

Beloved Dog 781

Chapter 781

Soy sauce was expensive

“Apparently, the old king wanted it... Though, since it cannot be made here, it is imported from other countries. And so the price is not very accessible... Still, we buy a small amount for this house.”

“I see...”

Well, the old king in this case must be Mr. Euto.

After meeting him, I was able to think about all the little ways he had influenced the country.

“However...it might be difficult. Using it.”

“Why? Oh, because there is not enough?”

“Yes. The duke is able to acquire some in spite of the price. But there is still not enough, considering how much of the konjac we have to eat. After all, there is only a small amount available on the market.”

“I see... Then we won’t be able to make much even if we did use it.”

I didn’t know how much they had exactly, but it was probably just enough for one meal.

“In any case. Here is some of it. Would you like to try it?”

Ms. Helena said as she took out a small bottle.

It contained the familiar dark liquid. But if that was all they had, there was not much at all.

It definitely should not be used for some cheap meat and potatoes dish.

I also wondered if I should even try it.

“It is fine. After all, I don’t think the others even like it.”

“I see. Very well then...”

She then poured a few drops into a small plate and I tasted it.

“Hmm...!”

“Are you alright, Mr. Takumi?”

“Uh...I’m fine. I just felt a little emotional, that is all.”

After tasting it, I had made a fist and then crouched on the floor.

And so the others were quite startled.

However, this was not the same as the soy sauce I had before...

Not that it was all the same in Japan. But there was something... It was saltier than I expected. Regardless, I was not surprised that Ms. Helena had trouble finding a use for it.

Especially since it was expensive, and they only had a small amount.

“Well, I think we can think about it later. Right now, we should focus on the konjac.”

“Hah... Of course.”

“It adds something new to it, and is good in its own way.”

“Yes. It’s because you cooked it so well, Ms. Helena.”

In the end, it was decided that she would make pot-au-feu and add pieces of the konjac inside and boil it.

As it was not something with a strong taste, it blended in with the rest easily. And people liked the texture.

Only Leo and Sherry were more interested in the meat and sausages that they were given.

“It is not too soft or light.”

“If you eat less things with potatoes or flour, and eat more dishes with the konjak, then it may help with weight loss.”

“I see. Less foods high in calories, and eat this instead. Even if the overall amount is similar, the results are different.”

“Yes... If you just cut down on the overall amount, you may not get enough of the necessary nutrition. And so I think that it’s best to continue eating a proper amount.”

Chapter 782

We talked about using konjac to replace something

“Ah, I do have one idea that could have delicious results... But you wouldn’t be able to make that much of it.”

“What is your idea, Mr. Takumi?”

I had thought of one thing that konjac could replace. Though, it might be difficult for various reasons... Regardless, Claire was now curious to know what it was.

Sebastian was also looking towards me expectantly.

“So, Mr. Takumi. What is your idea for the konjac?”

“It’s really not much of an idea. I just thought that it could be used as a kind of substitute... But then again... Um, is sugar very expensive here?”

“Yes. It is not something that anyone can easily buy. Even if it is just a small amount. It is practically a luxury.”

“Then it will be difficult after all... But perhaps we could do something that is close.”

As far as I was aware, it would require a lot of sugar in order to make it. In fact, it wasn’t really something that you ate. So unlike meals that were limited to a certain number each day, once you started to make it, you would then have to use a lot of sugar.

That being said, since it was a substitute, it wasn’t going to be the exact same thing anyway. And so we might be able to get away with less sugar, or even none at all...

Well, we would have to try it first. As I had no idea if it would actually be any good.

“Something close...substitute... What is it, exactly? As your hamburgers were quite good, I’m sure you wouldn’t make anything that was bad...”

“Well, those were easy to do. I am not as confident with this one. Also, it is actually a drink. And we have the dandelion tea, so there will be no need to make that...”

“A drink? Ah, you did say that dandelion tea was good for dieting. Will it be even more effective if the two are mixed together?”

“No... I don’t know about that... On the other hand, I do think that the taste will be well received by more people.”

“I see... Not that effective...”

Claire looked disappointed by that. Sebastian was interested, because it was still something that was new.

The drink that I was thinking about would be a little high in calories, though... Maybe not that high if we reduce the amount of sugar.

“And what is this drink called...?”

Now that Claire had lost some of her enthusiasm, Sebastian was the one who asked me instead.

“Uh, it is called bubble tea. It’s usually made with a certain potato...”

“Oh...”

If I’m not wrong, it was made from starch from the cassava potato... As for what it looked like, some might say frog eggs. But I felt that saying that might be offensive to some people.

I suppose it was possible that the cassava potatoes existed in this world. But I heard that you had to handle them very carefully. Something about poison. And so it was dangerous unless you knew how to properly extract the poison.

Regardless, when I was in Japan, I had heard stories about people using konjac instead, and adding it to their milk tea.

Tapioca were made of starch, so they were high in calories... And with milk tea, you added sugar on top of that. At that point, you could even call them a calorie bomb...

Chapter 783

The new drink would be tested tomorrow

I thought about creating a new drink.

However, sugar was expensive, and the konjac was not sweet at all... Even if we turned it into milk tea, it may not be sweet or taste good.

The tea served in the mansion was always delicious, so it probably wouldn't be terrible if we mixed milk and the konjac in, but...

In any case, I just wanted to help consume all of the stock that Claire had purchased.

However, the pot-au-feu was already quite good, so perhaps it was not necessary.

"Well, as the konjac goes inside, you can call it a konjac drink or konjac milk tea..."

"So you put milk in as well?"

"Yes. In most cases, anyway."

"Hmm... Is it very difficult to do?"

"No. You just cut the konjac into small pieces and mix it with the tea. You can add other things if you want. I will ask Ms. Helena about making it tomorrow."

"So it's easy. And the sugar?"

"Well, it is usually added. Because it is supposed to be a sweet drink."

At least, the ones I had drank, that were sold in convenience stores, had a lot of sugar in them.

"It's one thing to use a little for deserts or cooking. But it will be difficult to use a lot for drinks..."

"Yes. And so I can't guarantee that it will taste good."

I would just have Ms. Helena make some tomorrow. It was likely that at least somebody would drink it.

After that, I went out to the garden to practice my swings with Tilura.

I was actually quite tired, and thought about resting. However, I thought that by making Tilura tired, she would forget about how lonely she was about Rahle, and be able to sleep well.

Besides, she had played with the other children today, so she would likely be fine.

After training, I took a bath and then returned to my room, where Liza talked Ms. Delia and the children. And then I fell asleep...

“Kiii!”

“That sound. It is Rahle!”

The next morning, I made herbs like I always did, and handed them to Nick when he arrived with the barrels of konjac.

After lunch, I trained with Tilura and Liza. We were trying to hit Leo with our swords, when we suddenly heard a familiar voice.

Tilura reacted immediately, and declared that it was Rahle as she looked up into the sky.

Perhaps he was able to tell, since Rahle was her familiar.

“Kii! Kii!”

“It is Rahle! Welcome back!”

“Oh, it is.”

“Rahle!”

“Wou!”

As we all stopped and looked up, the large bird got closer and closer.

“Huh? Does Rahle...have something?”

“Wuff.”

“What is it?”

It looked like Rahle was holding something in its talons.

“Kii!”

Rahle then slowly descended to the ground and released the thing...

“Pipi? Pii!”

“Pii! Pii!”

“What is it? Rahle’s child?”

“I don’t think so. No one would treat their child like that...”

“Wou?”

“I think it’s scared of you, mama?”

Chapter 784

They were pigeon-like creatures

Rahle had brought two of them.

The two small birds were flapping their wings on the ground. And as Liza said, they were shaking with fear as they looked at Leo.

Tilura was wondering if they were Rahle's children...but I doubted it.

Besides, their feathers were gray, unlike Rahle. And their beaks were not sharp either.

They were smaller than Sherry. Small heads with round bodies... They looked like pigeons to me.

"Oh, Rahle has landed. We should just ask about them."

"Yes. Rahle!"

"Kii!"

Rahle seemed very happy to see Tilura again.

It immediately spread out its wings and enveloped her.

"Wou..."

"Leo. You played with her a lot when Rahle was gone. Besides, it's not like Tilura doesn't like you anymore."

"You have me, mama!"

"Wuff."

Tilura and Rahle enjoyed their reunion for some time. And I petted Leo and waited... Though, I felt a little bad for the two pigeons, who were just staying there and quivering.

"Hmm. It seems like they are the children of a Cockatrice."

I had asked Ms. Lyra to go and call Sebastian.

He took one look at them and muttered. So he knew after all.

“Cockatrices... Will you turn into stone?”

“You know about them, Mr. Takumi? Yes. Once they become adults, they will shoot off the red hairs on their heads. They are sharp like needles, and you will turn to stone if you are pierced by them. They do not have them now. But as they grow older, their feathers will change to white or brown, so you can tell if they are male or female.”

Like chickens?

But they really did look more like pigeons to me...

“That sounds kind of scary...”

“Well, petrification can be reversed with medicine. Also, it is just around the spot where the needle pierced you... About this much.”

Sebastian showed me that it was just a few centimeters.

“However, it will grow if you are pierced multiple times.”

“So it depends on the situation. In any case, it would be best to avoid being petrified to begin with.”

“Yes. By the way, you can make the medicine out of the herbs that you sent to Ractos. It is quite cheap. That is why people aren’t too scared of the Cockatrice.”

Those herbs were in the book that I had borrowed, and so I knew of their effects. But I didn’t know they could also be used to treat petrification.

“Did Rahle bring them as food?”

“Uh, I don’t know? We will just have to wait and ask about it.”

“Yes... But I have heard that grown Cockatrices are delicious. But they are difficult to catch...”

“Pii!?”

“Pii!”

While I didn’t think it was the case... I suppose it was possible that Rahle brought them back as a gift.

“Kii! Kii! Kii!”

“I see. So that’s why!”

“Tilura. What did Rahle say?”

“Umm...”

A moment later, Tilura was released from Rahle’s embrace, and was able to talk.

And so we were able to learn the reason.

The whole time, Leo was staring at the small birds... And while it was probably in order to monitor them, she did seem to be drooling a little. Perhaps it was because she heard Sebastian saying that they tasted good...

Chapter 785

We asked Rahle the reason

Apparently, Rahle had been thinking about my idea regarding the post horses.

After becoming Tilura’s familiar, Rahle had started to carry humans. And it was wondering if other monsters could do the same.

And so it had wanted to ask the Cockatrices, but they all ran away after sensing the presence of a Silver Fenrir.

With no choice, Rahle had taken these two small ones that had been left behind.

That was not a very nice thing to do. And Tilura scolded Rahle.

She was very sympathetic, as the young Cockatrices looked very scared.

Regardless, with Leo's presence and with Rahle here, it seemed like all of the monsters were now avoiding coming out of the forest.

Though, there were some like orcs, who moved based on instincts. But they were hunted down by other monsters or by Rahle. So it was much safer these days.

Rahle had been gone for several days, because it was searching for the Cockatrices... It had been harder, because of Leo's visit to Ractos, which meant the presence was closer. But I kept that part to myself.

"I see... Cockatrices instead of horses. I haven't talked to the fenrirs yet, so I don't know if it is even possible..."

"Rahle says it won't feel as useful if there are too many fenrirs!"

"Kii..."

"Well, including Sherry, they will all be fenrirs outside of Rahle."

Rahle would be the only bird-type monster, and the others would be beasts that walked on four legs. Apparently, Rahle would feel left out.

"So they are not for food..."

Sebastian sounded disappointed. But the cockatrice chicks shuddered.

So, perhaps they could understand us, just like Rahle and the fenrirs.

Though, we would still have to ask Liza or Leo to translate what they were saying...

“Still, if people get used to being carried through the sky...traveling by horse will feel very slow.”

“If it is realized, yes.”

You could easily go over mountains and forests without anything getting in your way. It didn't matter if there were paved roads or not.

Also...

Tilura tried to suggest that Rahle take them back. But Rahle said that the parents had already run away, and were unlikely to return.

Besides, they may no longer recognize them as their children anymore.

Were birds really so quick to forget?

Though, I had heard of similar things happening with birds that lived near humans. Something about not recognizing their chicks after humans have touched them and changed their smell.

“Anyway, are you sure they would even be able to carry people?”

“Kii? Kii-kii.”

“Rahle doesn't know.”

“...Well, they would be large enough to do it. However, I am not sure if they are strong enough to fly like that.”

“So they have the size, but perhaps not the strength...”

Obviously, carrying a rider would require a lot of energy.

Most monsters would not be able to carry an extra hundred kilos and fly.

We would not know until we could test it with adult Cockatrices. But the ones in front of us were the size of pigeons.

“Kii...kii!”

“Pi!?”

“Uhhh... I think I understand what Rahle said, but...”

“Oh, you can understand it, Mr. Takumi? That’s amazing!”

“No, it’s just this time. Judging by the way things have been going...”

Chapter 786

Tilura’s idea was rejected

Rahle was quite disappointed upon realizing this whole thing was a waste of time. And after pecking at the grass for a moment, it turned to look at the Cockatrices.

They still looked scared and bewildered... Though, it was probably more related to Sebastian talking about eating them.

“That was really wrong, Rahle! Taking them away from their home. And the very idea of eating them for dinner... The poor things!”

“Pii! Pii!”

“Pii!”

“Wou...”

“Kii...”

As if realizing that she was an ally, the Cockartrices ran towards Tilura’s feet.

That was fine, but Leo also sounded disappointed. I suppose she was hungry.

“What should we do...”

“Doing what Rahle wants would be the simplest. But I must be getting old. Seeing them stick to Lady Tilura like that makes me feel sympathetic.”

Sympathetic? You wanted to eat them more than anyone here, Sebastian.

“But it seems like there is no point in returning them now...”

“Yes. Besides, there are many other monsters in the forest. So they will easily become prey.”

“Indeed...”

“This is all Rahle’s fault!”

“Kii...”

When Tilura scolded Rahle, it reminded me of how Claire would scold her.

In any case, perhaps it would be best for Leo to join her, so that the message was clear.

“I will look after them! Since it was Rahle’s doing, I am responsible as well!”

That was what Tilura declared after they were finished lecturing Rahle.

At this point, Claire had heard about the situation from Sebastian. And so she was here as well.

“That won’t do, Tilura. You already have Rahle. You can’t take care of all of them.”

“Rahle will help me! Because it is also Rahle’s responsibility...”

“I understand how you feel. I felt the same when I heard about how Sherry was stealing from the kitchen.”

“Kyau...”

Sherry sounded apologetic as she was carried by Claire.

“But Tilura. You’ve been spending so much time playing with Rahle, Leo and Liza recently. And so you haven’t been able to focus on your studies. Or even your training.”

“That’s... Yes... It’s true that I was thinking more about playing with them...”

Tilura was about to argue back, but then gave up.

Studying aside, I did think she had been training properly with Leo and me... But perhaps she was not as focused as usual.

“Didn’t father tell you the same thing? How you cannot neglect your studies. And you must take your training seriously, no matter how hard.”

“Yes...”

“So why do you think you can take up something else? You cannot do things so half-heartedly. Not as the duke’s daughter or my sister!”

“...!”

Perhaps that was going too far?

It reminded me of when we were in the forest, right before finding Sherry. In any case, it was best to not make her angry.

Tilura looked like she was holding something in. But she eventually looked up and straight into her sister’s face.

“I won’t do it half-heartedly! My studies, training, Rahle, and the Cockatrices. I will take care of all of it!”

“Kii...”

Rahle sounded worried.

Hmm... It seemed like her studies and training alone were already a lot...

Chapter 787

Witnessing a sister fight

Rahle had lived for a long time, and so did require much taking care of. But it would be a different matter for the Cockatrice fledglings.

Tilura was still young, and would want to play with Leo and Liza... So even with Rahle’s help, it did seem like it would be too much for her.

That being said, I didn’t think the idea needed to be rejected completely.

In fact, I was closer to being on Tilura’s side...

“You said things like that before, and failed to do them. How can I believe you!”

“But...I will do it this time!”

“That’s not enough! You only care about Rahle recently. And Rahle is not around, it’s Leo or Liza or Mr. Takumi!”

“You say that, but you’re always spending time with Mr. Takumi!”

“What!? That’s not true. I have never felt jealous about that!”

“But you’re always watching when we are playing in the garden!”

“That’s...only because I’m worried that you will make a fool of yourself... Also, stop changing the subject!”

“It’s related! You care more about Leo and Mr. Takumi than me! I wanted to play with you too!”

“Then you should have said so! How was I supposed to know!?”

“I couldn’t say it! You are always thinking about other things! You don’t even care about me!”

“Why do you say that! I just want what’s best for...”

“Then why don’t you spend more time with me! All you do is tell me to study!”

“Because that is important! It will be useful for you! And it’s your fault for not taking it more seriously!”

It seemed like they had forgotten why, but were continuing to argue with each other.

Was it best to stop it? Leo and Rahle also looked awkward.

Liza did not like arguments, and she was holding Leo tightly.

The Cockatrice chicks looked confused... However, Sebastian and Ms. Lyra looked normal. Actually, they even looked a little happy.

“Sebastian?”

I looked at him questioningly.

“Yes, what is it?”

“What is it? But...aren’t you going to do something?”

Sebastian did not think it was a problem.

“Normally, Lady Claire and Lady Tilura do not bear their emotions to this degree.”

“Indeed...they usually get along so well.”

“However, even if they are sisters, they do not think the same way. And they see things differently. That is fine. It is better that they can be honest with each other. As long as things don’t go too far, that is.”

Is that so? I suppose they weren’t getting physical, but it seemed a little intense.

“Back at the orphanage, fights like these happened all of the time. Of course, if it got out of hand, the headmistress would interfere... But if it was something on this level, they would just let it play out.”

“Yes, I fought a lot too...”

Ms. Lyra started to talk about her time in the orphanage.

Well, if you had so many children together, such things were bound to happen.

“So Ms. Gelda has such experiences. What about you, Ms. Lyra?”

“No, not me.”

“Hoho. I heard it from Ms. Anna. How you would get into fights with the boys and win...”

“Se-Sebastian. There’s no need to bring that...”

“That’s right! Ms. Lyra would have a gang of girls that she would lead!”

“Gelda... We don’t need to talk about that now...”

“Ye...yes...!”

“Mr. Takumi. We are discussing the ladies now. It has nothing to do with me.”

“Of-of course...”

Still, I thought about Ms. Lyra standing up against the boys at the orphanage, and could not help but smile.

Chapter 788

I felt jealous that they had someone they could openly express their feelings to

“It’s a good thing to get into such fights while you are still young. As long as no one is injured. Hearing the other person’s honest feelings could help them.”

“At the orphanage, children often became closer the day after they fought.”

“If you two think so... Well, I suppose it does seem like they are unleashing things that they have been keeping in.”

“Exactly.”

After hearing Sebastian and Ms. Lyra, I started to think that it would help the sisters get along better.

And so I nodded to them and decided to just watch things as they played out.

Though, Leo and Rahle were still uncomfortable.

It was amusing, since they were both such strong monsters.

“...I’m starting to feel a little jealous of them.”

I muttered.

I didn’t have any siblings. I did have cousins, but we were never close.

After all, they had already left home when my uncle took me in.

Though, they did give me gifts when we met, and they were nice... Perhaps they also were not sure how to act around me.

“Would you like to fight with me then?”

“What are you talking about... Besides, I don’t think I could win against you, Sebastian.”

“Is that so? But you’ve been taught how to fight with a sword.”

“You can’t use a sword... Oh, you’re just making fun of me now.”

“Hohoho. It’s just that watching them has brought back some old memories.”

Apparently, Sebastian was originally from the slums.

So he knew what it was like to desperately fight for your survival.

“Hmph! I don’t care what you say!”

“Hey! Wait, Tilura! We’re not finished...!”

“Wou!?”

“Kii!?”

As Tilura had stormed off, the argument suddenly came to an end.

Claire tried to stop her, but Tilura ignored her and ran into the mansion.

“Oh! How could she run off in the middle of the conversation...!”

“Ah... Well, neither wanted to back down. But I don’t think someone so young can argue for so long.”

“Ah...Mr. Takumi. Sorry that you had to see that.”

“Not at all. It was a different side of you. Though, it was a little surprising for us at first.”

“Wou...”

Ms. Claire finally realized that we had been watching, and so she apologized frantically. Her cheeks were also flushed.

Leo was sighing with relief that it was all over, and Ms. Lyra was petting her.

“Mr. Takumi... I am sorry, good Leo. And you too, Rahle. And Liza... You don’t have to look so scared, alright?”

“Wou.”

“...It’s over then...?”

Liza had been burying her face in Leo’s fur as if to hide. And it was only after Claire apologized that she finally raised her head again...

Chapter 789

Claire quickly calmed down again

“There was no reason to be afraid, Liza. Even if they were being loud. They weren’t arguing because they hated each other.”

As Liza was looking at Claire with a frightened expression, she might have recalled some unpleasant memories.

And so I picked her up off of Leo’s back and patted her on the head.

Claire also apologized and patted her... Well she was patting the ears, so perhaps she was just doing it to calm herself.

“Mr. Takumi... What Tilura said earlier...”

“Huh?”

“That I was trying to get your attention...”

“Ah, there was something like that. I know. It probably just looked like that, since we always have so many things to discuss. Such as the herb fields, konjac...the horses...”

“Well...we will just say that then.”

“I suppose that I should apologize as well. I thought she would be satisfied, playing with Leo and Liza. I did not realize how much she also wanted to be with you.”

“Really? It did not really look like she wanted to... I just wish she could be more honest...”

“But would it really have mattered? Anyway, it’s hard to say what you mean at that age. Perhaps she thought that you were too strict.”

“Perhaps...”

“Lady Tilura must have realized. But at that age, even if you understand, it doesn’t mean you agree...”

“But even then. I cannot allow her to do everything so half-heartedly... Even though I understand how she feels.”

Now that she had calmed down a little, Claire seemed to be able to understand Tilura’s point of view.

“Instead of just objecting, maybe you could think with her. On ways to prevent things from becoming like that. Though, it’s not my place to say such things.”

Considering Claire’s position, it was no wonder that she wanted to raise Tilura in a way that would be worthy of her family.

That being said, Tilura was a very lively person, and did not react well to being rejected completely...

“You and I are also far from being perfect people. We make mistakes and forget important things. So you should go down to her level and find ways to make it work... I think she would have been persuaded by that approach.”

“I suppose... Was I really being too harsh with her? I do like it when she is free and plays with Leo and the others. But I also want her to be a proud member of this family.”

“That is not a bad thing. It shows how much you care about her. But I guess it didn’t really go well this time.”

Even as I talked, I wondered why I thought that I had any right to be saying such things.

Before coming to this world, I had failed so many times.

And in this world as well. While exploring the forest, had I remembered that I could use Weed Cultivation anywhere, I could have expanded the range of the search, and been more useful.

In Range village, had I been more thoughtful when acting, fewer people would have been injured during the orc attack... All of that was in hindsight, and perhaps I was the only one with regret. But I still thought about it sometimes.

Regardless, since Tilura was still young, it was important for us to think with her and lead her in the right direction.

Though, I was still inexperienced and often didn’t know what the right direction even was...

Chapter 790

I talked like a know-it-all

“Think together and persuade her...”

“Why she prefers to play with Leo and the others...why she hasn’t been as attentive with her training. Why she dislikes studying. I am sure there are reasons for it.”

Tilura was smart, so I doubted that she hated studying because it was too hard. It could just be that she simply preferred to move around.

“I think I understand now why she listens to you, Mr. Takumi.”

“She does?”

“Yes. Now that I think about it, you never say no outright or try to force something. I suppose it is easier to talk to you.”

“Hmm... Well, I am careful so that others don't feel pressured...”

I suppose it was because I had been rejected all of the time at my old job. There were times when it felt like that was all other people did. And it often felt so unfair.

And so when dealing with other people, I tried hard to understand where they were coming from first.

Besides, when raising Leo, I learned that just scolding her was not going to work.

I had my own reasons and way of thinking, just as others did. If we talked, then it would reduce the amount of clashes or hurt feelings.

“Thank you, Mr. Takumi. When I see things like that, I can understand why Tilura was upset.”

“That's good. In any case, you are sisters, so it's good that you can be honest. If you can both reflect, then this was probably a good thing.”

“Indeed. When Tilura was younger, she rarely went against me or argued like that. So I wasn't used to it.”

“Well, it was mainly Sebastian and Ms. Lyra who convinced that it could be a good thing. Uh, do you want to say something, Sebastian?”

“You already said everything that I wanted to say.”

Oh, so he was going to give her advice as well.

Uh...and he didn't seem too happy about having lost the opportunity...

"Nevermind Sebastian. In any case, I want to know why Tilura hasn't been able to focus with her training."

"Yes, I have noticed that as well. It's only when she is swinging at Leo, or playing with her, that she seems fully focused..."

"Is something bothering her? It doesn't seem like she hates training or is bored of it."

"It might be because Rahle was gone. But I have a feeling that it started before that..."

"In any case, I will have to talk to her about it."

"Hmm... As she is not, she might not tell you..."

"Indeed, it would not be wise for Lady Claire to ask her right now."

"She really wouldn't tell me?"

"Normally, she would tell you, Lady Claire... But she would be quite emotional right now. It has not been long enough since your argument. So she might just get more angry."

"I see... She would not be in a very cooperative mood right now. It will be difficult."

Ms. Lyra had gone with Tilura, so she would likely have calmed down a little by now. But Claire going could just cause her to get angry all over again.

Perhaps Ms. Lyra could ask her...

Ah, surely Sebastian would be able to extract such information with ease?