## **Beloved Dog 771**



"Kyau-kyau." "Mama and Sherry are in a good mood!" After talking with Ms. Anna, we told the children that we would visit again, and then left the orphanage behind us. Ms. Delia looked quite tired, as she had been playing not just with the children, but Leo, Liza and Sherry as well. But even though she grumbled about it, she was still wagging her tail, which suggested that she had become used to Leo. Leo's large tail, Sherry's small one, and Liza's fox-like tail...Ms. Delia's cat-like one... They were all wagging with the same rhythm, as if they had become linked while playing together. While Sebastian and the guards pretended not to look, Ms. Lyra and Ms. Johanna...even Claire, looked like they wanted to touch them. "Ah, by the way, Mr. Takumi. Why don't we look for that ingredient, and see if they sell it in Ractos?" "Oh...do you mean the konjac?" "Yes. Since I heard they had it in Ractos... Previously, was it tofu? They don't have that, but this is similar, isn't it?"

"It's not similar at all...but..."

Claire started talking about something that we had been told by Mr. Euto...

As for the tofu, there was no sea nearby, so we gave up on the idea of trying to make it here. But she still wanted something that could work as a diet menu item, I suppose.

Well, the taste and texture was completely different. But it could still be used for various dishes.

But now that I thought about it, how did they store and carry the tofu that Ms. Helena bought previously? That stuff did not last for very long... It hadn't been rotten when we ate it, so they must have managed it somehow.

In comparison, konjac would have lower calories and could also be kept for longer.

With that considered, it made sense to look for it, since we were already here.

We had finished up all our business already. And there was time left before we had to return to the mansion.

"What is it Mr. Takumi and Lady Claire?"

"Ah, Ms. Delia. We are thinking about searching for a rare ingredient. Uh, how do you say this... It's called konjac, and you can eat a lot of it without gaining weight."

"Yes. It is quite amazing. Though, I'm sure you have no worries there, Ms. Delia."

For some reason, Claire looked a little jealous as she said that.

Chapter 772

Ms. Delia knew about konjac

Ms. Delia certainly was on the slender side, like a model. Which helped to explain her swift movements.

"Konjac? Rare?"

"Uh, you know about it, Ms. Delica?"

"Huh? Oh, they made it in the village with the potatoes grown in the fields. I ate them a lot as a child."

"I see..." "So they were grown in your village." As there was a lot of trade in Ractos, I knew it must come from somewhere...but apparently, it was from Ms. Delia's village. Perhaps there were other villages that grew them as well. "Hearing about them makes me hungry." "Aren't you a little bored of them by now?" "Well, they were very delicious when cooked by the grandmothers. That being said, they can also be eaten without cooking them." Normally, if you ate it raw, there was a harshness to it. And so you would boil it first... But then again, it was probably different in this world. "That's right. I think I know where they would be selling it... Before leaving the village, they told me where their konjac was sold. And that I should visit it if I get hungry." "Huh... So the konjac sold here really is from Vlayu village. But you sounded like you weren't sure?" "Yes, as this is my first time coming here. I heard about where it was, but don't know it exactly..." In that case, we might have to ask some people who live here in order to learn the exact location.

Claire looked like she wanted to run towards it right away, so we should probably go soon.

She really did not need to be so enthusiastic about dieting... Still, I was not sensitive to such things, and would not be very persuasive.

"Ah, I see. In that case, maybe you should ask Ms. Lyra?"

"Me? Yes, I do know quite a lot about this town... As long as it is not inside of the slums, I should be able to guide you."

"I also know a lot about Ractos... It is necessary, since I am a butler. But Lyra is... Tsk."

I recalled the time when someone had thrown a rock at Liza, and how Ms. Lyra had helped by guiding us through the town.

She was raised here, after all.

Sebastian looked a little annoyed that he couldn't do it. As if he had not explained enough already today.

"I'm also from the orphanage and know a lot about this town..."

For some reason, Phillip was acting like he had been slighted...

"Phillip, you left the orphanage quite early compared to Lyra, didn't you? You were training with the master... And the town has changed since then. Besides, you are on guard duty, so you must remain cautious."

"Johanna... Well, it's true that things have changed since then. That being said, I don't know if we are even necessary with Leo and Ms. Delia here."

"Still, it is our role."

It was no surprise that he would have doubts, after seeing what Ms. Delia did recently. And with Leo with us. It was important to have trained humans protecting us as well. Surely.



Well, Leo preferred meat, like sausages. So it was no surprise. I never really went out of my way to eat it either.

Also, back then, I needed to eat meals that were high in calories, or I wouldn't have been able to survive.

"The place Ms. Delia talked about...is right over there. That stall should be selling it."

Ms. Lyra guided us through the town after hearing of the place from Ms. Delia.

We had then come out into a large street where there were numerous stalls. But the one we were looking for was in a corner, and a little secluded.

As Ractos had a lot of traffic, there were a lot of merchants who came to sell their products. They were able to set up stalls here by paying the town a small fee.

And they were people who sold unusual things as well, and this also attracted more people.

"Uhh... Ah, yes, it is that store. It's the old man from my village."

"Then let us go, Mr. Takumi!"

"Uh, yes..."

"Lady Claire, please wait!"

"She is so fast..."

"Mama, let's go too!"

"Wuff!"

After confirming that it was the correct place, Claire grabbed me by the hand and started to run.

...She really was looking forward to this... Sebastian called after her, and the others did their best to catch up. "Excuse me, this is konjac, isn't it?" "Uh, yes. Oh, are you interested in it? This one is special, because I made it. It is quite delicious, you know?" "Oh, you have it in water. Yes, it's just as I remembered... Can you eat it like this?" "You can. I already cooked it once. But you should probably cook it again if you are going to use it in some dish." The old store owner was a little taken aback by Claire's enthusiasm, but he was also confident in what he was selling. In front of him, there was a large wine barrel filled with water. And inside the water were floating gray blocks. "The tofu was more white, but this is more jiggly..." "It is definitely tougher. You actually have to chew it." "Mister, you've eaten this before?" "Mr. Kanat, this is Mr. Takumi. And this is Lady Claire." "Oh? If it isn't Delia. What are you doing here? Oh, you did say something about coming here... But why aren't you hiding your ears and tail?" "Apparently, you don't need to hide them here. But more importantly, please don't be rude to these

people!"

"Eh?"

"I'm sorry, Lady Claire. He doesn't know who you are... Even if you rarely leave the village, you should know..."

"I don't mind it at all. We have never met each other before, so it is little wonder that he does not know who I am."

Chapter 774

Claire and Mr. Kanat were apologetic

Mr. Kanat did not look surprised by Claire's face or name at all. And he just looked at Ms. Delia with suspicion.

While she was pretty well known in Ractos, as she visited often, it was more difficult for people who came from far away.

"Mr. Kanat! Come over here!"

"He-hey! What is it!? I need to sell this for the village...!"

"They've gone. I suppose I will have to wait if I want to eat it."

"Yes. Uh, Claire..."

"What is it, Mr. Takumi?"

"This isn't going to make you lose weight just because you ate it..."

I decided to use the opportunity to explain things to her.

From behind, Leo, Liza and the others were running. Sebastian looked a little angry that we had gone ahead.

"It takes continuous effort..." "Lady Claire. What is the point of having guards if you are just going to leave them..." "Yes...I got a little carried away. Yes, I see. It is just one thing that can help, but..." Claire looked a little embarrassed to be berated by Sebastian, and hear my explanation at the same time. I suppose she realized that she was acting based on emotion. "Ah, Leo. That konjac is to be sold, so you can't just eat it..." I said to Leo, who had put her nose to the barrel and was sniffing it curiously. Though, she was just wondering what it was. She did not like it, and would probably not eat it anyway. "I'm very sorry for my insolent words and actions!" "I'm sorry!" "No, it's really nothing. It's my fault for coming so suddenly..." Mr. Kanat and Ms. Delia were frantically bowing their heads in front of Claire. So he finally knew that she was the daughter of a duke. But Claire really did not mind. If anything, she was more flustered after being scolded by Sebastian. "Still, I never expect Delia to be with such a person..." "Actually, it wasn't really me. Lady Claire knew about it and wanted to come and see your stall."

"Really? I thought we were the only village that made it around here. It is quite difficult, you know. So...there are other places too... Well, people here still act like it's unusual, and buy them..."

"Well, I heard about it from someone who travels a lot. And thought it must be sold here, since people come to Ractos from all over the country."

After that, Mr. Kanat was shocked to see Leo, and then he cried when he saw Liza... I was just glad that he wasn't as nervous as Ms. Delia.

As for why he became emotional, he was happy that Ms. Delia had been able to meet another person like her...

"Delia likes to eat it as well. So take as much as you want."

"But I can only eat so much... You remind me of the grandfathers and grandmothers..."

Once everyone was calm again, Mr. Kanat tried to make Ms. Delia take the whole barrel.

I was suddenly reminded of the elders I used to live around. They would always give me lots of snacks... It was usually more than I could eat. And I would always be too modest to take them...

Chapter 775

Claire wanted the konjac

"Hmm...the texture is interesting..."

"Yes. It is springy...but not tough. There is not much taste though."

"I like it. I think it is quite delicious."

"Wuf..."

"Kyau..."







"Bu-but...if you bought that much, wouldn't it be troublesome for Mr. Kanat...hah..." "Yes. Sell when you can. That is what Mr. Kalis says." Sebastian said, not realizing he was contradicting her. Buying the entire stock at once could be a good thing or bad thing, depending on how you look at it... I later heard from Mr. Kalis that aside from special situations, he prioritized selling to people who buy a lot, and secure his profits. "Um...I wouldn't say that... I would be quite happy if all of it was sold..." "What is it, Mr. Kanat?" "Well, surely it will be difficult to move all of the barrels..." "Ye-yes, Lady Claire. How do you propose to carry all of that at once?" A single barrel would likely weigh dozens of kilos. So you would need a wagon to carry all of them back. Surely Claire wasn't going to tell us to carry it back like this. "...Indeed, it would be difficult to do it all at once."

"Lady Claire. We can fit one barrel in the carriage. So perhaps we can just do that today, and have

"That's a good idea. We will take the cooked barrel first then. Of course, I would not expect Mr.

Kanat to deliver it, so I'll send someone myself. Is that alright, Sebastian?"

the rest delivered to the mansion later?"



If you wanted it to become widespread in popularity, then selling all of it like this was questionable. But at least he didn't have to worry about it being unsold now?

In any case, as for whether they would be buying it regularly, it was best to decide after everyone had eaten it at the mansion.

It was still possible that it wouldn't be eaten much.

Next to me, Sebastian was muttering, 'She listens to Mr. Takumi...' He sounded a little depressed.

Well, it was probably because instead of outright trying to stop her, I just tried to delay a decision.

"Now, we should be taking our leave. We will be getting in the way if we just stay here."

"Though there is nothing left to sell..."

Some time later, a few men arrived from Mr. Kalis's store, and they spoke with Mr. Kanat about making the delivery. And so we decided to take our leave.

Even if there was nothing to sell, having someone as big as Leo, and many adults in that space was bound to get in people's way...

Chapter 777

Phillip would carry the barrel

"...I suppose it's during these times...where I have to carry it."

I heard Phillip mutter as he carried the barrel.

I felt bad. And I would have given him a strengthening herb, only I didn't have any on me. And I could not use Weed Cultivation while other people were around...

"Um, I would like to stay here and help Mr. Kanat. Is that alright?"

"Ms. Delia. Yes, we're just going to return to the mansion now...so you should help him. But please don't push yourself too hard." "Yes, of course. While I did a lot today, this will be nothing." "In any case...about whether or not you will be able to teach Liza. Have you made a decision?" "Ah...yes. If you are fine with someone like me teaching her... I am not very smart... But I would be happy to do it. Or to work with the herb fields." My main reason for it was so that Liza could learn to read and write, while also having a beastkin friend. So she didn't need to be that smart. "Haha. Well, I'm not much different... It should not be a very demanding job. However, are you interested in doing other work as well?" "Well, that is why I came here. And to see Leo..." "I see. Well, I shall think of something then..." "Oh, but I hope it won't be too difficult..." "Yes, of course. Don't worry about that. Haha." I did not want her to be overworked if she was also Liza's teacher. I would just have to wait and see before deciding. Ah, and one other thing... "Here. For your room at the inn. I know it might be a little uncomfortable to accept it, but I wanted

to thank you for playing with Liza and Leo."

"Uh...very well."



As for the training, I had heard him talk about it before. He was shuddering by just thinking about it.

I definitely had no interest in experiencing it for myself.

And so I would be careful to never mention it in front of Mr. Ekenhart, as he was likely to gleefully force me to participate.

Chapter 778

I talked with Claire on the way back

"...I'm sorry. I wish I could have given you some herbs to make it easier."

"No, no. You could not do it in front of other people. And we already came this far anyway... Now it's just a matter of putting it into the carriage."

Phillip smiled reassuringly, but he did look a little tired.

"As you had brought Ms. Delia, I didn't really ask earlier... But how did things go? With the interview."

"Now that I think about it, I haven't talked about that yet."

Claire asked me inside of the carriage as we made our way back to the mansion.

"There were a lot of people. I had to take notes, which I mean to look back at later. However, there were a lot of promising people... Don't you agree, Milina?"

"Uh, yes. I even knew some of them. But the others all looked like they could work well! I think..."

The last part was a little unnecessary.

As it was my first time, and I had not really organized my thoughts yet, I turned to Milina for help...which was clearly a bad decision.

On that note, Milina was currently riding with me and Claire. Because we were in the larger carriage this time.

Outside, Leo was running happily with Ms. Lyra, Liza, Tilura and Sherry on her back.

Milina had accompanied us today, mainly to watch how Ms. Lyra worked. As it was now official that I would be hiring Ms. Lyra, I suppose she wanted to use her as a reference.

In any case, they weren't actually going to be the same kind of work. But Milina was currently doing work as a maid... Apparently, she had been close with Ms. Gelda while we were in Range village, but both were constantly making mistakes.

When we returned to the mansion, I had to offer encouragement, and say that she should take her time, because no one got it perfectly at first.

Unlike Ms. Lyra, the head maid was rather strict, which was why she was feeling down.

"I see. As they will be working for you, you must think carefully before choosing them."

"Yes... I will do that. Ah, I think I would like to hear your opinion as well. Uh, though it is just my notes..."

"Of course. I will do what I can. After all, we are to be running this business together."

And so I took out the notebook and showed it to Claire. And we discussed the people listed while making our way back to the mansion.

As for me, I wanted to choose people that were open-minded, as well as people who would not find it difficult to work in a field.

I was not too sure about that woman who was searching for a man...

Regardless, Claire looked at the notes and said she seemed promising.

And then Milina and even Sebastian agreed from the driver's seat.

Hmmm... Milina's opinion was questionable. But I trusted Claire. Apparently, she felt that that kind of bold honesty was a good thing. But as someone who was so used to reading the room before talking, I didn't really understand that.

"Welcome back, everyone!"

We soon arrived at the mansion and were greeted by all of the servants.

After Phillip carried the barrel into the house, I headed to my room with Leo and Liza in order to leave our things there.

On the way, I thought about what I had discussed with Claire.

It had been very interesting, as she had many ideas that I didn't even consider.

Well, I was reminded how different we were fundamentally, in the way we thought...

Chapter 779

Liza was very happy to have met Ms. Delia

Normally, when hiring people, you thought about how much they could contribute to your profits.

But with Claire, she thought about their words and actions. If they could work without causing any trouble. If they would enjoy the work.

It was like she didn't just think about herself, but was also concerned if the person would be happy taking such a position.

I suppose she wanted unity, and for everyone to be able to live in peace.

As I thought of such things, we arrived at the room.





"Hmm... This time it is not so simple. So you should stay with Leo. I'm sure you are tired?"

"I'm not tired at all... But okay! I'll be with mama!"

Indeed, she did not look tired at all. Beastkin had more energy than humans. As for me, I would probably feel tired when I woke up tomorrow.

"Sorry to keep you waiting, Ms. Helena."

"Mr. Takumi. Thank you for coming. I probably should have gone to you. But...as you can see..."

"Haha. It is right before dinner, so it could not be helped."

Chapter 780

She asked me about dishes that used konjac

I entered the kitchen and spotted Ms. Helena amongst the busy cooks. freewebnovet.com

Ms. Helena apologized about calling me here, but I could see that it was unavoidable.

Ms. Gelda had also followed me to the kitchen. I suppose she was also curious about what we were going to do.

"So..."

"It's about the konjac, right?"

"Yes. I heard that Lady Claire bought a great quantity of it. Six barrels, in addition to the one brought back today. And so I cannot let it go to waste. So I thought that I would ask for your help. As I do not have any experience with it."

"I understand. If you don't know anything about it, it will be difficult to think of different ideas. Well...did you taste it yet?"

"I did it with a few of the other cooks. I thought that the texture was rather interesting. The taste was rather plain, and I'm not sure it is good on its own."

"While it's made from potatoes, it tastes quite different. As for the taste, it really depends on the person. But Tilura and Liza liked it."

Though, I think they also just enjoyed the texture more than anything.

Leo and Sherry did not like it at all.

"I see... So we must cook it in a way that does not ruin the texture. Do you have any ideas, Mr. Takumi?"

"Hmm... I don't actually know much..."

I had not cooked much in my past life. And so I did not have any good ideas.

I didn't really have time to cook. Except for the rare occasions that I made hamburgers... In general, I would just throw ingredients together and fry them. Never anything that took much preparation.

"Well...boiling them?"

In Japan, it was often boiled with meat and potatoes.

Since the konjac was already boiled once, it would be quick to absorb the soup. That being said...I think you needed soy sauce for that?

Did they even have that in this world?

"In any case, there is this dish with meat and potatoes. Just cut up the potatoes and konjac in small pieces and mix them with fried meat. And then you boil them in a kind of soup. Unfortunately, you need soy sauce..."

"Oh, I see. We have other dishes that are quite similar to that... They are quite easy to make."

We had been served something like pot-au-feu before, as well as stuffed cabbage. And they had consomme and bouillon.

Though, from what I heard, regarding bouillon, they had to boil it for a very long time. That meant using a lot of wood for the fire. So it was a very expensive ingredient in this world.

Obviously, that wouldn't be much of a problem in this household. But most commoners had not even tasted it.

"Well, it might be a little difficult then. Perhaps a different..."

"Oh? But we do have soy sauce, Mr. Takumi."

"Really?"

I probably looked quite dumbfounded.

Well, I suppose it wouldn't be surprising, if they had soybeans... But don't you also need koji mold to make it? And you get that from rice plants.

In other words...there is probably rice growing somewhere around here?