AGES THE ANIMATED SERIES STORY: THE PASSENGERS OF TIME CHAPTER 10: ASSASSINS

By

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The sky is dark and cloudy. Gloom rests over the castle.

KING MALEK watches through a telescope from the safety of the Tabor Forest the Crimson forces. They are already alert to their presence and have taken positions on the castle walls with archers and catapults.

The king hiding behind two-thousand Arylian troops, fifteen-hundred yards away from the castles entrance. The military is using the forest as cover.

> KING MALEK This army is not the same one we faced when we sacked Jigormont. They are more alert, focused even. What say you?

AION FAUST is in a veiled tent behind the king not showing her horrid face.

AION FAUST It is the work of our visitors from the future. They have instilled Lord Gibbs and his men with confidence.

KING MALEK

We will see how much confidence they will keep when they witness their home being taken by their enemy.

EXT. SOUTH EAST TOWER OF SOLOMON - MORNING

COMMANDER MOORE and LORD GIBBS are surveying the situation in the forest. So far no movement by the enemy.

> LORD GIBBS Why are they just sitting there?

COMMANDER MOORE When their sneak-attack failed they changed to tactics of

intimidation. They mean to let us worry about their first move. They will probably even ask us to surrender before the first strike.

SIR BOULIS steps out from the forest on his black steed.

SIR BOULIS Our king asks for your immediate surrender! What say you?

Commander Moore lifts his right eyebrow in contempt for the Arylians.

LORD GIBBS Commander Moore, give him my answer.

Commander Moore smiles then turns his head to one of the soldiers.

COMMANDER MOORE

On the mark.

The soldier runs down the line of archers on the wall as Commander Moore signals the fifteen soldiers working the catapults.

Boulders are hurled into the air at the Arylian forces.

Sir Boulis smiles as the massive boulders fly in at the fake Arylian forces, dummies in armor stuffed with straw.

In the ground some twenty feet deep and mere feet away from breaching the castle walls three hex, large beetles that eat dirt and passes it through a tube tracing the entire length of the tunnel dig to breach the castle. The tunnel being reinforced by the real Arylian army is moments away from starting their sneak attack.

EXT. THE VILLAGE SQUARE OF ISIS - MORNING

It's a sunny day. The ocean water is a pure blue with white waves hitting the serene beaches of Isis.

The wind is blowing gently, swaying the palm tree leafs.

MAYOR WARREN and the rest of the village bid RYAN and his team farewell.

MAYOR WARREN We wish you good morrow. Please be careful in your journey.

RYAN

Thank you.

REESE walks up to Ryan.

REESE Thank you for listening. Please come back with Aaron.

LUCY raises an eyebrow in shock.

RYAN Yeah, I'll make sure to send him back to you in one piece. Lets go.

INT. ODIN'S PASS THIRTY MINUTES LATER - MORNING

The cave glows a bright blue as Ryan, Lucy and the Crimson soldiers traverse back to their homeland.

LUCY So what was that back there between you and the nurse.

RYAN Well she wanted me to help her bring back the love of her life.

LUCY You wanted something more?

RYAN

I was just curious to see where the night was taking me. By the way this was during the festival a few nights back.

LUCY

Oh, when you two disappeared for a couple of hours.

RYAN Yeah. She started out seducing me then was all about her boyfriend.

LUCY Sounds like the worst date ever.

RYAN

That's what I was saying. Anyhow this lucky guy of hers is Aaron Richter.

Lucy thinks to herself for a moment.

LUCY Where have I heard that name?

RYAN He is none other than the current captain of the guard of the Crimson Capital.

LUCY

What?

RYAN Yeah, she had me promise to bring him back to her.

LUCY What separated them?

RYAN

His current position. I feel like we have wasted too much talk about him. What's our game plan?

MR. MARGOLIS who is riding on top of the carriage chimes in.

VINCENT MARGOLIS We need to take back Harrisburg.

Lucy and Ryan are startled.

LUCY Vincent, I did not know that you were awake.

VINCENT MARGOLIS I just woke up moments ago.

LUCY I was of the mind set that we should join up with Lord Gibbs and fortify the land more South and closer to the enemies homeland.

VINCENT MARGOLIS You would be correct in doing that. However, if my estimations are correct a battle rages on as we speak at Castle Solomon.

RYAN Why would you think that?

VINCENT MARGOLIS

The black witch has been making moves based off of your actions. She must have known that you were trying to find me to aid you in your navigation of this war. That is why she poisoned me, so that you would take me to Isis and away from the Crimson Empire.

LUCY

Leaving them vulnerable.

VINCENT MARGOLIS Exactly. I was going to inform Lord Gibbs of a pending attack then I found out that you were being sent to the dragons cave.

RYAN

What did you find out?

VINCENT MARGOLIS

There was a small encampment of Arylian scouts outside Corenth. Too small to do any significant damage. Their purpose was to wait for orders invading Solomon Castle.

LUCY

If they are invading Solomon, why were they at Corenth?

VINCENT MARGOLIS

That was what I did not understand until I found hex dropping not far from their position.

LUCY Hex beetles were used for

underground operations.

VINCENT MARGOLIS What do you mean were?

LUCY

I mean I have heard that they had been used before for mining.

VINCENT MARGOLIS

You are up on your politics. They have been used for such operations.

RYAN

So Lord Gibbs won't know what hit him.

VINCENT MARGOLIS Which is why we need to build our strategy around the Arylian forces sacking Solomon. Taking back Harrisburg is the only line of defense that Corenth Castle has against our enemy.

The Crimson party walks through Orin's arch. As Lucy steps through its threshold a dart hits her on her neck from the left.

LUCY (slurred) What is...

Ryan and the rest of the Crimson forces draw weapons. As Lucy begins to fall a net flies through the air from her right and ensnares her.

RYAN

Lucy!

LUCY (slurred) Ryyyn!

Her body is snatched and reeled through the cave at high velocity. Two assassins dressed in black quickly follow Lucy out of the cave.

Ryan runs after her but has trouble keeping up.

VINCENT MARGOLIS Mr. Reinhardt! That is what they want you to do! Everyone follow him!

Everyone takes after Ryan.

Lucy's body drags along in between two armored berzerkers with swords in each hand.

LUCY (slurred) Ry! Stoem!

Ryan sees the two berzerkers and the metal that they are wearing. He brings his momentum to a halt.

Ah!

RYAN (frustrated)

The berzerkers start to close the distance as Ryan calms himself, closing his eyes.

RYAN

Need to calm myself.

The power of lightening courses within his heart and floods his veins. He opens his eyes to reveal bright white energy coming from within.

The berzerker to his left raises a sword and slashes down on top of Ryan.

He waits for the blade to drop mere feet away from his head then time slows.

He dodges to the right almost as if he disappears then reappears safe from the large blade hacking into the blue ice.

Ryan punches a fist at the large beast hitting it in the head with a powerful blast of lightening.

The blast lifts the berzerker off of the ground and into the side of the ice cave. It body bounces off of the side of the cave and lands face down on the ground fifty yards away from the initial attack.

The other berzerker closes in on Ryan and swings at him from left to right.

Ryan leaps into the air and rolls. As he touches down when the other sword chops down.

RYAN I don't have time for this!

Ryan aims his arm at the ground a fires a blast of lightening launching his body at the berzerker.

He plants his left foot into the beasts face and knocks it down on its backside.

RYAN Got to get Lucy.

As Ryan springs back he uses his power to launch toward the enterance of the cave.

Meanwhile Mr. Margolis and the Crimson elite catch up to the berzerkers.

VINCENT MARGOLIS (disbelief) He was able to get past them.

The berzerker that was face down is now on a knee picking itself up off of the ground. The other gets off of its butt and on its feet to greet Mr. Margolis.

> VINCENT MARGOLIS Alright men I heard that you trained for this sort of situation. Private Juarez you're with me to the left. The rest of you take the other one.

They all split to their targets.

Ryan observes the assassins taking Lucy away as he flies in catching up.

He fires the remainder of his energy at one of the assassins, knocking him out.

The other assassin continues to run as Ryan hits the ground and flips to his stomach. He skids about fifteen feet then leaps to his feet and sprints.

Lucy can't see very well as the drug used to sedate her has almost taken full effect.

She looks to her feet and sees that they are about to exit the Ice Gods Pass.

EXT. ODIN'S PASS - DAY

Lucy and the assassin leave the cave. The rope dragging Lucy out of the cave is connected to a winch being operated by another armored berzerker.

Lucy's body stops right next to a perched pterodactyl. Three of these birds rest as the assassin ties the net to the talons of one of the birds.

He frees the bird carrying Lucy and one of the others then hops on the third and takes off.

Ryan exits the cave as the berzerker readies itself for battle with an axe.

RYAN (angry) Lucy!

Ryan sees the free pterodactyl and calms himself as the berzerker nears.

The axe goes up over the shoulder and comes down as Ryan blasts himself into the air.

He foot plants off of the beasts head knocking it down to the ground and aims his body at the free bird.

EXT. SKY ABOVE THE TABOR FOREST - DAY

The free pterodactyl follows the assassin to the east.

Ryan flies over to the bird with the last of his power and drops onto it harness.

RYAN

Whoa!

The pterodactyl is staggered and loses control for a moment.

Ryan grabs the reigns and forces control. He closes in on the bird carrying Lucy.

The assassin turns his head to witness Ryan honing in on Lucy.

He pulls his bow from his back and drops back to attack Ryan.

RYAN Lucy! Lucy I coming!

Lucy is trying to stay awake but keeps fading in and out.

An arrow hits Ryan's bird causing it to stagger. Ryan is thrown from the harness but manages to grip tight on the reigns forcing the bird to descend.

RYAN

Ah!

Below the fight is a mountainous terrain where ten more assassins are waiting.

As Ryan who is struggling to get back on his saddle passes by, the assassins jump on their pterodactyls and pursue. He throws a leg up onto the harness and gains control. He looks to his left then right to see that he is now surrounded by enemies.

An assassin drops from a pterodactyl down on top of Ryan. A spear is thrust at Ryan's head. He dodges the attack and loses his balance on the saddle.

RYAN

They don't give up!

Still holding onto the reigns, Ryan kicks his feet into the intruders stomach, knocking him off of the bird.

RYAN

Yeah!

Three arrows are fired into Ryan's bird causing it to lose its balance.

Ryan brings the bird under control, however, more arrows are being fired from all different directions.

Ryan looks at Lucy getting away.

RYAN (determined) There has to be a way!

Ryan pauses and charges to use lightening.

The assassins lock arrows onto Ryan and fire.

The arrows fly through the air and just about hit Ryan. He opens his eyes coursing with lightening and fires bolts at all of the arrows and their points of origin.

He knocks out five assassins at once and renders their assault useless.

RYAN

Yeah!

He notices that his pterodactyl is losing altitude. He looks at the bird and sees that it was knocked out as well.

RYAN Oh no the lightening knocked her out!

As the limp body of the pterodactyl falls to the forest below the black dragon swoops in from behind as Ryan hears its wings flapping. He turns to see the gaping mouth of the black dragon open to claim its prize.

RYAN

Whoa!

Ryan leaps off of the pterodactyl as the dragon snaps its mouth shut on the bird.

Escaping near death, Ryan pulls his blade and waits for the dragon to come for him.

RYAN

Come on big guy. You know you have room for seconds.

It takes three second for the dragon to swallow its meal whole then speed in for some dessert.

RYAN Just a little closer.

Ryan waits for the right moment. The dragon opens its mouth.

RYAN This will cure what ales ya!

He fires a shot of lightening into the dragons throat.

The dragon quickly turns its head and Ryan catches a ride on the beast by stabbing his sword into the side of its head.

RYAN

Here we go!

The dragon spins violently to the ground below. Ryan maintains his grip on the sword but struggles to do so.

The dragon jerks back up then dives into the forest trying to knock Ryan off using the trees.

Ryan draws his sword from the side of the beasts head and climbs to the top of its skull, dodging a tree.

This is what the dragon wants so it smashes its head into another tree hitting Ryan in the process.

RYAN (in pain) Ah!

His body flies from the dragons skull hitting several trees on the way to the ground.

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Finally his body hits the ground, beaten but not yet broken. He is face down with many cuts and bruises.

Ryan drags himself up off the ground and stands, looking at the dragon. It stares at him from the sky above.

RYAN (beaten) Come on! We're not finished! Lets do this!

The dragon stares at him then flies off to the east along with the assassins and Lucy.

Ryan runs after them.

RYAN (angered) No! Come back! Lucy!

He slows his runs down then stops. Ryan looks down in disgrace.

EXT. OUTSIDE CASTLE SOLOMON - DAY

Castle Solomon has undergone heavy damage by the Arylian army. The dust from the fight is settling as the battle is over.

Lord Gibbs and Commander Moore along with the remainder of about fifteen surviving troops have been captured. All prisoners are on their knees being controlled by Arylian soldiers. Two berzerkers stand on the drawbridge to the prisoners backs.

Before them King Malek and Aion Faust approach. They stop before the prisoners to present themselves.

KING MALEK The Nobel Lord Gibbs. How fare you?

LORD GIBBS I have no words for you.

KING MALEK Pity. Let it be said that no words were exchanged between the fallen and the victor. Sorry about your castle by the way. Renovations can be oh so tedious. COMMANDER MOORE Our King will stop you!

KING MALEK

Your King has betrayed you. Locked himself up in his castle and has turned his back on his faithful subjects. At least I appreciate those who aid my efforts. I read the declaration that was passed to you on your visit from Corenth. Wouldn't even lend you additional reinforcements to help defend his precious Crimson Empire. The King that failed his people!

COMMANDER MOORE Mr. Reinhardt will stop you!

KING MALEK Our guests from the future are busy with other matters.

Commander Moore and Lord Gibbs look at each other confused.

KING MALEK Oh, so you don't know that the help that you have been receiving has been from those who harold from a time far beyond our deaths. Yes we set a trap from your so-called saviors. By the time they free themselves it will be too late and this kingdom will be mine.

Sir Boulis approaches on horseback.

SIR BOULIS Your highness, the men are ready for departure.

KING MALEK

Sir Boulis, you have proven yourself on the battlefield and as a reward I give you Castle Solomon a prize for your victory. You are now Lord of Solomon.

LORD BOULIS It will be a testament to the new Arylian Empire. EXT. THE ICE GODS PASS - DAY

The berzerker that once guarded Odins Pass has been defeated. It's body lies on the ground dead.

The Crimson troops are preparing to advance on their journey as Ryan approaches.

Vincent, on top of the carriage sees Ryan without Lucy and quickly hops to him.

VINCENT MARGOLIS They were successful in taking Eliza?

RYAN

(ashamed)

Yes.

VINCENT MARGOLIS

They took her because they knew you would go after her. My guess is that she has been taken to the docks of Leighton on the eastern edge of the Crimson Empire.

RYAN

Then that is where we will go.

VINCENT MARGOLIS

If we go there we will not be able to intercept the Arylian attack at Harrisburg. We will have to face them when they reach Corenth.

RYAN I know. But I will not let them torture my friend.

Ryan turns away from Vincent and faces the east where Lucy had been taken.

Vincent steps in front of Ryan.

VINCENT MARGOLIS You must know that it is a trap. That they will try to detain you long enough to sack Corenth.

Ryan looks down at Vincent.

RYAN

We need Eliza to win the war. Without her we will lose. Plus she has information they must not get. It is important that we get her back and soon. I'm going to need all of you to put your faith in me on this one.

All of the soldiers look at one and other waiting for an order.

VINCENT MARGOLIS You have not steered us wrong so far. I am with you.

Private Juarez joins in.

PRIVATE JUAREZ I'm with you too.

PRIVATE VIGNES announces for everyone.

PRIVATE VIGNES We all are. So what are the orders?

RYAN We get to the docks and we rescue Eliza. We then need to high-tail it back to Corenth Castle and stop the Arylian army from taking our country.

VINCENT MARGOLIS The assassins of our enemies are the most skilled of their warriors.

PRIVATE VIGNES Yes. But I am a gambling man and I would bet all my live stock that they are no match for Mr. Reinhardt.

RYAN Alright everyone lets move out!

Private Vignes jumps on top of the carriage as the other men and Ryan leap onto their horses. Vincent Margolis hops onto the carriage as they all begin their journey to the east. Aion Faust is riding in her veiled canopy carriage along with the Arylian troops on foot. Sir Boulis rides up along side her.

LORD BOULIS

Just received word by messenger hawk that we have the girl.

AION FAUST

Very good. Tell the King I have a matter to attend to and to advance to Harrisburg. He now has my blessing to storm Corenth. Fetch me my bird. I must go to the eastern docks of Leighton. Someone is waiting for me.

LORD BOULIS

Understood.

Lord Bouls rides ahead to tell the king Aions news of departure.

EXT. THE TABOR FOREST THIRTY MINUTES LATER - DAY

Ryan and the rest of the Crimson elite are rushing to the docks.

VINCENT MARGOLIS If we hurry we arrive at Leighton before sundown.

RYAN What is the story behind the assassins?

VINCENT MARGOLIS The assassins are a band of warriors known as the Gee. They punish their body tirelessly day in day out. Their resistance to pain is unmatched. If you are lucky enough to chop the favored hand off of an assassin they would just fight with the other.

RYAN Sounds like a fun loving bunch.

VINCENT MARGOLIS

It is worse than you think. They also have an unparalleled sense of mind control. One Gee is not better nor worse then the brother to his side.

RYAN All I need is to persuade them to tell me where Eliza is.

VINCENT MARGOLIS It is going to be a little difficult for them to do that.

RYAN I'll do what's necessary.

VINCENT MARGOLIS

Unless you have the ability to regenerate their tongues. At age five they go through a right of passage where the child turned warrior is stripped of their ability to speak.

An arrow hits Private Vignes in his side. He drops to the ground and everyone comes to a halt.

Ryan draws his sword.

An assassin swings from a rope tied to a tree. When Ryan turns to his left he is greeted by the swinging feet of the assassin.

RYAN

Whoa!

Vincent draws his rapier as Ryan flies through the air.

VINCENT MARGOLIS Mr. Reinhardt!

Thrown from his horse, Ryan lands on his back and slides ten feet on the ground where his head almost hits the trunk of a tree.

Dazed, he looks up to see the same assassin that had knocked him off of his horse dropping down from the top of the tree with his blade aimed at Ryan's head. Ah!

He rolls just in time to escape the katana that pierces the ground beneath him.

Ryan looks at the blade that nearly killed him with urgent eyes.

RYAN

Jeez!

The assassin draws his sword from the ground and makes another attempt on Ryan's life.

Ryan blocks the attack and kicks the assassin in the stomach knocking him to the ground.

Ryan flips to his feet and engages his attacker who springs to his feet as well.

The Crimson soldiers form a unit defense.

Vincent quickly glances over the scenery to note that they are in fact surrounded by fifty plus Gee.

VINCENT MARGOLIS We are surrounded!

Ryan clashes swords with his attacker and hears Vincent.

RYAN You must all fight as individuals do not make yourselves a big target.

Private Juarez looks around at their attackers and sees them closing in slowly.

PRIVATE JUAREZ Everyone! Pick a target and charge!

He draws his sword and charges out. The rest of the men scatter in different directions, charging the enemy.

VINCENT MARGOLIS Now this is more like it!

Vincent hops out and starts swiping his sword in the face of an assassin.

Ryan sees everyone fighting.

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RYAN (voice over) These are skilled killers. I need to make quick work of them not just for Lucy, but for the soldiers sake as well.

Continuing to fight his attacker he takes note of the assassins style of fighting and realizes.

RYAN (voice over) He is not really fighting me. He is merely keeping me busy.

Ryan calms himself and charges lightening as he bats away the attacker to give himself a moment of pause.

The assassin falls to his back and almost as quickly flips back to his feet and runs at Ryan.

Thrusting his sword at Ryan's chest the attack is blocked by Ryan's sword which is electrified.

The shock flows into the attackers sword and jolts him into passing out.

RYAN Sorry, but I don't have time to play.

Ryan throws his fist like a punch at an assassin twenty yards from his position. A ball of electricity flies and hits the assassin then fires a connecting array of lightening bolts at four other assassins knocking them out.

Gee who are in the trees aim their bows at Ryan who has now made himself the immediate threat.

A volley of arrows are fired at Ryan. He looks up still coursing with electricity and dodges each arrow with lightening speed, disappearing and reappearing in safety.

He pauses for another attack as his attackers are setting up for another volley.

Vincent Margolis is flipping backwards and forwards dodging attacks from an assassin and cutting him almost as if a mouse were playing a cat for a fool.

VINCENT MARGOLIS Oh don't worry I'm sure you'll hit me eventually. Another swipe is taken at Vincent and once again he dodges.

VINCENT MARGOLIS Oh that was close.

Another swipe is taken and once again he misses.

VINCENT MARGOLIS Don't beat yourself up.

Vincent flips to the attackers shoulder and runs his rapier through the back of the assassins neck.

Vincent hops off of the limp assassin as his body drops to the ground.

The toad looks for his next victim.

VINCENT MARGOLIS

Right.

A volley of arrows are let loose and Ryan waits for the moment just before the arrowheads make contact with him to dodge.

This time Ryan takes to the air using his power and throws bolts at each of the fifteen Gee hiding in the trees.

Three bolts knock out three assassins. Ryan lands on a tree limb with two archers. He rushes in and takes them out with sword swipes to their legs.

The archers fall to the ground below where the fight continues between the Crimson Imperials and the Gee.

Private Vignes faces an assassin.

PRIVATE VIGNES We don't want to fight we just want the girl.

His assassin responds by pulling ninja stars and throwing them at the negotiator.

He dodges two but is hit in his right side by the third which pierces his armor.

PRIVATE VIGNES (in pain)

Ah!

A little blood trickles through the opening in his armor. Juarez fights another assassin and backs into Private Vignes. PRIVATE JUAREZ I don't think you stand to reason with the mute my brother.

Private Juarez blocks a flurry of attacks with Vignes to his back. Private Vignes goes on the offensive and charges at his attacker with precise swipes that force him the back off.

PRIVATE VIGNES I am just giving the man a choice. I do not want it to be said that I was not merciful.

Private Juarez smiles then goes on the offensive against his attacker.

Ryan dispatches his last archer then looks down at the dwindling Gee. They begin to assess their situation and retreat leaving their fallen comrades behind.

The Gee that Privates Vignes and Juarez are battling notice their brothers in arms flee and so do they.

Privates Vignes and Juarez look at each other stumped as the mighty Gee leave the battle field.

PRIVATE JUAREZ Our enemy flees. Should we pursue?

Ryan jumps down from the trees above and lands before Privates Juarez and Vignes. Electricity courses through Ryan still.

> RYAN We will follow them. They will take us to our destination.

Vincent Margolis hops to Ryan then jumps onto the carriage.

VINCENT MARGOLIS There will be more Gee at the docks.

RYAN Their purpose was to detain us and nothing more.

PRIVATE JUAREZ So they were not putting up a real fight? RYAN No! The fight is not here. We must hurry if we are to make it to Leighton before dusk.

The Crimson soldiers begin setting up to leave for the eastern dock of Leighton.