

Beloved Dog 751

Chapter 751

I asked Ms. Delia why she applied

“Mr. Takumi helped change people’s perception. Of course, most people didn’t take the rumors very seriously to begin with. Also, there is that hat you are wearing.”

“This? I found it when I came here, and could not help buying it.”

“Indeed. Well, Mr. Takumi thought about making that hat for beastkin.”

“Is that true!?”

To be precise, it was for Liza... But I suppose it was true in some way.

“Well, it seems to have become popular in Ractos. So at this point, you can wear it without attracting much attention.”

“Yes. It has helped me. And it is much more comfortable than a normal hat.”

As humans were wearing the hat as well, Ms. Delia did not stick out in spite of being an outsider.

“Hohoho. Compared to Mr. Takumi and his Silver Fenrir, no one will get stared at much within Ractos.”

“Yes, the Silver Fenrir!”

“Huh?”

Ms. Delia suddenly reacted very strongly.

Her ears unfolded and twitched.

“This Silver Fenrir...I left my village in order to see it!”

“Uh, is that...so?”

“Yes! For beastkin, Silver Fenrir are special beings! Well, I was raised by humans, so I don’t know much about that...but my instincts told me that I must meet with it!”

That strongly? Well, she certainly looked very enthusiastic about seeing Leo.

Indeed, I had heard something like that before...

“Uhh... Still, you also want to work in Range village, yes?”

“Of course, I do. I was told that the Silver Fenrir does not attack people, and it will be safe. So as long as I am hired and work hard, then I should be able to meet it eventually!”

“I see... Well, there is someone else I want you to meet. So I don’t mind if you meet Leo at the same time.”

“Really!? But...who is this other person...?”

“Well, I will let that be a surprise.”

“Mr. Takumi. You are talking about Liza, aren’t you?”

“Yes. Since she is a beastkin, perhaps they can be friends. I think it might be better for her, than to be around humans only?”

“Indeed... As a human raised among other humans, I do not know what it feels like to be in her position... But I agree that it would be good to have them meet.”

I could just tell her in advance, but since Liza would also be surprised, they would be meeting with the same circumstances.

In any case, Ms. Delia would be able to meet Leo as well. So it was perfect.

After all, if she was going to work in Range village, she will definitely be seeing them anyway. So she might as well meet them now.

Sebastian looked quite amused by this idea as well.

He did like to surprise people...maybe I was being influenced by him.

Well, as long as we were not doing anything wrong.

I had been thinking about visiting the orphanage next, but I suppose we could stop by Mr. Kalis's store fire.

Besides, the children would be happier if they could meet Liza and Leo again as well.

Chapter 752

We talked while the others cleaned up

"Haha. That was quite entertaining. I see that you are quite odd, Mr. Takumi. It is no wonder the duke is fond of you."

"Uh..."

I was currently talking with Mr. Soldan in the corner of the room.

The others were cleaning up, but this really just meant putting away the chairs.

Ms. Delia sat next to me. Her back was straight and she seemed a little nervous, though I didn't understand why she would me.

Well, this was her first time meeting a potential employer... So it was like sitting next to the boss of the company you wanted to join.

“Still, I have never met a beastkin before. I did not realize how different their ears are. Ah, excuse me. I don’t mean to be rude.”

“Ye-yes...”

Mr. Soldan said conversationally. But he wasn’t even looking at Ms. Delia, as his eyes were still fixed on the papers on his desk.

Well, perhaps his reaction was normal. I had also been surprised when I first saw Liza. Especially since the rest of her looked quite human. But I wasn’t as surprised as most people, because I was just reminded of Leo and Sherry.

“You shouldn’t be so nervous. If you get nervous around the likes of me, you won’t last long.”

“Re-really?”

Mr. Soldan continued to say. He was probably talking about Claire and Tilura, since they were the duke’s daughters.

“Ms. Delia, was it? If you want to meet the Silver Fenrir, then you will likely have to meet the ladies of the duke’s household as well.”

“Oh...? I...I... I am not worthy of meeting them...”

“Well, Mr. Soldan is right. They are with Leo right now. And so we will go together and meet them.”

“Uh... Are you sure about this? They might take offense at the sight of me. Especially since I’m a beastkin...”

Well, there was no need to worry about that. I was more likely to say something rude than anyone else, and they never cared.

“Don’t worry, Ms. Delia. Claire...uh, the duke’s daughter, is not the kind of person to react like that. Besides, she doesn’t believe those kinds of rumors regarding beastkin. She should be quite welcoming to you... Oh, sorry...”

“No-no, it’s fine...”

While offering words of encouragement, I accidentally patted her on the head. Perhaps seeing her so anxious had made me think of how Liza used to be.

“...It reminded me of when people from my village would sometimes pat me on the head... It was nice...”

“Really? Well, I guess it’s because I’m always petting Leo.”

After that, we listened to Mr. Soldan as he talked about how wonderful a person Duke Ekenhart was.

And when we were ready to leave, I said goodbye to him and left the building with Ms. Delia in order to meet up with the others.

Chapter 753

The tail was freed

“Ms. Delia, you look like you are having trouble walking?”

“I’m fine! But...you could tell?”

“Yes...”

“Hoho. You are so slow. And we have guards to make sure we don’t bump into anyone. And yet you’re still tripping.”

“I’m sorry.”

After leaving the building, we made our way to Mr. Kalis's store. And Ms. Delia had tripped several times on the way.

Ms. Lyra helped support her each time, but it was still noticeable.

"Is it harder to balance while hiding your tail?"

"... Yes. It is uncomfortable and awkward..."

I see. They do say that animals use their tail to balance, so perhaps it was the same with beastkin.

"But I needed to hide the fact that I am a beastkin."

"It is quite noticeable. If only Leo was here, she could carry you."

"...Mr. Takumi. And Mr. Sebastian. Could you please look away?"

"Huh? Oh, sure."

"Ms. Delia excuse me."

We had stopped in a secluded area, and then Ms. Lyra told us to look away.

She then went behind Ms. Lyra and bent down. I suppose she was going to release Ms. Delia's tail from her trousers.

"There, all done. That should make it easier to move."

"Th-thank you. If I do it myself, I would have to take it off once."

"So your clothes were already made to accommodate it?"

Ms. Delia's black tail was now wagging behind her.

"Yes. All of my clothes were made by the old women in the village. They had seen me trip and get injured when I was younger..."

"Huh. So you must know a lot about such clothes then."

"Yes."

She looked very happy while talking about her village and the people there.

It was clear that the villagers were very fond of her.

Ms. Delia then walked around with light, confident steps as we nodded.

Her thin tail stretched up into the air and wagged as if happy to be out.

Though, she looked a little embarrassed when she noticed we were watching her.

"Still, I expected to get more stares from people. Yes, they do look sometimes...but not for long..."

"Indeed. Well, they know that you are with the duke's people, so they would not look at you in an unfavorable way."

Though, I was reminded of when we first met Nick. There were definitely some reckless people out there... I suppose Leo and I were walking in the back and were harder to see at first.

Regardless, Ms. Delia was quite sensitive about people looking at her because she was a beastkin.

But right now, we were walking as a large group with guards, so we could not help but stick out from the crowds...

Chapter 754

I was praised for some reason

“Before coming here, the villagers all said that I must hide my identity as a beastkin. And so I was convinced that something terrible would happen to me.”

“They must have been very worried about you, Ms. Delia. Besides, things were much worse in this town until recently. It only got better thanks to Mr. Takumi and Leo. Of course, there are still problems...”

As it was a far away village, they probably had prejudices towards large towns and cities.

But then again, I had actually witnessed Liza being persecuted, so they weren't wrong. And it was possible that had Ms. Delia came here without any preparations, she might have gotten into some kind of trouble.

Regardless, I was glad that we had captured Deam.

“Is that so? Mr. Takumi and the Silver Fenrir...uh...Le...”

“Leo?”

“Yes, Leo. That is amazing. Thank you, Mr. Takumi. I can now walk freely like this!”

“I didn't do anything...”

I felt a little embarrassed about being thanked by Ms. Delia. But then Sebastian began to explain to her about what had happened.

Well, I suppose that after Deam was gone, crime had gone down... And rumors had spread about Leo in Ractos.

“I see. so Mr. Takumi and Leo are working with the duke to make this place safer!”

“Working with...I suppose. Though, it is mostly Leo's doing.”

“Hoho. But it’s because of Mr. Takumi that Leo is able to do so much.”

As we walked towards Mr. Kalis’s store, the conversation continued to be about praising me and Leo.

Ms. Lyra and the guards were nodding as well.

It was kind of like being punished. Even though I was sure that they weren’t purposely doing it to make fun of me... Well, except for Sebastian.

Still, I suppose Ms. Delia was very excited. She had calmed herself down once, but then became very active all over again...

Her restlessness reminded me of Liza... Her overall air. It wasn’t really about her appearance or the fact that she had ears and a tail.

Perhaps Liza would be similar to her one day?

“Wuff!”

“Ahhh! I got hit!”

“Ahaha. Leo is strong!”

“Hmm? I guess she is playing with the children, so it’s no surprise how loud it is. But it’s different than I expected?”

“They sound like they are having fun, but there are screams as well.”

“I-I-I can sense the Silver Fenrir...”

Once the store was in view, we could hear a lot of noise.

Sebastian and I looked at each other with puzzled expressions.

Ms. Delia had been so excited a moment ago, but she was now nervous and shaking with fear.

Her ears were folded down, and her tail went between her legs. It seemed like it would be very difficult to walk like that.

Well, Leo was the strongest monster. And she could probably sense Leo's strength from a distance... After all, even the fenrirs had been quick to roll over and submit to Leo.

"Wou? Wou!"

"Ah, mama? ...Papa is back!"

"Haha. We're back, Leo and Liza."

"Ah! They jumped over us!"

"How amazing!"

"Damn it! I haven't lost yet!"

As we approached Mr. Kalis's store, Leo suddenly noticed us, and while carrying Liza on her back, jumped out from the ring of people, and landed right in front of us...

Chapter 755

Leo was good with children

"So, Leo and Liza. You seem to be having fun. But something seems a little different from usual. What is it?"

"Wou? Wou..."

"Uhh, papa. While we were playing, this little boy said that he could win against mama!"

“Leo? Hmm...”

When I asked Leo seemed like she wasn't really sure, and so Liza explained it to me instead.

Well, there was no way he could beat Leo... But I suppose it was not necessary to say that.

“Thi-thi-this is...the Si-si-silver...”

Ms. Delia was behind me and still shaking. She could barely even talk properly. Ms. Lyra and Sebastian tried to calm her.

“Who is that? That lady has ears and a tail too? Is that fake?”

“Wou?”

“No, those are real. She is a beastkin, just like you, Liza.”

“Really!? The same...”

Apparently, Liza had never thought about there being others like her before. I suppose she had never seen any beastkin since being saved by Mr. Reyndorf.

“Ah, that's right. Liza, can you go and call Claire? I want to talk to her about Ms. Delia. Well, if she is not too busy.”

“Okay.”

“Wuff?”

“You can't go in the store, Leo.”

“Wou.”

Liza got down from Leo and rushed into Mr. Kalis's store.

Leo also asked me if she should go too, but she was too big to fit inside.

Perhaps through playing with the children, she was brought back to old times and forgot that she was so big now.

"Mr. Takumi!"

"Ah, Tilura. So you were with Liza. Thank you."

"No, I was just playing."

After Liza left, Tilura then came out of the ring of children while waving her hand.

"Uh, Liza was saying something about how some boy wanted to challenge Leo?"

"That's right! He was only a little taller than Liza, but was always next to her while playing. And then after seeing Liza hug Leo or climb on top, he became angry!"

"I see... But the voice earlier didn't sound that angry to me?"

Still, if he got angry because Liza was hugging Leo, perhaps he had become jealous?

"After challenging Leo several times, he started to laugh again. I think it was because Leo did something..."

"Really?"

"Wuff. Wou. Wuff... Wuff-wuff."

It would be understandable if he suddenly realized how foolish it was and started laughing. Leo was not someone that any human could easily beat.

When I asked Leo, she said that he came at her while swinging a tree branch, and so she would knock him down carefully so that he wouldn't get injured, or poke and tickle his legs.

“Well, that's good that you were careful, Leo.”

“Wou!”

“Leo looks so happy.”

Leo had been playing when Mr. Euto attacked her as well. But she was even more careful since she was with a child this time.

And so I patted her on the head and praised her.

Chapter 756

Ms. Delia was very confused

“Mr. Ta-ta-ta-takumi...”

“...Please calm yourself, Ms. Delia.”

“Bu-but... There is a Silver Fenrir right there...”

“Wuff.”

“Hey, this person has ears and a tail too?”

“Ah, she is...”

While I tried to make Ms. Delia calm down, it was not working... Even Sebastian and Ms. Lyra were shaking their heads.

In the meantime, I told Tilura about her and then approached Ms. Delia while raising my right hand.

“Mr. Ta-takumi...what...?”

“Don’t worry. There is nothing to be afraid of. Right, Leo?”

“Wou!”

“Kuun...”

I pulled her by the hand towards Leo so that she could smell Ms. Delia.

However, this seemed to make Ms. Delia even more nervous, and she let out a sound that reminded me of a whimpering puppy. Leo had sounded like that once.

“Leo. This is Ms. Delia. As you can see, she is a beastkin. We met her during the interview earlier. One of the reasons that she came here was in order to meet you.”

“Wuff?”

“Ahh. She heard rumors about a Silver Fenrir. And so she came from a different town. I’ll tell you about that later.”

“Wou. ...Sniff... Wou.”

“Ah-ah-ahhh...”

After sniffing her, Leo then licked Ms. Delia’s face.

Ms. Delia looked like she was on the verge of screaming in terror.

Hmm... We could not talk calmly like this.

“Mr. Takumi. You’re back!”

“Papa! I brought her!”

“Ah, Claire. Thank you. Hello, Mr. Kalis.”

“It’s been a while. But...what is happening here?”

As I was thinking about ways to calm Ms. Delia, the others returned with Liza.

“This is Claire. Claire, Mr. Kalis. This is Ms. Delia. As you can see, she is a beastkin...but...she has been like this after meeting Leo...”

“Ah, so she is nervous? Still, we must introduce ourselves. Uh, hello? I am Claire Liebert.”

“Claire...Liebert... But...that means!!! You...the...duke’s...”

“Yes, he is my father.”

“!?”

“...I think she is even more shocked now...maybe this was a mistake?”

Upon hearing Claire’s introduction, Ms. Delia froze and shouted...

“E-e-excuse me! I did not realize that I would be meeting a Silver Fenrir and also the duke’s daughter...”

“Wuff?”

“No, it’s fine. You haven’t said anything rude. Still, a beastkin...”

“I-I’m sorry...yes. Perhaps humans would rather that someone like me does not...”

“Not at all. We do not let such small differences get in the way. Mr. Takumi. Was she one of the applicants?”

“Yes. She really wanted to meet Leo. And though she was hiding it at first, I realized that she was a beastkin. And so I wanted her to meet Liza.”

“I see... Yes, perhaps that would be good for Liza. I would have probably thought the same thing.”

“Hey, hey...sister?”

“Huh? Uh, this child... Is she a beastkin too!?”

“Yes, I am. Papa and mama saved me!”

“Papa and mama...?”

Ms. Delia looked at me with a puzzled expression. Well...that was the strange part...

Chapter 757

We explained things calmly in Mr. Kalis’s store

“Well, that is what she calls us.”

“Wuff.”

“A Sil-silver Fenri and Mr. Takumi... So this child is the ruler of the beastkin!? The queen!”

“Huh?”

Liza looked at her with a puzzled expression.

Why would she suddenly say that Liza is a queen... I suppose because Silver Fenrirs were the strongest monsters, they were seen as being godlike to some beastkin.

But this was not a beastkin country. And we were adoptive parents.

“...Mr. Takumi. Did you not explain it to her?”

“I was going to keep it a surprise... Of course, I didn’t realize that you and Leo would be enough already...”

Indeed, had I known this was going to happen, I would have given her a heads up.

Though, she would have likely still become nervous over meeting Leo.

“Hmm... Well, it looks like you should sit down and discuss things? How about moving to the second floor of my store then? I will serve you some tea and you can relax.”

“Yes. Thank you, Mr. Kalis.”

“Not at all... Thanks to Leo, we have more customers here today. And to be honest, I want to keep you here as long as possible.”

“Haha. You do know how to do business. Leo, Liza. Sorry, but we’re going inside to talk. Can you play here for a little longer?”

“Wou!”

“Yes! It’s fun! But...is that lady alright?”

“She’s fine. Just a little shocked. Well, Tilura, please watch over them.”

“Leave it to me! Though, I’ll just be playing with them.”

Ms. Lyra then pushed the stunned Ms. Delia into the building. And then I, Claire, Mr. Kalis and Sebastian followed them in.

“Ah, brother!”

“Hey, Nick. I see that you are working hard. Uh, don’t mind us. We’re just going to talk upstairs. You keep helping the customers.”

“Aye!”

After entering the store, we greeted the other employees and then saw Nick.

He was about to rush towards me, but I told him to focus on his job... It would be rude to ignore the customers.

In the second floor, we all sat down at the table...except for Sebastian, who stood behind Claire.

We waited for the tea to be brought, and then we started to talk.

“Ah, we can finally relax now... I was quite thirsty after everything.”

“Mr. Takumi. Let me know if you want more.”

“Thank you. Now, Ms. Delia...are you calm now?”

“Ye-yes... Sorry for what happened earlier.”

It seemed that being away from Leo had helped to revive her... Also, the delicious tea probably helped as well.

“Well then... Where should we start? Ah, there isn’t much to say about Leo. She is just a Silver Fenrir. Claire is the daughter of the duke. I suppose you want to know about Liza?”

“Ye-yes! Indeed. That beastkin child! The one who thinks you and the Silver Fenrir are her parents...”

“Hmm... She just wanted to call us that. Because we happened to save her. Anyway, about Liza...”

And so we drank tea and I slowly told Ms. Delia about how we met Liza...

Chapter 758

I explained about Liza’s situation

I told Ms. Delia why Liza called us papa and mama.

While Mr. Reyndorf had been the first one to meet her, as he was quite elderly, she called him grandpa.

Or perhaps he told her to call him that.

In any case, I suppose Liza was looking for some kind of parental figures.

I also told Ms. Delia about how she was treated in the slums and why we took her back.

“She experienced such things... But she seemed so cheerful when I saw her earlier...”

“Well, I don’t think she forgot all of that. But right now, she is surrounded by kind people, and is able to act like a child should at that age again.”

When we first met her, she had done her best to try and speak politely. It seemed like a defense mechanism, where she wanted to avoid being made a target, or have people dislike her.

“Especially now. It’s not just me and Leo. But she also has Tilura to play with.”

“And Tilura seems to see Liza like a younger sister.”

“Well...I now understand why she would want to call you papa, Mr. Takumi...”

“It was quite a surprise when she did that.”

“I suppose she must have felt some kind of familial warmth. Beastkin have strong senses when it comes to such things.”

“...Is that so?”

“Yes. Though, I don’t know any other beastkin... But as for myself, I can often tell if a person is just being kind on the surface... Or if someone is genuinely concerned... Of course, not everything is always completely right. But I did feel my senses were sharper than most people.”

Well, that did make sense to me.

They were different from humans in some ways. And watching Liza and Leo, I often felt they were doing things based on senses instead of thinking.

Though, I suppose Leo was a special case.

“So perhaps Liza experienced the kindness of Mr. Takumi and Leo, and then sensed something. That you two would love her...”

“Well...do you really think so?”

“Hehe. You look embarrassed?”

Well, it was a little different when it was coming from Claire.

She was laughing at my reaction. Was I really so easy to read? Well, quite some time has now passed since we met. So perhaps it was no surprise.

Though, the idea that she was observing me this carefully made me feel even more embarrassed.

“Mo-more importantly... How was it for you, Ms. Delia? In the village...”

“You don’t have to worry about that. Yes, I was found in the forest. But I do not have a sad past at all. If anything, I had a good childhood.”

I changed the subject in order to hide my embarrassment.

After I said it, it occurred to me that I might accidentally cause her to remember something that she did not want to.

However, Ms. Delia did not mind. And she seemed quite happy as she explained. It did look like she only had good memories.

“I was picked up in the corner of the fenrir forest. However, it seemed to be shortly after I was born, and so I have no memory of that. I just know that the elders of the village took care of me, and played with the children. All of the adults worked until sundown. So it was just the old men and women, as well as the children who were around...”

Chapter 759

Ms. Delia talked about how she was found

According to Ms. Delia, she had been found by a lumberjack.

A single fenrir had been lying on the ground beside her. And so the man had been afraid to go close to her at first. But once he saw that the fenrir did no move, he went closer to Ms. Delia.

On closer inspection, the fenrir wasn’t moving due a serious injury. And so it was not able to attacks Ms. Delia or the man.

However, once the man picked up the sleeping baby, the dying fenrir suddenly stood up and walked back into the forest.

But before it disappeared, it turned back once and bowed its head as if apologizing.

The man was going to follow it, but then Ms. Delia started to cry. After that, he never saw the fenrir again.

In the first place, a fenrir had never appeared so close to the village before. And so the villagers settled on the idea that it was trying to protect the baby.

And since some people feared the fenrirs, they decided to raise the baby as their own.

“And so I was raised in the village. As I had ears and a tail, the fact I was a beastkin could not be hidden. However, they treated me like anyone else.”

“Still, there were people who feared fenrirs and even you?”

“Yes. Well, no one did anything. It was just a few people. Everyone else was very nice. And I am so grateful to them.”

“I now understand the situation when you were found. It is quite interesting... That a fenrir would have wanted to protect you...”

“Well, we still do not know for certain... But it seemed like the most likely explanation.”

Upon hearing all of this Sebastian touched his chin and nodded thoughtfully.

“Mr. Takumi. Perhaps you might learn something if you talked to the fenrirs about this?”

“Indeed... Though, I think that Fen and the others live quite far from that village...it’s still possible that they might know something.”

“And uh...who are these fenrirs?”

“They live in the fenrir forest. The leader of that pack is called Feri. And there are two others called Fen and Riruru. As Leo is here, we have talked to them several times, and they are very friendly.”

Well, it was mostly because we feeded them.

“Oh, friendly with them? How did you... Ah, I suppose it would be easy with a Silver Fenrir. They would understand that she is the greatest of all monsters. I myself was so overwhelmed that I could not speak properly... I hope that she is not angry with me now...”

“Well, for me she is just a cute buddy. Also, she is very kind, and would not be mad at you, Ms. Delia.”

“...After seeing her with that child...Liza. I can see that she is kind, but... Well, she seems to like children.”

“Yes. Well, you should go and pet her later.”

“I-I-I-I...couldn't do that... Being petted by someone like me...”

“But she likes being petted. She will be quite happy.”

Earlier, I had pulled her hand towards Leo, and Leo seemed to enjoy it.

It didn't really have anything to do with being beastkin or Silver Fenrir.

“Are you...sure?”

“Mr. Takumi knows more about Leo than anyone. I was also very surprised when I first met them.”

“Indeed... It was surprising for me as well. It is one thing when it was the first master, but a human with a Silver Fenrir...”

“First master?”

“Yes. The very first lord of this family. There is an old story about that... Lady Claire?”

Sebastian said as he turned to Claire with a smile.

Sebastian talked about the family's history

"There's no problem. It is not like it would be troublesome for her to know. Most people know it already. And Ms. Delia seems to have a deep connection with Fenrirs."

"Indeed. Well then, if you would be so kind as to listen to an old man's tale..."

I had already heard this story. According to Mr. Euto, this person had also come from our world. This woman who had the Gift. I think her name was Josephine.

Regardless, Sebastian looked very lively as he repeated this old story.

"Oh... So there is that connection. The duke and Silver Fenrirs..."

"As many of the people around here know, they also hold a reverence towards Silver Fenrirs. Even though no one had seen any up until recently... Well, perhaps some had. But if they did, I doubt the Silver Fenrir would have been as friendly as Leo."

"Yes. I do believe that the only reason that Leo is so friendly, and does not attack humans, is because she is with Mr. Takumi."

"Mr. Takumi must be very important..."

"No, I'm not really..."

"Well, in any case, the point is that you do not have to be so intimidated around Leo."

"I suppose that is true... But when one is in front of a Silver Fenrir, it's hard to..."

"Well, you will get used to it. I was like that as well. And so were the servants and my father. But now, they all like Leo and are always petting her."

Uh, from what I remembered, Claire had been quick to approach Leo from the beginning... But I suppose she did hesitate in the very beginning when it came to riding on her.

That being said, we had saved her during the first encounter. So that might have something to do with it. She was being attacked by orcs.

Without Leo, I would not have made it in time... I was too slow on my feet. Also, I couldn't even fight with a sword back then. So even if I was there, I would have just died along with her.

"So, Mr. Takumi. Why did you bring Ms. Delia here? I suppose the main reason was to introduce her to Lady Liza. But something tells me there was another reason."

"Uh, so you could tell, Sebastian."

"Well, you are very easy to read, Mr. Takumi..."

It's not like it was a secret. I was just going to ask her, and if Ms. Delia agreed to it...

Still, I didn't expect Sebastian to be able to guess this.

"Mr. Takumi. What are you planning to do with Ms. Delia?"

"What? Is he going to do something with me? Well, he does have a Silver Fenrir, so I suppose I will have to listen."

"Please don't brace yourself like that."

Claire looked puzzled, and Ms. Delia looked strangely determined. It really was not necessary.

"Uh, but first... Can you read, Ms. Delia?"

"Oh...yes. The elders of the village taught me to read and write."

I was not quite sure what the average education level was in this world. But it seemed like it wasn't that unusual for people to not be able to read.

Apparently, Mr. Euto had put a lot of effort in education, so more people could learn... But in the end, it seemed like most people still learned from family members or through private lessons.

Of course, that meant that people like Ms. Delia or Liza would often be ignored.

Apparently, they did teach the children at the orphanage, but there was no one teaching in the slums. And so many of the children grew up like that.

It was one of the reasons that Nick had found it difficult to find work.

Though, Mr. Kalis was now teaching him.

I suppose it would be difficult to work and deal with customers without being able to read a little... Nick talked about how much he owed to Mr. Kalis, and how grateful he was. In reality, Mr. Kalis had probably done more for Nick than me.

In any case, if Ms. Delia could read and write, that was perfect. Though, it was rather unwise for me to start thinking ahead, without even confirming it first...