

Beloved Dog 111

Chapter 111

Drastic Measures for Leo Familiarization

The next morning, Mr. Ekenhart woke up unusually early, and we all sat at breakfast together.

There was a peaceful atmosphere in the room, and Mr. Ekenhart and Sebastian were talking about the direction that would be taken concerning the selling of my herbs.

“Sebastian, I will take the herbs, that Mr. Takumi made last time, back with me. However, I want you to start selling in the town of Ractos immediately.”

“As you wish, Your Grace. I will have Mr. Takumi supply us with some more herbs, within his ability.”

“Good. There is a lot of traffic moving in and out of Ractos, and so news will spread quickly if we start selling there.”

“Perhaps you will start hearing word of it by the time you arrive, Your Grace.”

“Hahaha. Well, that would not be strange.”

Apparently, they were going to start selling the herbs at the nearest town, which I had been to before.

I didn't mind that they were ordering more herbs, but that meant I would be paid again... I would have to think about what I will do with that money.

“Father. If you're going to sell them in Ractos, will it be at that store?”

“Aye. As the products sold there are not always the same, it will be easier to add the herbs as a new product.”

What was this store that Ms. Claire and Mr. Ekenhart were talking about...?

I had only been to the town of Ractos twice, so I didn't know which stores were run by the duke's family.

But I suppose I would find out once they started selling the herbs.

After that, Ms. Claire joined the two as they discussed their plans.

Tilura and I just listened as we ate the delicious breakfast.

There was still too much that I didn't know, and so I couldn't join the conversation...

By the time breakfast was finished, they had finished talking, and so we took our tea and rested.

"Father. Please be careful on the way back home."

"I'll be fine. I have my guards, after all."

"But still..."

I had heard that it was nearly a week's ride back to the main house.

And this was a world with monsters, so you never knew what might happen.

But Mr. Ekenhart just laughed at Ms. Claire's concerns.

I did think that he would be fine, judging by his strength.

"And Mr. Takumi, I doubt there is anything to worry about, as Sebastian is here, but please look after this mansion as well."

“...Yes.”

I nodded at Mr. Ekenhart’s words. It was proof that he trusted me.

And while I doubted that anything could happen, it felt nice to be relied on.

It was only natural for me to do something for those that helped me.

“Wuff. Wuff.”

Leo was also nodding as if to say that she could be relied on.

Mr. Ekenhart flinched in surprise... So he still wasn’t used to Leo...

“Father. Don’t you think that you should get a little more used to Leo?”

“...During the past few days, I’ve seen how gentle she is...but...”

Perhaps Mr. Ekenhart knew a little too much about what Silver Fenrirs were capable of.

But aside from that knowledge, he might be more sensitive to the overwhelming power of a Silver Fenrir that Leo had.

And she was big.

Yes... Perhaps we could do what we did with Ms. Gelda...

“Mr. Ekenhart. Do you still have some time before your departure?”

“What, Mr Takumi? ...I have about an hour... Yes, I can spare that much.”

One hour, huh... It wasn’t long, but it was enough time.

“In that case, Mr. Ekenhart, could you come out to the garden?”

“Hmm? Ah, very well.”

“What are you going to do, Mr. Takumi?”

“Something that should help Mr. Ekenhart get accustomed to Leo’s presence.”

I said quietly to Ms. Claire, so that her father could not hear. And then I took Leo and we went out into the back garden.

“What now, Mr. Takumi? Are you going to test Weed Cultivation again?”

That was his guess, but he was wrong.

And so I approached Mr. Ekenhart with Leo and told him what we were going to do.

“I think it will help you get used to Leo. Leo, I’m counting on you.”

“Wuff.”

Leo answered me and then turned her back towards Mr. Ekenhart and then sat down.

“Now, Mr. Ekenhart. Please get onto Leo’s back.”

“...On Leo...? But...”

“It’s all right, father. Leo is very gentle, and you will not be shaken off.”

Tilura told him that it was perfectly safe and she started to push him.

And then Ms. Claire joined in, so that Mr. Ekenhart had no choice but to climb onto Leo's back.

...For some reason, Sebastian also joined in, and seemed to be enjoying it... Sebastian. Should you really be pushing your master around like that?

"...Good Leo...I am ready..."

"Leo. Go slowly."

"Wou!"

With Mr. Ekenhart now on her back, Leo got up to her feet.

And while Mr. Ekenhart was used to riding on horses, he looked nervous and stiff as he clutched onto Leo tightly.

"Wuff!"

"Kyau! Kyau!"

And just like that, Leo began to run freely in the vast garden.

As the rider was afraid, she started running at a slower pace, much like the first time she had carried Tilura.

Behind them, Sherry barked happily as she followed.

Did she think that they were playing...? Well, at least Sherry would be getting some exercise from this.

"What a good idea this was, Mr. Takumi."

"It's what helped Ms. Gelda overcome her fear. And so I thought that it would be effective."

“Is that so... Indeed, I haven’t seen Ms. Gelda looking afraid for some time...”

Now that I thought about it, Ms. Claire had not been present during the first time I had let Ms. Gelda and Ms. Lyra ride on Leo.

For some time after that, Mr. Ekenhart rode on Leo as she ran around the garden, and we all smiled and watched.

And then Mr Ekenhart seemed to get used to riding her. And once he was relaxed, he looked very intimidating. Like a great bandit who was riding on a giant wolf.

“Leo, it’s time to come back.”

“Wuff!”

It must have been thirty or forty minutes later. I thought it was long enough, and so I called Leo back.

Leo barked in reply and then came running with increased speed.

Then she stopped and sat down so that Mr. Ekenhart could dismount.

His feet did look a little shaky, but he would get used to it.

Chapter 112

Mr. Ekenhart Returned to His Main Residence

“...Phew... Leo is quite amazing... She is able to run faster than any horse...”

“Father, are you used to being around Leo now?”

“Indeed... It would be strange if I was still afraid of her. ...Good Leo. Thank you very much.”

“Wuff!”

Mr. Ekenhart replied to Ms. Claire and then thanked Leo.

Leo was sitting still and allowed him to pet her gently.

She seemed to enjoy this, and her tail was wagging from side to side.

I doubted that it had eradicated his fear completely, but it was certainly a great improvement.

“Thank you, Mr. Takumi. While it was a little forceful, I no longer feel any fear towards Leo.”

“Hahaha. I am sorry for surprising you like that. But there wasn’t much time, and I felt bad for Leo.”

“I’m sorry about that. I’ve seen enough of Leo to know that she doesn’t attack humans, but she is still a Silver Fenrir. And so I couldn’t help but wonder...”

The knowledge of Silver Fenrirs and what they were capable of would rush back in his mind, and that would cause fear, I think.

So it was no wonder that he was afraid. But still, I wanted him to know that Leo was really just a cute wolf.

I suppose it was something that a lot of pet owners felt.

“Your Grace, it is almost time.”

“...I see. Very well.”

“Mr. Ekenhart, about the selling of the herbs... Thank you.”

“Aye.”

Sebastian had been looking at his watch, and so we went back into the mansion at his urging.

As we walked, I thanked Mr. Ekenhart one last time.

He nodded in reply.

We went through the mansion and arrived at the entrance hall.

Here, the servants of the mansion were all waiting, just like they had when he first arrived.

“Now, Your Grace. Please be careful.”

“Father. I pray that you’ll have a safe journey.”

“Please be safe, father!”

“Thank you for everything, Mr. Ekenhart.”

“Hmm... Takumi and Tilura. You must continue to train diligently.”

“Yes.”

“I’ll do my best.”

We all said our farewells, and Mr. Ekenhart pressed us to continue with our training.

“Well, then. I look forward to the next time we will all meet.”

“Safe travels, Your Grace!”

The servants said in unison as Mr. Ekenhart left the mansion.

This time, I tried joining them.

...It actually felt rather good.

“Giddyup!”

After Mr. Ekenhart and his guards had mounted their horses, the one in the lead shouted, and the horses began to run.

We lost sight of them after they passed through the gates, and so we went back into the mansion.

After that, Tilura and I started to train, as if Mr. Ekenhart was still here.

As for Ms. Claire and Sebastian, they went to a different room in order to begin preparations for selling the herbs in the town of Ractos.

Leo carried Sherry on her back and watched us as we trained.

And they also had fun following us when we started running.

“Mr. Takumi, Tilura, you must be tired.”

We finished our training, and it was now dinner time.

Ms. Claire was waiting for us in the dining hall, and urged us to take our seat at the table.

As we had been training seriously, both Tilura and I ate ravenously.

Perhaps, this was not very polite, but Ms. Claire did not say anything, as she had when it was her father, and just watched with a smile.

Well, we weren't eating quite as badly as him.

After dinner, we rested with some tea, and then it was back to swinging swords outside.

I didn't want to slack off, just because Mr. Ekenhart was no longer here.

After all, this training wasn't for someone else. It was for my own protection.

"Wuff-wuff."

"I'll do my best."

Leo barked encouragingly, and Tilura seemed reinvigorated by it.

And not wanting to fall behind a small, but determined child, I continued to train.

Of course, I did not forget to make herbs with Weed Cultivation during breaks, as a way of being more efficient.

After I had finished my sword swings, I took a bath in order to wash off all of the sweat and feel refreshed.

I just knew that I would sleep well tonight.

The next morning, after breakfast and training, Tilura went off to study.

Ms. Claire was adamant that she focus on more than just training, and had sent her solemnly to her room.

As for me, I continued to train alone. Though, Ms. Lyra and Ms. Gelda kept an eye on me.

From tomorrow, I would start a different kind of training. The one that Mr. Ekenhart had suggested to me before leaving. And so I wanted to strengthen my body as much as possible.

Well, there was only so much that could change in one day, but I would do what I can.

According to Mr. Ekenhart, if I focused on my training for this entire day, I would be able to add something new to the regimen.

Once it was time for lunch, I joined Ms. Claire, as well as Tilura, who had come out of her room.

As Tilura was quite tired after training, she had not been able to focus on her studies as much, and so she was told she would have to continue studying after lunch.

“Really. It is fine to train, but you must be able to concentrate as well.”

“...But I hate studying...”

During lunch, Ms. Claire had nothing but sighs and warnings for her younger sister.

Tilura was so serious and focused when she was training.

But I suppose working with your body was very different from working with your head.

“Tilura.”

“What is it, Mr. Takumi?”

“Your studies are a part of your training too, you know?”

“...It is? I think that training would do me more good than any studying.”

Apparently, she did not see how the two were related to each other.

Well, perhaps she saw the physical side alone as training, and didn't think the rest was part of it.

"Don't you remember what your father said? It's important to think. If you can acquire a lot of knowledge through studying, there will be so much more that you can think of while fighting with a sword."

"...Is that so?"

I didn't actually know what she was studying, but I knew that having a wider breadth of knowledge would come in handy when fighting.

Of course, I'm sure a lot of that knowledge wouldn't help her in combat, but it would surely help her in other ways.

Chapter 113

Tilura Studied Hard

You never knew when or where knowledge would become useful.

It wasn't just knowledge. It's important to continue to use your head and think.

Without thinking, you won't know how the other person will move, or how you should move. There would be so many things that you didn't know.

I had only just started training, and I was not at a level to be able to instruct others. But even then, I felt that being able to think was very important.

Because I had that experience of facing Mr. Ekenhart and swinging my sword without thinking of anything, and being easily beaten.

"Life is filled with surprises. You have nothing to lose by studying hard."

"I understand... I will try to study...so I can continue training."

Tilura seemed like she still didn't quite understand. However, she did agree to do her best with her studies.

I think that now, she would focus a little more.

As we had the new training tomorrow, I would feel bad for her if she couldn't participate because she needed to study.

"Thank you, Mr. Takumi."

"Not at all. When I was that age, all I could think of was playing, and I didn't care for school at all. But that's something I regret now... And I don't want Tilura to feel the same way."

While Ms. Claire was thanking me, I had only said it because I didn't want her to experience what I did.

And I had a lot more to regret when I started work... Perhaps if I had studied harder, I would not have ended up at such a terrible company.

After lunch, I drank one cup of tea and then returned to my training.

Ms. Claire had taken Tilura back to her room.

"I hope she's able to focus properly now."

I muttered.

Eating herbs while training meant I was capable of training for much longer than would usually be possible.

Though, being able to focus since I was alone might have been part of it. In any case, it was much more work than what I did when Mr. Ekenhart was with us.

...And I was getting used to moving my body. Perhaps it was starting to change.

I stopped before dinner time so that I could take a bath, and then I waited in the dining hall.

Usually, there would be someone else waiting there already, so it was a strangely new experience.

“Mr. Takumi. Have some tea.”

“Thank you.”

Ms. Lyra had poured me some tea, so I took a sip.

As always, Leo had a bowl of milk prepared by Ms. Gelda, and she drank it eagerly.

Sherry seemed to have been with Leo all day. Perhaps it was because Tilura had no time to play with her now.

But then again, Sherry had taken a liking to Leo’s back, and had been sleeping there a lot.

“Kyau. Kyau.”

“Wuff.”

Sherry had been drinking her milk next to Leo, but then she raised her head and started barking.

And then Leo also looked up and barked.

At the same time, the dining room’s doors opened, and Ms. Claire, Tilura and Sebastian walked in.

Apparently, Leo and Sherry had been reacting to their footsteps.

They must have very good hearing.

“Ms. Claire, Tilura. Good evening.”

“You’re quite early, Mr. Takumi.”

“I finished studying, Mr. Takumi.”

I greeted them while drinking my tea.

Ms. Claire was a little surprised to see me waiting here.

Well, I had been quite busy during the past few days...

But Tilura seemed to have been able to concentrate, unlike during the morning, and there was a look of accomplishment on her face.

“And how did it go, Tilura?”

“Yes. I told myself it was so I could train, and I did my best.”

“...If only you didn’t need that as an incentive... Well, you at least did well today.”

As for Ms. Claire, she did not like that sword training was the goal here. But she had observed that Tilura had indeed studied hard, and so she had to be satisfied for now.

“Mr. Takumi, I won’t have to study for a while, starting tomorrow!”

“Is that true, Ms. Claire?”

“Yes. After lunch, Tilura studied to a shocking degree, and finished several day’s worth of lessons. ...Of course, all the effort was for her sword training...”

“Hahaha.”

Then she must have believed my words and taken the bait. And look at the results.

Indeed, even though she sometimes looked like she was having trouble while training, I could also tell that she was having fun. She really wanted to do it...

“Because we’re going to start the new training that father talked about. I’m not going to let any studying get in the way!”

“Ah, I see. So that’s why.”

“That... I’ll be counting on you, Leo.”

“Wuff.”

Tilura was very much looking forward to tomorrow’s training.

And it happened to be something that required Leo’s cooperation.

I’m counting on you too, Leo.

Once we were all seated, the food was brought in, and we ate dinner.

After the meal, Tilura and I went out to finish our daily sword swinging practice.

Then I shared some herbs that would help her sleep in preparation for tomorrow, and then went to bed.

As I had trained hard today, I would likely get a good night’s sleep once again.

After breakfast the next morning, and a short break for digestion, Tilura and I went out into the garden, followed by Ms. Claire and the others.

From today, we will start training while holding our swords.

I did some stretching so that I could move quickly, and then unsheathed the sword and moved away from the others.

“Leo, you’re up.”

“Thank you, good Leo!”

“Wou!”

As if to answer Tilura’s call, Leo barked loudly.

Then she walked towards us and stopped so that she was facing us.

This was the training that Mr. Ekenhart had suggested.

While it was new, it wasn’t anything special.

Simply put, we were going to face Leo and attack her with our swords.

“You’re rather intimidating when viewed like this...”

“Good Leo, you’re a little scary.”

“Gau...”

Leo was taking this training very seriously, and the aura of the Silver Fenrir seemed stronger than usual.

She was large enough to carry multiple people, and had silvery fur that shone with dignity. And then there were the claws and fangs.

We immediately knew that if she wanted to, she could shred us to ribbons in a flash.

Chapter 114

We Started The New Training

With this training, Leo would not attack us.

Because Mr. Ekenhart's suggestion had been that we try to hit Leo with our swords.

He said that if we could ascertain the quick movements of a Silver Fenrir and hit her, that would be proof that we had skill as swordsmen.

Leo's fur was soft and fluffy, and was wonderful to touch. However, when entering her combat stance, it would apparently harden enough to block swords.

And so no matter how many times we might hit her, Leo would not actually get injured.

Mr. Ekenhart hadn't been used to Leo at that point, and so he whispered this to me so that Leo wouldn't hear him.

That did make me feel a little conflicted...

"Now, I'll give the starting signal..."

"Thank you."

Sebastian had been watching from a distance with Ms. Claire, but he stepped forward now.

As we waited for his signal, we faced Leo as if glaring, and held our swords ready to attack at any moment.

Leo was so intimidating now, that I could feel a cold sweat run down my back. But I ignored it and tried to focus.

Tilura must have felt the same way. I could tell that she was nervous.

“Now...begin!”

“Hmm!”

“Ha!”

As Sebastian gave the signal, we rushed forward and swung our swords at Leo.

It was more of a test swing. I didn't know how Leo would move, and I was also still just an amateur.

It was important to think, but I wanted to see what would happen if I just went all out and attacked Leo first.

“Wuff.”

Though all my strength went into the swing, Leo merely moved to the side and dodged it.

To Leo, my attack was not even a gentle breeze. I could tell by her bark that she was not concerned.

“Ha!”

As soon as I had swung down, I turned my wrists and swung back upwards.

At the same time, I took a step forward so that I could hit her where she had moved.

“Wuff-wuff.”

And yet again, Leo calmly moved on light feet and dodged my blade.

...In fact, the way Leo had moved just now...I could barely even see it...

For nearly an hour after that, Tilura and I continued to swing our swords at Leo.

And Leo would continue to dodge us with a series of movements including side steps and jumps.

“Ha...Ha...”

“Hah...phew... Leo is too fast...ha...”

“Wuff!”

At first, Leo had been taking this training very seriously, but once she realized how easy it was to avoid our attacks, she started treating it like an amusing game.

In other words, our attacks were still not good enough for her.

...That hurt my pride, a little...

Still, this was a Silver Fenrir. The strongest of monsters.

And so there was no way that beginners like us would be able to hit her so easily. I told myself this.

...But I also promised myself that I would hit her eventually.

“Are you all right, Mr. Takumi? Tilura?”

“Ha...ha... I’m fine.”

“Yes...haa...I’m fine too.”

Ms. Claire called out to us. But we were tired and panting so hard that we could barely answer.

It was then that Ms. Lyra and Ms. Gelda brought us some water.

“Here.”

“Drink this, Lady Tilura.”

“Ha...ha... Thank you...ha...glug...!”

“Thank you...haa...haa...glug...”

I thanked them and drained the cup in a single gulp.

Once we had caught our breath, Leo, who was now carrying Sherry on her back, walked towards us, along with the others.

“...Phew... Leo. You’re so fast that I couldn’t hit you at all.”

“...Good Leo...that was amazing.”

“Wuff!”

“Kyau!”

Leo barked as if to say that it was nothing. Sherry was just happy to be riding on Leo’s back.

“Mr. Takumi, Lady Tilura. From what I could see, there was nothing wrong with the form of your swings. You just need to think a little more about how you will land a hit.”

“Indeed... To be honest, I can barely even follow Leo’s movement with my eyes. I’m not sure what to do about that...”

It was practically impossible to keep up with Leo's speed.

After all, it wasn't like I could move so fast that others couldn't see me.

In that case, I might have to think of some roundabout way of getting a hit...

"I do not know a lot about swords, but why not make your swings faster?"

"Faster..."

While it would be impossible for me to be as fast as Leo, maybe I could make just my swing faster for an instant...

"In any case, you two will need more training."

"It sure looks like it."

"I will do my best!"

Whether it was a roundabout way, or swinging faster, I still needed to train in order to put it into action.

We hadn't been training for long, and while the herbs made things efficient, we still didn't compare to people with more experience.

"Leo. I'll be counting on your help again."

"Wuff."

From now on, it will be every day. Training with Leo, basic training, and sword swings.

...Thankfully, I was starting to really enjoy it.

When I looked to the side, Tilura had an expression of determination, and I could see that she would continue to do her best.

Now that the training with Leo was finished, we took a short break, and then returned to basic training.

Swinging swords was fine, but it was no good if you ran out of energy so quickly.

And so in order to build up my strength, I would jog until lunch time.

Leo would run happily next to me, but Tilura looked like she was barely keeping up.

But it was impressive, given how small she was.

“Mr. Takumi, it’s time for lunch.”

“...Ha...Ha... Very well.”

When the sun was high in the sky, Ms. Claire called to tell us that lunch was ready.

Resting was also important.

There was no point in rushing with training, we just had to be diligent.

And so we wiped ourselves with the hot towels that Ms. Lyra prepared, and then headed to the dining hall.

“Thank you, Mr. Takumi.”

After lunch, I went out into the garden again and trained.

But first, I made some herbs for muscle recovery and shared it with Tilura.

“Tilura. This doesn’t help with fatigue, so don’t push yourself too hard, all right?”

“Yes!”

She replied cheerfully. And then we trained thoroughly until dinner time.

Chapter 115

I Decided To Watch The Herbs Being Sold

During dinner, as I sat next to Leo and dug hungrily into my plate in order to recover my energy and strengthen my body, Ms. Claire addressed me.

“Mr. Takumi. Regarding the day after tomorrow... Could you take the day off from your training?”

“My training? Well, I can do that, but what is the reason?”

There was meaning in continuing to train every day... No, I would not go that far, but they did say that it took several days to make up for one lost day.

That being said, I had been training so much recently, so surely I could rest for one day.

Though, I did wonder what was happening on that day?

“The day after tomorrow, we will start selling your herbs in the town of Ractos. And we want you to come to Ractos so you can observe.”

“The herbs...I see...”

When it came to the selling of the herbs, the duke’s family was in charge, and I generally just left everything in their hands. However, I was still interested to see how they would be sold.

“Very well. I will go to Ractos the day after tomorrow.”

“Thank you.”

Ms. Claire thanked me. But I was the one who had asked them to sell them, so I should be thanking her.

“I want to go too!”

Tilura had been standing next to us and listening. She now raised her hand excitedly.

Well, Tilura hadn’t been able to accompany us the last time that we went to Ractos, so it was no wonder that she wanted to go this time.

“Tilura. You have your studies, don’t you? Just because you can’t train that day, it doesn’t mean you have nothing else to do.”

“But I can finish up my studies tomorrow! And then you can take me with you!”

While Ms. Claire was using her schooling as an excuse, Tilura insisted that she could finish it in time to go to the town.

“Still, we are going to there to watch Mr. Takumi’s herbs being sold... It’s not to have fun, you understand?”

“I understand. But, I don’t want to stay in the mansion all day...”

In fact, Tilura hadn’t even left the mansion since my arrival.

She hadn’t been able to go to town and had to stay behind when we explored the forest.

The forest had its dangers, so it could not be helped. But this time, there wouldn’t be any encounters with monsters, so it should be fine.

Even with her training and studies, it was only natural for her to want to go out sometimes.

“Ms. Claire. Perhaps we could allow Tilura to come with us? I don’t think it will be dangerous... and she says that she will study to make up for it.”

“...Even you, Mr. Takumi... Very well. Tilura, you can come with us.”

“Yes! Thank you, sister. And Mr. Takumi!”

Now that she had permission, Tilura threw her hands in the air with joy.

If it made her this happy, we should have given her an opportunity to go to town sooner.

“Wuff. Wuff.”

“Kyau. Kyau.”

Leo and Sherry became very loud after seeing Tilura’s excitement.

What...? Do you two want to go too?

“Ms. Claire. It seems like Leo and Sherry want to go as well...”

“Good Leo accompanied us last time, and was accepted by the people of the town... But Sherry...”

“Wuff.”

“Kyau?”

While Leo breathed a sigh of relief upon hearing this, Sherry tilted her head to the side.

It was like she was saying, ‘You’re not going to take me?’

Leo would make very similar facial expressions... It reminded me of how bad I would feel for leaving her behind in order to work...

“Lady Claire. Sherry is a fenrir. ...Even if she is still young, I think she can help guard you.”

“Kyau!”

As Ms. Claire pondered over whether or not to take Sherry, Sebastian came to the pup’s aid.

Obviously, Leo was more than enough when it came to protection, but Sherry... Even if she was young, she was a fenrir. So perhaps she could fight.

When we had found her in the forest, she had been attacked by trolls. But she was surrounded, so it was no surprise that she couldn’t do anything.

Fighting against large numbers was difficult unless you were notably stronger than them.

“...Are you sure, Sherry? There will be many people in the town, and you cannot get too excited or start attacking people.”

“Kyau!”

“Wuff. Wuff.”

Ms. Claire asked Sherry after hearing Sebastian’s words.

Sherry nodded reassuringly, and Leo barked as if to say that she would be watching her closely.

“Leo says she’ll keep an eye on her, so I’m sure it will be fine.”

“Yes...very well. Sherry can come with us too.”

“Kyau-kyau.”

“You’re coming with us Sherry.”

“Wuff.”

My words were the last push, and Ms. Claire agreed that Sherry could come along.

Sherry started to wag her tail happily, and then run around Ms. Claire’s feet.

Tilura was also happy that Sherry was coming.

While it wasn’t for fun, it was nice that we would all be together.

“Excuse me, Mr. Takumi. There are several things I want you to make in addition, so that they can be sold in Ractos...”

As I was watching Sherry run around, Sebastian tapped me on the shoulder.

Apparently, Mr. Ekenhard had taken most of the stock back with him, and so we didn’t have enough to sell in Ractos.

“Very well. Is there an order form...or can you tell me which herbs you will need?”

“I will have the order form prepared for you by the time that dinner is finished.”

“In that case, I’ll prepare half of it after dinner, and the other half tomorrow.”

“Thank you.”

I could do it while I practiced my sword swings.

I was already using Weed Cultivation to make herbs for training, which included Tilura’s share, but if I split it between today and tomorrow, there shouldn’t be any risk of collapsing.

“Please be careful, Mr. Takumi.”

“Hahaha. I’ll be fine. I’ve been toughening myself up with training. I doubt that I will collapse so easily now. Besides, I don’t want anyone to worry about me.”

“...If that is the case...”

But Ms. Claire seemed like she was more worried about me than ever.

Well, I had fainted right in front of her... So it was a natural reaction.

Sebastian gave me a look that seemed to say, ‘Don’t you realize that physical exercise has nothing to do with the depletion of power while using the Gift?,’ but I ignored him, and laughed in order to put Ms. Claire’s mind at ease, and the dinner continued.

Chapter 116

I made more herbs to be sold in Ractos

After dinner, while I was drinking tea in the dining hall, one of the other butlers came and handed Sebastian a sheet of paper.

Sebastian inspected it as if to check if the contents were correct, and then he dismissed the butler.

The butler bowed to me once before leaving the room, and then Sebastian approached me and gave me the paper.

“Mr. Takumi. Here is the list of herbs we will need.”

“Yes, thank you.”

So it was the order form.

I took the paper and scanned the contents.

Hmm. One Loe and all the other herbs...

It was the same selection of herbs as last time. I suppose it meant that these were the ones that were most commonly used.

I wanted to see other rare types, but I suppose those would come in a future order.

“Is this number for Loe correct?”

“Yes. We still have some from the first time you used Weed Cultivation. Besides, we think that it’s best to not have too much of the more expensive herbs.”

Now that I thought of it, I had made quite a lot of Loe the first time I tried it.

And when we first started to discuss the partnership, they had warned that allowing too much of it to enter the market could cause a great confusion. So adjustments would have to be made.

One way to maintain the price would be to limit availability.

“Well, I don’t think I’ll have to worry about fainting then. It’s less than the previous order.”

“Indeed? That is good to hear.”

Ms. Claire had been looking at me worriedly, and so I smiled as I said this.

Though, I felt that she was overreacting...

I suppose the reason that it was less than last time, was because Mr. Ekenhart hadn’t taken everything with him.

I could easily fill in this order after my swinging practice. But in order to put their minds at ease, I would still split the work between today and tomorrow.

...In any case, I needed to do more research in order to figure out my daily limit... But since there was the duration, it really wasn't something I could find out easily.

“Well, Tilura. Let's go and practice our swings.”

“Yes, I'll do my best.”

I held the order form as I got up from my seat, and then took the sword that Ms. Lyra handed me.

It was bad manners to eat at the table with your sword.

Tilura also took her sword and we went out to the back garden.

I finished the sword swings first, then made a few items from the order form while also making some recovery herbs.

Then I gave Tilura her share of recovery and sleeping herbs, and then handed the others to Ms. Lyra.

She always stood by and watched us during training, which I was very grateful for.

After that, I took a bath to wash off the sweat, ate the sleeping herbs and got into bed.

Leo had been in a good mood today, and half of her body was lying on the bed, so I used her fluffy fur as a pillow.

That in combination with the herbs guaranteed a good night's sleep.

The following day, I ate breakfast as I always did, and then trained with Leo like yesterday.

Both Tilura and I tried our hardest to hit her, but were once again unsuccessful.

...Leo. Why are you so fast...?

Well, it wouldn't benefit us for her to go easy... But it was hard to admit it.

And so Tilura and I discussed what we could do to improve, and then continued with our other training, which included running.

“Mr. Takumi, it's time for lunch.”

“Yes, thank you.”

It was easy to lose track of time when you were out training, but Ms. Claire's voice brought me back.

Focusing was good, but you had to eat as well.

And so we returned to the mansion for lunch.

After that, Tilura and I split up to do different things.

I needed to finish the rest of the order.

And Tilura needed to study.

She had promised to do two day's worth of studying so that she could go with us to Ractos tomorrow.

“...That's it, then.”

I finished growing the herbs and started to pick them.

As I gathered them, I used Weed Cultivation to change them into a state so that they could be used immediately.

I was really getting used to this work... While using it too much could be dangerous, this much was nothing.

I could do it even more speedily than when I had demonstrated for Mr. Ekenhart.

“Mr. Takumi. How is it going?”

“Sebastian. I’ve just finished.”

Sebastian had come out to see how things were coming along, and so I handed him the finished herbs.

“Hmm...impressive as always. They are all of good quality.”

“That’s good to know.”

As Sebastian had a wide breadth of knowledge, he could tell by just looking at them.

And I was glad to have his stamp of approval.

“Now, you will be paid shortly. Thank you.”

“No, it’s nothing at all. I’m a lot more used to using Weed Cultivation now.”

As for the payment, I didn’t care when it came, as I had no plans to spend it yet.

Of course, Sebastian was very orderly about such things, so I would probably receive it tonight.

Now that I had finished with the herbs, it was back to training.

I wanted to do a little extra, as there would be no training tomorrow, since we were going to town.

That meant I would be extra tired, but I had Weed Cultivation.

And so I made some herbs and ate them every time I felt a little tired while training.

“Wuff.”

“Mr. Takumi. I hope you aren’t pushing yourself too much...”

But before I could finish, Leo and Ms. Lyra, who had been watching, stopped me.

Even though I was using the herbs, they still thought it was too much.

...Maybe I was getting a little carried away with this training business...

I was grateful for their concern, and ended the training for the day.

I hadn’t realized it, but it was already dinner time.

Perhaps that was proof that I wasn’t thinking enough, and pushing myself too far...

Figuring out the right pacing was difficult.

It was with such thoughts that I went with Leo and Ms. Lyra to the dining hall.

Chapter 117

We Went Out To Sell The Herbs

“Mr. Takumi. Leo. I did my best, and now I’ll be able to go to town tomorrow!”

“That’s nice, Tilura.”

“Wuff. Wuff.”

“Yes, Tilura studied hard today.”

When we arrived at the dining hall, Tilura was overjoyed as she explained this to us.

As she had finished in time, she had been given permission to accompany us tomorrow.

And so Leo and I praised Tilura.

Ms. Claire was also looking at her with a pleased expression.

“Ah, Mr. Takumi. Here is your payment.”

“Yes, thank you.”

As I sat at the table, Sebastian came to me before the food arrived, and he handed me a leather bag.

I looked inside, and confirmed that it was the same amount that had been written on the order form.

“Thank you, Mr. Takumi. Now we can start selling the herbs in Ractos tomorrow.”

Said Ms. Claire. And then the food was brought in and we ate.

Once everyone had finished eating, I approached Sebastian.

“Sebastian. About the items I purchased during our last visit to the town. How much was it in all?”

“Mr. Takumi, you really don’t have to worry about that, you know?”

Said Sebastian, but I still wasn't comfortable with the idea that they had paid for everything that I had.

When buying those things, I had said that I was just borrowing, and so I had to pay it back properly.

Even though I knew it was just their kindness.

"But Mr. Takumi, it was really such a small amount?"

"No. I had made those purchases with the intent of returning them. And so it won't feel right until I do..."

"Well, that's very decent of you..."

But was it?

It seemed like the most normal thing. Borrowed money should be returned...

Well, if I knew one thing about Ms. Claire, it was that she didn't think much about such things.

"And it's thanks to you that I now have a means of earning an income. You must allow me to start paying you back."

"...If you insist."

"Indeed. As the profits for this house are expected to be very great once we start selling the herbs, the amount you borrowed is really not significant..."

Giving me the money had meant nothing to them, but I had been very grateful nonetheless.

After all, had it not been for that shopping trip, I would be forced to continue wearing Sebastian's clothes. And I would have also lacked many things during the forest search.

“In that case...the amount is...”

Sebastian whispered it to me quietly.

I suppose you were not supposed to talk about such things in a loud voice.

“I see... Yes...”

And so I paid him from the leather bag that I had just received.

I was glad that it was an amount that I had on me.

Of course, I still had some money left in my room, if it wasn't enough.

That being said, tailored clothes sure were expensive...

Now that I had an idea of the currency of this world, I knew just how expensive it actually was.

It would be considered a great luxury to have a tailored suit made like this in Japan... I would have to take very good care of it.

“Well, good night then.”

“Good night, Mr. Takumi.”

“Tilura. You better go to sleep, all right? Good night.”

“Wuff-wuff-wuff!”

“Kyau! Kyau!”

After returning the money and drinking tea, I decided to retire early for tomorrow.

And so there would be no sword swinging tonight.

Though, Tilura seemed so excited about going out tomorrow, that I wasn't sure she would be able to fall asleep.

In any case, I said good night to everyone and then went to my room.

"Well, I'm going to take a bath."

"Wou-wou."

I said to Leo, and then left the room.

As Leo still hated baths, she curled in a corner of the room with obvious disinterest.

Now that I could understand Leo much better, perhaps I could find out why she felt that way.

If we could find the reason, then maybe we could do something about it.

"Now that I think about it, I still haven't asked if Sherry hates baths as well..."

It was with such thoughts that I headed to the bathing room.

After washing up and soaking in the hot water, I got out and ate some sleeping herbs, and then jumped into bed before my body cooled.

"We're going to the town tomorrow. You better behave, Leo."

"Wuff."

I said to Leo from my bed. She barked back as if to say, 'I know that!' And then I fell asleep.

The next morning, after breakfast, I finished preparations to leave, and then went with Leo to the entrance hall.

As this was the first day that the herbs would be sold in Ractos, we had eaten breakfast a little earlier than usual.

This was because we needed to deliver the herbs to the store that would be selling them.

"Ms. Claire. Sorry to keep you waiting."

"Wuff."

"Not at all. Tilura isn't here yet."

Ms. Claire had already been waiting at the entrance.

But Tilura wasn't here yet...was she still getting ready?

As I wondered about this, I heard loud footsteps coming down the staircase that connected the second floor to the entrance hall.

"Sorry to keep you waiting!"

"Kyau!"

It was Tilura.

And Sherry was being held in her arms.

“Tilura. There is still some time, so stop running like that.”

“Sorry.”

“But I did expect you to be here sooner. What happened?”

“I almost forgot to bring this with me!”

Tilura said as she pointed to the sword on her waist.

...Ah. While I doubted we would face any danger. Perhaps it wasn't a bad idea.

Besides, I had brought my own.

“I see that everyone is here. Let us depart then.”

“Yes.”

“Wuff.”

“I can't wait!”

“Kyau. Kyau!”

Sebastian was carrying a bag that was likely filled with the herbs. And with that, we all stepped out of the mansion.

“Have a good day!”

Said the servants as we left.

...I was used to being sent off by them now.

“Lady Claire, Mr. Takumi. We will be escorting you today.”

“Thank you.”

Outside, the mounted guards bowed to me and Ms. Claire.

It was Johanna and Nicholas, who had accompanied us to the forest.

Well, thank you again.

Chapter 118

We Arrived at the Duke’s Shop

“Mr. Takumi. Will you ride on Leo this time? Or will you ride in the carriage?”

“Indeed...I think I’ll ride in the carriage this time. And Tilura can ride on Leo.”

“Certainly.”

It would take us nearly an hour to reach Ractos.

And though it sometimes made me a little nervous, I would ride with Ms. Claire in the carriage.

Tilura was really looking forward to going out to town, and she would probably have more fun if she rode on Leo.

“Leo, you go with Tilura.”

“Wuff.”

“I can ride on Leo? I can’t wait!”

“Kyau!”

Leo answered me, and then lay low so that Tilura could climb onto her back.

Tilura smiled broadly as she got on.

Sherry also climbed onto Leo’s back, and sat happily next to Tilura.

“Thank you, Mr. Takumi.”

“No, I’m just glad that Tilura and Sherry are having so much fun.”

Ms. Claire thanked me when I entered the carriage.

But these days, I really enjoyed watching Tilura and Sherry when they were having fun.

Perhaps it was a sign that I was getting old... Even though I was still on the younger side... I think.

“Now, let us depart.”

We sat in the carriage, and then Sebastian took the reins and the horses began to trot.

Like last time, the guards rode on their own horses, and then Leo stood up with Tilura and Sherry on her back.

Once we were through the gate, Leo rushed past the carriage.

“Leo. Don’t run around too much!”

“Wou!”

After running ahead, she would return and then circle the carriage or move close to and then away from the guards playfully. And so I called out to Leo.

I was sure that she would be careful so that Tilura and Sherry didn't fall off, but I also didn't want them to get tired.

"I see that someone is having fun."

"Yes. Leo hasn't been able to run much, as I've been busy training. So perhaps this is her way of letting off steam."

Ms. Claire and I watched them through the window as we talked.

"No, I was talking about you, Mr. Takumi..."

"Me?"

I turned to look at her and saw that she was staring at me.

Did I look like I was having that much fun...?

"Hahaha. Well, it's always been that way with Leo... But I enjoy watching children like Tilura and Sherry having fun."

"I see..."

For some reason, Ms. Claire squinted her eyes at me.

What was it?

But there was no answer, and the carriage continued on its way towards Ractos.

I could occasionally hear Sebastian laughing in the driver's seat. Both he and Ms. Claire would sometimes act very strangely... What was it?

It was with such questions in my mind that we continued to talk.

"We have arrived. Like last time, the carriage will be dropped off, so you'll have to wait."

"... Yes."

In the end, we had arrived in Ractos before the question was answered...

Ms. Claire and I got out of the carriage and watched Sebastian and Nicholas take it and the horses away.

So Johanna would stay with Ms. Claire.

Tilura got off of Leo and went over to her sister, while Leo came to me while still carrying Sherry.

"Good girl. Are you happy after all that running?"

"Wuff-wuff."

"Kyau-kyau."

Leo sure looked satisfied as I scratched her on the head.

Sherry was also barking happily.

...She sure seemed to enjoy riding on top of Leo... But shouldn't a fenrir get some more exercise...?

"Sorry to keep you waiting. Now, let's go to the store."

“Yes.”

Sebastian had returned, and just like last time, he led us through the town of Ractos.

We went down the same main street and then turned into a side street halfway through. After walking a little further, we arrived at the store.

“Here it is.”

“This is the duke’s store?”

“Yes. One of many, but we will start selling the herbs here.”

Sebastian said as I looked at the building.

Unlike many of the others in this town, it was made of stone and very large.

Not quite as big as the general goods store, but it had two floors, with the first being the area where goods were sold.

Perhaps it was about the size of a supermarket in Japan.

Of course, Leo could not go inside, and so she would have to wait outside with Sherry...and Nicholas.

“Excuse me.”

“Ah, Mr. Sebastian. We were waiting for you. And I see Lady Claire has honored us with her presence. Thank you.”

“This matter is very important for the family, so it’s only natural that I should come.”

With Sebastian in the lead, we entered the store and met the middle-aged man who was waiting for us.

He patted his balding head and greeted Sebastian and Ms. Claire.

“And could this be...?”

“Yes, that is right. However...”

“I understand the situation.”

After talking with Sebastian with a hushed voice, the man approached me and bowed.

“I’m so happy to meet you. His Grace has entrusted me with the keeping of this store. My name is Kalis. And you are Mr. Takumi?”

“Yes, Takumi. Do you know about me then...?”

He knew my name.

“Yes. Sebastian told me about you in advance.”

“Mr. Takumi, I have taken the liberty of informing Kalis about you. After all, he will be responsible for selling the herbs. However, I am sure he will be very discreet with that information.”

“I see.”

“I swear on Lady Claire’s name, that I shall not talk to anyone about you, Mr. Takumi.”

So Sebastian had contacted him before our arrival.

Still, the man vowed that he would not talk to anyone else about me.

I suppose they wanted to keep this information secret, as there may be people who would target me because of my ability.

Mr Kalis had to know, because he would be selling them directly.

And since I trusted the family, I would leave it to them when it came to the decision of who to tell.

...Because I doubted I would be able to decide.

“Here are the herbs that are to be sold.”

Sebastian said as he handed over the herbs that he brought from the mansion.

Chapter 119

We Prepared to Sell the Medicinal Herbs

“So these are the herbs we planned to sell.”

Mr. Kalis took the bag from Sebastian and looked inside.

As I had been the one to make them, I felt just a little nervous at having a real tradesman inspect them...

“Hmm... They look to be of very fine quality... Of course, I have never sold herbs myself. But I’ve been a merchant for a long time...and have never seen herbs being sold that were of this quality.”

“Is that so?”

Mr. Kalis was sighing with great emotion as he held the herbs and inspected them.

And for some reason, Sebastian looked very proud as he heard this...even I felt a little proud.

I didn’t know why I had been given this ability, but it was now a part of me.

And so it felt good to have something I made with it be praised.

“Well, everything is here. Hey, someone!”

“Yes!”

Mr. Kalis shouted to the back of the store, and a few men and women came out.

He handed them the herbs and gave them detailed instructions.

They were probably the clerks here.

“Now, do as I said.”

“Yes!”

“What are they going to do?”

Mr. Kalis handed the bag of herbs to the clerks.

They answered him enthusiastically and then went to a nearby table and spread out the herbs on it.

“They are separating them, as we won’t be selling them in large bundles here.”

“I see...so they are for personal use...?”

“Yes.”

The herbs in the bag were merely bundled and separated by type, while the dried and powdered ones were wrapped in cloth so they wouldn’t get mixed up.

As each type was bundled together, it would be very inconvenient, unless customers wanted to buy all of it at once.

And I doubted that anyone would do that, if it was for personal use.

The clerks took out the herbs and started the process of separating them and wrapping them with paper or cloth.

And then Mr. Kalis took out a long table from the back.

“What’s that for?”

“Oomph...phew... This is where they will be displayed. This is the first time we’ll be selling them, after all. And so I want to place them outside.”

So saying, Mr. Kalis took the heavy-looking table to the front of the store.

I see... Like this, passersby will be able to see that they’re selling herbs.

It would definitely make things easy to understand.

And since they had never sold herbs here before, it was necessary to advertise.

No one would come to buy herbs at a store that was known to not sell them.

“Ahhh!”

It was with such thoughts that I watched Mr. Kalis go out to set the table. But just then, I heard a shriek coming from outside.

...Was that Mr. Kalis? What happened?

“...Mr. Takumi, let’s go and see.”

“Yes...”

“Hah...I did warn him in advance...”

Ms. Claire and I looked at each other and then headed outside.

If something happened, we might have to help... Well, Johanna was also there...and so was Leo.

For some reason, Sebastian was sighing behind me, but I ignored him and went outside.

“Mr. Kalis? What...”

“There’s a...fe...fenrir!”

“...It was Leo, wasn’t it?”

What we saw when we went outside, was Mr. Kalis, who had fallen on his buttocks after letting go of the table. And Leo was pushing her nose into him with a worried expression.

...So he was surprised because of Leo...?

“Kalis... I told you about this already. That Mr. Takumi has a Silver Fenrir called Leo...”

“...Ye-yes. You did say that, but...”

Sebastian moved out between Ms. Clair and I and walked over to Mr. Kalis.

Apparently, he really had fallen after being surprised by Leo.

...But Leo was just so adorable and... Well, maybe it was because she was rather large.

“Kalis. Good Leo would never hurt anyone. So don’t worry.”

Said Ms. Claire. And then she went up to Leo and petted her on the head.

“Wuff.”

“Kyau. Kyau.”

“Oh, you want to be petted too, Sherry? There, there.”

“I’ll pet them too!”

Sherry looked a little jealous as she saw Leo looking very pleased, and so she also came forward to be petted.

Upon seeing this, Tilura started to pet them as well.

I didn’t really care, but Leo’s back had really become Sherry’s regular spot, huh...

“...Are you sure...?”

“Yes. Isn’t that right, Mr. Takumi?”

“Yes, it’s fine. Why don’t you try petting her, Mr. Kalis?”

Mr. Kalis got to his feet after watching Ms. Claire pet Leo.

Leo’s size and general appearance seemed to still intimidate him, but perhaps that feeling would fade once he touched Leo’s fur.

And I guided Mr. Kalis towards Leo and then raised his hand and placed it on Leo’s body.

“Ooooh... It’s so soft... So it really doesn’t attack people...”

“Wuff.”

After touching Leo’s fluffy fur, Mr. Kalis was greatly moved by the soft texture, as well as how tame Leo was.

Leo nodded knowingly and barked with approval.

...Well, I don’t think that Mr. Kalis was completely over his fear yet... But I hoped it wouldn’t take too long.

It didn’t seem like it was so bad that he would have to be treated like Mr. Ekenhart. Besides, it wasn’t really possible to carry people and run around in the town.

...If Leo ran at top speed in the town, it would certainly cause a scene...

“Phew... I’m terribly sorry, Mr. Takumi.”

“Not at all. It’s true that Leo has a surprising appearance. But you will get used to it.”

Mr. Kalis apologized after he moved his hand away from Leo, and then he continued to prepare the front of the store.

He picked up the table that he had knocked over, and then put it in place. Then he set small signs on the table.

They were the descriptions and prices of the herbs.

And as always, in spite of being written in a language that wasn’t Japanese, I could read them just fine.

Chapter 120

Leo Was Very Popular With Children

“Some people won’t know what herb it is without an explanation.”

You had to know what effect it would have before buying it.

If you bought some without knowing what it does, it wouldn’t be very useful.

Of course, there would likely be people who would want to ask directly for an explanation, and so the clerks had been instructed to talk with such customers.

After the display table was set, the clerks came out from inside the shop.

“We finished packaging them.”

“Thank you. Now place them out right here.”

“Yes.”

The clerks followed Mr. Kalis’s order, and neatly placed the wrapped up herbs on the table.

But once every type was lined up, I realized that one was missing.

“There is no Loe? What happened?”

“Loe is a very expensive herb. And so it will only be brought out when a customer asks for it. Besides, it’s possible that this place will get very crowded, so it may be dangerous to leave it out here.”

“After all, someone might try to steal it.”

Explained Mr. Kalis and Sebastian. That did make sense.

I suppose there were people out there who would use the opportunity to steal something very valuable...

I recalled the group of men who had stopped us during the last time I visited this town with Ms. Claire.

Now that I think about it, I wonder what happened to them?

Regardless, all the preparations for selling the herbs were complete.

“Now, we only have to wait for some customers to arrive.”

The clerks waited on the other side of the table.

They were ready.

As Ms. Claire, Tilura, Sebastian, and I were not the ones selling it, we sat at a table inside of the shop, and waited.

I couldn't see what was happening outside, but we didn't want to be seen in front of the store either.

While Leo and Sherry were waiting outside with Nicholas, Mr. Kalis suggested that they might attract customers, and had them sit near the tables.

I had told Leo to be calm and listen to what Mr. Kalis said, so I was sure that it would be fine.

And while the clerks were a little alarmed when they first saw her, they were quite relieved by how gentle Leo was, and by the softness of her fur.

“I want to touch it forever...”

“I didn't know that Silver Fenrirs were like this...”

“I want to make a bed and pillow out of it...”

They muttered to each other. However, I was the only one who could use Leo’s fur as a pillow.

Though, Tilura did sometimes fall asleep while hugging Leo...

I thought of such things as we waited inside and drank tea.

“It’s starting to get noisy out there.”

“Yes. I suppose this is the time when the most customers appear?”

Said Sebastian and Ms. Claire. And so I listened carefully and... Yes, I could hear many voices coming from outside.

It was right before midday, so perhaps there were more people walking around?

“I’m going to go and have a look.”

“Yes.”

I said to Ms. Claire as I got up from the table and headed to the door.

Then I opened it just a crack and peered outside. Indeed, there was a crowd of people surrounding the table in front of the store.

“Would some herbs really attract so much attention?”

I muttered, and then looked more closely. Mr. Kalis was walking around Leo and organizing a line.

As for Leo, she was surrounded by children that were Tilura’s age, and around them, were adults who were likely their parents.

It seemed that as there were too many people, they had moved away from the table with the herbs.

Upon seeing this, I moved away from the door and returned to Ms. Claire and the others.

“It looks like Leo is very popular with children...”

“Leo? But why...”

Ms. Claire looked puzzled when she heard this.

As Leo was a Silver Fenrir, people would often be intimidated by her... So this was...

“I think Mr. Kalis knew what he was doing.”

“What do you mean?”

“Mr. Takumi, they are just like Lady Tilura.”

“Tilura?”

“Me?”

As I wasn't sure what Sebastian meant, I turned to look at Tilura.

She was blowing on her tea in order to cool it, and then looked up. Clearly she didn't know why she was being talked about.

“Children like Leo, don't they? A calm and gentle Leo will attract children, who will bring their parents. And those parents might be customers.”

“...So, like Tilura, they will want to play with Leo, and that will attract customers?”

“Indeed. He probably got that idea after seeing how quiet and obedient Leo was.”

I see... He targeted families then...

Show Leo, and sell the herbs to the parents of the children who come.

Besides, people with children might want to have a stock of medicinal herbs in the house.

They could become ill, just like Tilura had. And so you could rest easy if you had some that were ready to use.

“I’m going to go outside.”

“Yes. Be careful.”

I said to Sebastian, and then stepped outside.

I was curious to see how Leo was handling all the attention.

While she did enjoy playing with children, it would be quite different when there was a great crowd. Perhaps she wouldn’t know what to do.

“How are things going, Mr. Kalis?”

“Ah, Mr. Takumi. Your Leo was a lot more effective than I was expecting. I’m terribly sorry.”

He said, and then I looked at Leo.

She was being petted and hugged by the children, but sat quietly and did not move.

However, there was something in her expression when she looked at me that resembled a cry for help.

...I think that since it was her first time being with so many people, she did not know what to do.

“This is her first time doing this, and she is a little taken aback, I think.”

“Is that so? I was worried that she might get angry... Hey, wait in line! Don’t come in all at once!”

Mr. Kalis was busy dealing with the children, but did not know how to handle Leo.

He was doing his best to try and stop the children from charging into and jumping on Leo, but he just wasn’t enough to stop the mob.

The parents also attempted to restrain their young, but once the children were excited, they could not be stopped easily.

Leo had been surrounded by children back in our old world, but it was usually just four or five.

But here, there were more than twenty surrounding her. So it was no wonder that she was at a loss.