

## Chapter 2: Personal Business

After a few hours the next day, Kilitia appears in his room to wake him up.

Kilitia: It's 10 o'clock, Utan. Wake up.

Utan: Go away.

Kilitia: You have a lot of things to do today. Come on, Utan; please get up. (becomes annoyed and comes closer to Utan.) I know you can hear me.

Kilitia sits on Utan's stomach.

Utan: Ok, I'm awake. Can you please get off me?

Kilitia: Thank you. (gets off of him.)

After Utan got through getting dressed, he heads downstairs to eat some breakfast.

Maiya: So, how did it go this morning?

Utan: Not so well. I keep having nightmares about what happened in Japan.

Maiya: What was it?

Utan: The mage that had the ability to freeze anything. Uhh, I forget her name.

Kilitia: I think her name was Rin Toshaka.

Utan: How - - - (sees that it's almost 11 AM.) Damn, I'm running late. Okay, mom; I have to get going.

Maiya: Don't forget, that I have a relative coming here today from Japan. I would like you to pick her up from the airport when you finish working.

After he was done eating breakfast, Utan heads into the city to Rossos' household to see Michaelis and Nicholas.

Utan: Hello, Nicholas.

???: (throws Utan.) You're late!

The person who threw Utan was Albert Rosso, their father who happens to be a sorcerer.

Utan: Why did you do that for?

Albert: Isn't it obvious? I heard you were able to beat some members from MageCorps when you were half-asleep. How about a 2-minute sparring match, before you leave?

Utan: Again? How many times are we going to fight whenever I see Mike and Nick? It will always end in a draw.

Utan and Albert fight for 2 minutes. Clearly, Albert had the hand-to-hand combat advantage over Utan; but he was able utilize counter-throws to combat Albert's punches. It ended at a draw.

Utan: See?

Albert: Seems to me like you've got a little soft in your offensive approach.

Utan: Like it even matters; you're a difficult person to approach.

Then, Nicholas appears.

Utan: Hi, Nicholas. Where's Michaelis?

Nicholas: He's getting dressed.

Utan: Ok, we'll leave at around 11:30. Wouldn't want to disappoint the manager.

Albert: That's not the only thing. Just be on the lookout for any members from MageCorps attacking Mages.

Utan: I quite positive your sons can fight them; you have been training them, haven't you?

Nicholas: He's only taught Michaelis about his magic capabilities. I'm learning from Master Takeda.

Utan: Really? What color belt you have?

Nicholas: (feels ashamed.) I have just started.

Albert: Don't feel too bad about it, Nick.

Nicholas: Aw, come on, Dad. You should at least teach me some magic arts, at the least.

Albert: So you can become like Harry Potter? No thanks. Learn how to fight from the master and earn a black belt already; then, I can teach you.

Utan, Michaelis and Nicholas head out to do some work at a retail store. After a couple of hours, just when they were about to head back home, two footsoldiers from MageCorps appear to capture another female in the front parking lot. It was Komane Uzuki

Utan: Again? Man, these guys are persistent. (sees that she was fighting back.)

Michaelis: Look, we shouldn't be involved with this; we may end up being fired. Plus, aren't you tired from fighting my father?

Nicholas: (sees one of the soldiers attack her. Footsoldier #1 holds on to her so she wouldn't escape)

Michaelis; let's go up there and deal with them.

Utan: Ok.

They go up there to aid the young girl.

Komane: Let me go, you jerk.

Footsoldier #2: Why are you acting salty? Your abilities as a fighter is expendable; you would make an excellent recruit for Commander Uugoh.

Komane: I'll pass. What do you gain from your commander? Is he that weak to come out here and get me?

Footsoldier #2: (punches her in the stomach.) He's a very busy man. I guess I should impose my will upon you.

Utan throws Footsoldier #2 away from the young girl and punches Footsoldier #1 in the nose as he tried to attack him.

Footsoldier #1: My nose. (sees that his nose was bleeding. he pulls out a handgun.) Try kung-fuing this, asshole!

Utan grabs the footsoldier's hand where he had the gun and fires all of his bullets into an open space. After that, he breaks his arm out of socket and throws him away.

Utan: I told you were going to get plastered, you idiot. (Then, Komane kicks Footsoldier #1 while he was down and injured.)

Komane: That'll teach you. (kicks him again.) Jerk!

Michaelis: (stops her from kicking him again.) That's enough.

Komane: Get your hands off of me!

Utan: (grabs her hand as she tries to punch Michaelis.) Did you hear what he just said? (then, she pulls out a dagger; she almost cut him. becomes angry and generates a steel pipe.) Now, you've done it.

Then, the manager comes out.

Store Manager: What the hell are you guys doing?

Utan: (drops the pipe.) Nothing. Just teaching a couple of people some manners.

Store Manager: (sees that the people Utan attacked were from MageCorps.) Oh no, you didn't. Did you attack these officers?

Michaelis: It isn't what it looks like. Honestly, I tried to stop him.

Store Manager: How could you? Have you realize what you just did? Now, the people from MageCorps are going to - - - this area's fucked. I can't have the owner of this place boil over with them around.

Nicholas: So what? It was only two people. Can't the police do anything about them?

Utan: There's no telling what would have happened if I didn't stop them.

Store Manager: No. I can't have them around this store fighting these Mages; they'll drive away the customers. I'm going to have to fire you three. After what you just did, the store owner's going to have my head.

Utan: You can't fire us. After what just happened to this innocent girl, you should reconsider.

Store Manager: You're fired!! (becoming angry.) If you don't leave right now, I'll have the police arrest your asses.

Michaelis: But you can't do this to us; please give us - - -

Store Manager: (gets really agitated.) Get the hell out of here. NOW!!!

Utan: You need a chill pill. (leaves.)

Nicholas: I hope you don't choke on your decision.

Utan and the Rosso Brothers leave the retail store. but before they could get in the car, the young girl stops them.

Komane: Wait.

Nicholas: After what you just did, you should - - -

Utan: Hold it. We were trying to minimize their attack on weak Mages without killing them.

Komane: I'm sorry about what happened. Besides, I'm not a mage.

Utan: Then how were those officers able to chase you here?

Michaelis: You're not telling us something. Anyway, who are you?

Komane: I'm Komane Uzuki. I was wondering if I could find my aunt, Maiya Uzuki.

Nicholas: You're related to Utan's mother? If that's the case, he must be your distant cousin; aren't you lucky.

As you tell, Utan was stunned.

Utan: (feeling upset.) My mom's been waiting for you all day; mine's well.

Utan and Komane drive back home. Meanwhile in hospital, a couple of nurses was tending to the soldiers that were beaten up by Utan. One of the nurses, Dr. Joy Belmont, had to stop one of her assistants, Grace, from arguing with one of the injured soldiers.

Joy: That's enough.

Grace: No, it isn't. We've wasted enough time healing them already and we aren't getting a single cent.

Joy: That's mainly because you're being too rough on them. (Grace becomes mad.) Go cool yourself off; we got other people other than MageCorps to tend to.

Grace leaves the hospital.

Joy: You don't have to worry about her bothering you.

Footsoldier #2: How is he, Dr. Belmont?

Joy: It's just awful. Utan actually broke his right arm; is that your good arm?

Footsoldier #1: Yes, it is. Are you going to repair it?

Joy: I can, but you will be forced to be relieved from your duties being an officer.

Footsoldier #2: Don't worry; MageCorps will pay for the treatment.

Gigi: We're talking hundreds of thousands of dollars. How is your organization going to pay for all of this?

Joy: I'll allow it. However, it'll be a 121 thousand dollars you'll have to pay.

Footsoldier #2: I'll go on ahead and report this to the commanders.

Gigi: Commanders? I thought you only had one.

Footsolider #2: Well; thanks to Utan injuring Commander Ugoh last year, Dr. Rex Navarre decided to become co-commander of MageCorps. Why is he allowing Utan to continue to attack us?

Gigi: You keep attacking these innocent people. There not mages - - - they just normal people, like us.

Footsolider #2: Bullshit! How could be so sure? I could say that doctor of yours may be a blood-sucking vampire.

Joy: That's enough. If you don't leave the hospital right now, I'm calling the police.

Footsoldier #2: Fine, I'll leave. (leaves.)

Gigi: What a jerk.

At the headquarters of MageCorps, Co-Commanders Martellus Uugoh and Rex Navarre receive the news about Utan's recent fight against some of their soldiers.

Uugoh: What? Again?

Footsoldier #2: Yes; he attacked us again just when we were about bring in Komane Uzuki. This time he had Albert Rosso's sons along with him to deal with us.

Martellus: Why that - - - that really angers me.

Rex: Did they fight against them?

Footsoldier #2: No.

Rex: I thought you said we weren't going to attack the Mages here. Shouldn't we be working to help the people from Japan recover from the Holy Grail War?

Martellus: We're not officials of the Church. Besides, there's not enough earnings to take our operations overseas after Utan's fiasco with Rin. We're already near 500 thousand dollars in debt; we need at least twenty more recruits to at least get rid of it. If this keeps up, we'll be shut down.

Rex: I'll see what I can do to stop him without hurting him. I'll send Ivan and the Geminis to deal with him tomorrow. But we really should be doing relief efforts to some of the cities ravaged in the Holy Grail War at least. (leaves.)

Footsoldier #2: You never did tell us why you had us attack Komane. And why do you hold a grudge against Mages anyway?

Martellus: If I told you, you wouldn't be alive right now. The main reason why I hold a grudge with them is that they chose youth over experience. If it wasn't for those fools from the Mage Association, MageCorps would have been the main branch. Instead we're just a developmental center for mages learning how to control their powers. Some have potential, some don't. We keep getting the ones that don't have the potential.

Footsoldier #2: Is that all? Is Ivan good enough to deal with Utan?

Martellus: He may be my hidden gem in this organization.

Footsoldier #2: What is his powers? (Ugoh was silent.) Sorry for asking; I guess I'll leave. (leaves.)