

The old man smiles, “yes, I already have the perfect candidate in mind...”. Jonah’s face sinks into a frown, “you sound like you plan to dodge Ur for the 4<sup>th</sup> time in your life, that is quite dissappointing”. “I am much pass my prime, I would have no chance of ever winning Ur. Besides, you act as if I wasn’t prepared to enter the last games” the old man replies with sass. “You can tell me that lie all you want, but I know you were the one who caused the last games to take such a horrible turn...” Jonah’s voice becomes so stern is shocks the old man into silence. Jonah speaks again, more soft and innocent like before, “so you plan on sending one of the two little ones? I’m not sure how good of odds those kids have of doing anything”. The old man laughs, “I’m not sending them either! I am sending Luke Brackenstein!”.

Jonah’s head tilts and he thinks for a moment, “Luke...Luke...is that your nephew?”. “Oh heavens no! I would never trust my sister with the knowledge of Ur. This is my first born Grandson”. Jonah frowns, “so he’s nobody when it’s time to introduce your family, but he suddenly becomes your grandson when it’s time to draft players in the game?”. Mr.Brackenstein taps the desk with his knuckle while he thinks of an excuse. Jonah interrupts his train of thought, “don’t even bother thinking of a lie. I deny your entry. Pick a different player”.

The old man stands up and slams his cane against the ground, “so you want me to die and die with all the families’ secrets? Those two boys are far too young to hear the truth. Luke’s magic is the weakest I’ve seen in years, he could never protect this family in my absence. So then the only option left is to send one of the two grandchildren to die. Is that what you want?”. Jonah leans over the man’s desk and locks eyes with him, “I want you to finally pay for everything you’ve done”. The man laughs, “then make me. Kill me now and leave those kids to die, or force me to play in Ur. It’s all the same in the end”. Jonah leans back, “fine, I will accept Luke, but if you do not train one of those two boys to take over the family within the next year, then whatever happens to your family after will be on your hands”. “You can’t be serious! One year to learn strong magic and handle all the secrets of the family?!” The old man yells at Jonah. Jonah’s stare is the only answer the old man needed. He sits back down in his seat, “are we the first to enter?”. “The last. I made sure of that much. Luke will be coming with me now, Ur will start tonight” Jonah says too calmly.

Jonah begins to leave without any words spoken, the old man puts his hand out and the door becomes just a flat wall, “you’re not leaving yet Jonah, I need to ask you about the Wodsnell player. Who is it this time?”. Jonah chuckles, “you still believe that you and the Wodsnell’s are on equal footing when your estate is reduced to 3 magicians? If you must know it is one of their star pupils, Lander Wodsnell. This kid was able to produce a perfect Phantom Azoth at age 10”. The old man stands again and screams, “quit your lying in my household! No one has mastered one of the 4 Tincture before age 20, let alone 10!”. Jonah smiles, “I am leaving now”.

The old man raises both his hands and the wall to exit becomes covered in electricity and blue smoke, “you’re not leaving until you tell me the Wodsnell’s weakness”. Jonah laughs, “if you intend to hold me here, then you leave me no choice. I won’t hold back at all. Open Phantom Azoth”. Beneath Jonah’s feet turns to sand. The floor around him also becomes sand. This quickly spreads to the walls, the desk, the bookcases, all of it turns to sand. The ceiling becomes bright and blue as if outside in the sun. “Stop this! You may leave! I had no idea you would jump straight into using a Tincture in here! Quite irresponsible of you”. Jonah speaks, “close”. All the sand in the room dissapears, the ceiling returns returns to it’s normal form. Now, the room is left in a complete mess of destruction. Books from the bookshelf fall off, and another one takes its’ place and falls too onto a large pile on the floor. The only thing left from the desk is one piece of wood on the floor. The floor has been destroyed