At the time, Ren Xiaosu even lamented how the other party had dedicated his entire life to being a sorcerer.

Zhang Haoyun calmly answered, “The records in *The Sorcerer Chronicles* are wrong, but it was a mistake the author deliberately made. He knew full well that Russell definitely did not die from natural causes, so he covered up his relationships.”

“Who was the author of *The Sorcerer Chronicles*? I sensed that he had quite a bit of admiration for Russell,” Ren Xiaosu said.

“He was steward to Russell during his later years,” Zhang Haoyun answered. “He didn’t serve Russell for long. But after Russell died, many of his manuscripts and letters were organized by him, so he learned much about him.”

“Oh, no wonder he was able to get his hands on the letters between Russell and his good friend.” Ren Xiaosu asked, “What happened to the author after that?”

“He died as well,” Zhang Haoyun replied. “When I say they died, I’m referring to unnatural deaths. There’s evidence he was tortured before he died. In the journals of our predecessors, they said that when the Sanctuary found his corpse, no one could bear to lay an eye on it.”

“So the Sanctuary did maintain a close relationship with Russell, and your organization did help the Magi too. It wouldn’t be an exaggeration to say that your organization is the savior of the Kingdom of Sorcerers.” Ren Xiaosu nodded and said, “But why did y’all disappear after that?”

“The magus order managed to get through the most difficult period during the early days of The Cataclysm under Russell’s leadership. However, Russell fell seriously ill because of it. He was contaminated by the fallout.” Zhang Haoyun sighed and said, “This gave the old magus aristocracy a chance to take advantage of the situation.”

Zhang Haoyun said, “They bribed one of Russell’s servants to poison him. The Sanctuary searched for evidence and wanted to avenge their good friend, but after interrogating that servant and executing him, they were surrounded by the entire magus order.”

“Betrayed for thirty pieces of silver, eh?” Ren Xiaosu asked, “Didn’t y’all expect that?”

“Actually, we did. It was just that we lost too many companions while protecting Russell’s wife and children. You should understand yourself that an escort mission is much harder than being able to attack with no restraints.” Zhang Haoyun said, “At the beginning, there were a lot of newly established sorcerer groups, but many of them died in The Cataclysm trying to protect the Magi. However, the former aristocratic sorcerers managed to keep their strength intact and gained the upper hand after The Cataclysm.”

Ren Xiaosu roughly understood how much the people from the Sanctuary hated the old aristocratic sorcerers. Everyone had worked so hard during The Cataclysm, but in the end, their numbers were reduced, and it ended up benefiting those who did nothing to help in The Cataclysm. If it were him, he would also be very angry.

“Was that why y’all poisoned the Voss family?” Ren Xiaosu asked.

“That’s right. The servant who poisoned Russell was a member of the Voss family. After that incident, the Tudor family distributed a lot of benefits to the Voss family as a reward. Moreover, the Voss family had always been a main force in the magus order’s assault on the Sanctuary. They’ve killed a lot of our people,” Zhang Haoyun said, “So killing the Voss family was just collecting some interest on the blood debt they owe.”

“You pretty much have my support on that. So where are Russell’s descendants now?” Ren Xiaosu asked.

“I can’t tell you yet. They aren’t part of the Sanctuary, but you’ll see them sooner or later when you get to Ghent City.” Zhang Haoyun said, “Russell told his wife a lot of things in his later years. As far as I know, his wife kept his journal that contains many secrets. I believe the answer you’re searching for should be in it.”

Ren Xiaosu did not doubt this at all. Otherwise, the palace would not have listed searching for Russell’s descendants as a clue related to Ren He.

“Are you also going to Ghent City?” Ren Xiaosu wondered.

“Of course not.” Zhang Haoyun said, “I still have other things to do for the House of Winston. The House of Berkeley is about to declare war on the northern counties, so this is the best time for us to take revenge. I still have one more question for you. Before this, I expressed my greatest sincerity by telling you a lot of information. So can you tell me now what your relationship with Ren He is?”

Ren Xiaosu said helplessly, “I wasn’t lying to you earlier. I came here so that I could find out what my relationship with him is.”

Zhang Haoyun said in seriousness, “I look forward to the day when everything comes to light.”

The banquet in the main hall seemed to be drawing down. Ren Xiaosu left with Melgor while Chen Cheng and his companions headed off in another direction.

In an instant, only the servants who had sold their lives to the sorcerer clans were left in the huge palace behind the enchanted doorway as they quietly stored the uneaten food.

Melgor, as the leading man of tonight's banquet, looked a little tired. The two of them put on their cloaks and rushed to the relay station. On the way back, Mel sighed and said, "These young sorcerers of the clan emit an indescribable aura of depravity. I wonder why that is."

Ren Xiaosu explained with a laugh, "If you only have a desire for power, you'll also become like them."

"I won't then." Melgor curled his lips. "By the way, you seem to be in a good mood. Why? Did you make some new friends in the side chamber?"

"I won't say we're friends yet, but we had quite a good chat," Ren Xiaosu said with a smile.

Melgor muttered, "You sure enjoyed leaving me on my own in the main hall."

But Ren Xiaosu suddenly stopped in his tracks. Melgor looked up and saw a figure at the end of the path staring blankly at him.

It was around two AM, and the streets were empty except for the three of them. Under normal circumstances, ordinary residents would definitely not head out at this time.

Melgor asked softly, "Have we been discovered? What should we do?"

Ren Xiaosu said in a low voice, "Go back to the relay station first. I bumped into an old friend."

"Old friend?" Melgor was surprised. "You've actually met an old friend here when you came from the Central Plains?"

"To be honest, I didn't expect it either." Ren Xiaosu sighed.

Melgor suddenly heard the figure at the end of the street ask in a trembling voice, "Ren Xiaosu, is that you? Don't think I can't recognize you just because you're wearing a cloak."

Ren Xiaosu grinned and said, "It's me. Wang Congyang, you must really love me! You actually recognized me?"

“Love you? My ass! I’d recognize you even if you turned to ash!” Wang Congyang said bitterly, “I fled all the way here, so why are you still haunting me? Bro, please let me off. I just want to lead my life without being hunted!”

Ren Xiaosu approached Wang Congyang step by step. “You might not believe it, but I was really just passing by.”

Before Ren Xiaosu could approach, Wang Congyang turned tail and ran away.

Just as Melgor was about to say something, he saw Ren Xiaosu chasing after him, off like a shot. Melgor was left standing alone on the street. “Hey, how do I get back to the relay station? It’s the middle of the night, and there’s no one around to ask directions from!”