

## Beloved Dog 901

### Chapter 901

We arrived at the Bleiyu village cemetery

Some of the old women that were watching had then said that if Phillip were to be more sincere and committed, he would have a chance. It showed that in this village, an honest man was preferred over a frivolous one.

“Ah, Mr. Takumi. Do you want more wine?”

“I hope you’ll be drinking a lot, like you did at the feast.”

“Ahaha. Thank you. We are headed somewhere now. But I can come back for it later.”

As we were walking through the village, some old men and women approached us with wine.

It seemed odd to want me to drink during the day. But it was a sign of their kindness, so I would gladly accept it.

I suppose it was also because I had drunk the wine during the feast. People would try to make me drink even more now. And it was difficult to refuse.

“So, this is where your old man is buried... It is a nice view from up here.”

The place she guided me to was to the east of the village, close to the fields. There was a small hill between the forest and fields.

In Bleiyu village, they buried their dead.

After putting the coffins in the dirt, they would place wooden signs over them with their names carved in. And then the base of the sign was surrounded by stones.

From here, you could see the trees to the south, the fields to the north, and the houses northwest. It seemed like a perfectly peaceful spot for the dead.

There were numerous signs with names on them, and while they were not lined up perfectly, it was still very neat, and it showed how much the villagers cared about their ancestors.

“The old men and women come here regularly to make sure that it is not overrun by weeds. Also, they like the view.”

“Yes, I can understand that. So, where is...”

“Ah, it’s over... Huh!!”

“Ms. Delia?”

“...Mr. Takumi. I think someone is watching us.”

“Phillip, don’t call... Well, nevermind that now.”

Just as Ms. Delia was about to lead me to it, her tail and ears pricked up, and she jumped back.

“Mr. Ta-ta-ta-ta...kumi...”

“It must be serious to make Ms. Delia hide like this... What is it?”

“Perhaps she has sharper senses than me. ...Still, I do sense something.”

“Uh, I suppose it is coming from that direction?”

“I cannot tell. But it probably is.”

“Mr. Ta-takumi. What are you going to do?”

“Well, we can’t do anything if we don’t know what it is. And if both of you are cautious, I think it’s best to stay away from it. And we don’t want to accidentally go in the wrong direction.”

I could only vaguely sense something, but even less so than Phillip.

If we weren’t careful, we might actually run in the direction of something we should be running away from.

Judging by the way that Ms. Delia had jumped back, it must be in the direction of the grave we had been headed to.

It was hard to move, with Ms. Delia holding onto my back, but I tried to slowly retreat, hoping that we could get away from this place...

## Chapter 902

A great presence approached

“Mr. Takumi! It-it’s coming closer!”

“Huh!? Uh, what should... Will it chase after us if it sees our backs?”

“I don’t know... At the very least, I can sense that it does not want us to get away.”

Ms. Delia was shaking even more now.

I continued to move back very slowly. Next to me, Phillip looked quite pale.

“If we can’t escape... Uh, what should we do? I could deal with an orc, but this is clearly different.”

“Yes, it must be a large monster, like a troll...”

Trolls would be very difficult for a human to fight... Even Ms. Delia, who could easily deal with orcs and the Audhumbla, was scared.

It was clearly very dangerous.

“...If it does attack, I will try to distract it. I do not know what we are facing, but I am still a guard of the duke. I can at least give you time to escape, Mr. Takumi.”

“But then you, Phillip...”

“I am a guard. It is my job to do this. Besides, I would feel bad for Lady Claire if anything were to happen to you. Besides, even if I get injured, you can use the Loe to heal me.”

I understood that he felt it was his job, but...perhaps he also thought that I would not be that useful in a fight.

Also, there was Ms. Delia.

Perhaps we should escape in order to keep her safe as well.

Even if it meant sacrificing Phillip...

“...There is no time to talk.”

“Mr-Mr. Takumi!”

Just then, the powerful presence showed itself from the other side of the hill.

“...A fenrir.”

“...”

The familiar figure had white fur and was about the size of a horse.

However, unlike the fenrirs we knew, this one was not very relaxed. And it looked at us with shark eyes, and its fur seemed to be standing up.

“Still, it is just glaring at us, and not coming any close?”

“Perhaps it is waiting to see what we will do. A fenrir could pass this gap in an instant. Mr. Takumi, as I said earlier...”

“Wait.”

“Mr. Takumi?”

Not only did it not attack, but it sat down and continued to stare.

This was definitely not what I was expecting.

“Is that fenrir looking at me? No, Ms. Delia?”

“M-me-me?”

“...It is not looking at me at all. So it must be Mr. Takumi or Ms. Delia.”

“Phillip, please was Ms. Delia for me.”

“M-Mr. Takumi!?”

“Very well...”

As I moved away, the fenrir’s gaze...

“Yes, it is looking at me after all. Hmm...”

“Mr. Takumi. You seem very calm now?”

“Well, if this is what I think it is, then there is no danger.”

I was starting to feel that it was not hostile. And that made me more calm.

Of course, I still stayed on my guard, as I did not want to put the other two in danger.

Chapter 903

I approached the fenrir

“M-Mr. Takumi??”

“I think that it’s fine. But you stay there, Ms. Delia.”

“Ye-yes...”

I had a feeling that the fenrir did not mean us any harm. And so I slowly walked towards it.

“...I knew it.”

Its eyes were fixed on me, but it still did not move as I got closer.

Not only that, but while I was able to sense a powerful presence before, I no longer felt anything.

As the distance between us shrunk, there were several things that I noticed.

The most obvious thing was that its fur was no longer standing up, and appeared soft and fluffy.

Right now, it was in a relaxed state that reminded me of the other fenrirs.

Also, there was something odd about it in terms of balance... Like it was supporting itself on its left leg, as it tilted a little to that side.

Perhaps it was just a habit. But I was used to seeing Leo, who supported herself equally with both legs.

“Well, the biggest reason that I think it is safe is...”

The tail was so large that you could see it from a distance.

And it was wagging from side to side.

Tails told you a lot about their emotion, and seemed to move as if it had a mind of its own.

“So...you aren’t an enemy?”

“Guff...”

Once I was close enough to touch it, my suspicion became a certainty.

Still, it continued to stare at me with sharp eyes. I hesitated, and then stretched out my hand so that it could sniff it.

“Hmm. Seems to be alright. Still, why were you acting so aggressive earlier?”

“Guff? Guff...guff!”

“Hmm... I don’t know what you are saying. But I suppose it was a misunderstanding.”

I started to pet it as I asked the question, and it tilted its head like Leo, and lowered its nose apologetically.

As I was not a beastkin, I could not understand what it was saying, but could see that it was a mistake.

“In any case, you don’t mean us any harm?”

“Guff-guff!”

“I see. Hey! Phillip, Ms. Delia! It’s fine. It doesn’t mean to hurt us!”

As I petted it, the eyes too started to relax. And so I decided to call the others, who were still on their guard.

“Mr. Takumi... No, Takumi. This is quite surprising...”

“Well, I was surprised too. Though, Feri and the others did say that they never attacked humans without reason...”

“Hah... This is a relief...”

When Phillip came closer and saw how relaxed the fenrir was, he breathed a sigh of relief.

He was much more sensitive to its presence, and had clearly been nervous and bracing himself to face it.

“Uh...are you sure? I don’t mean to doubt you, Mr. Takumi. But...”

“It’s fine. Also, why don’t you just ask it directly?”

“Guff-guff.”

“Ye-yes. It did say that it won’t attack us...”



As she was a beastkin, she was able to understand what it was saying. And so Ms. Delia finally relaxed.

Well, her ears and tail were still pointing up, so perhaps she was unconsciously still on her guard. It could not be helped.

Chapter 904

We talked to the fenrir

“So, why are you here? Also, it seemed like your presence changed when you got closer...”

“Guff-guff... Guff!”

“Ah, sorry. Ms. Delia. What is it saying?”

I continued to pet the fenrir while questioning it. It seemed to like it, so that made it difficult to stop...

“Uh, apparently, it was suspicious of us at first...”

Apparently, the fenrir came here often, but usually stayed away when there were humans here.

That was because it didn’t want to startle or scare them away. It was a very considerate fenrir.

However, this time, there was one presence or smell that it noticed.

It was the smell of Leo that it sensed from me. The smell of a Silver Fenrir.

I wondered if I really did smell like Leo. I could not tell myself. Perhaps it was not something that humans could detect.

However, upon hearing this, Ms. Delia had nodded, so perhaps she smelled it too.

In any case, it had then been cautious as it knew that it could never fight off a Silver Fenrir that attacked the village. And so it tried to give off a powerful aura and look aggressive. But when it saw me close up, it was able to relax.

“But why do you visit this place so often? Also, it sounded like you were protecting this village...”

If they were to obey their instincts, then when a Silver Fenrir approached, they would either run away or submit... At least, that was what Leo said.

In any case, it was saying that it stayed because it thought that the village would be attacked.

“Guff, guff-guff. Guffu-guff.”

“Uh, then... You...?”

“Ah, sorry. Uhh...”

Ms. Delia sounded very surprised by the fenrir’s answer.

She then explained it to me. Apparently, this fenrir was the same fenrir who left her to the care of the old wood cutter who raised her.

“I see... But why was it with you in the first place?”

“Guff. Guff-guff...guff...”

“...So that happened.”

According to Ms. Delia, the fenrir had happened to be moving alone in the forest that day.

Well, they sometimes moved separate from the pack in order to hunt monsters.

That day, it happened to find a troll. But trolls were not very tasty. And so it was about to leave when it noticed something.

An unfamiliar smell.

The situation was similar to when we found Sherry. It seemed like trolls liked to attack things in groups.

In any case, the fenrir was curious enough to attack and chase them away. And it discovered that the thing they had surrounded was a beastkin woman.

As beastkin were special to fenrir, it was quite distressed by this. But it was already too late. Unable to do anything else, the fenrir dug a hole and was about to bury the body. But when it started to push the beastkin woman, it saw that she was holding a baby as if to protect it...

## Chapter 905

Ms. Delia was watched the whole time

According to the fenrir, it had no idea why the beastkin woman was in the forest. But she must have realized she could not escape from the trolls, and so she sacrificed her life in order to protect the baby.

Also, just as the fenrir picked up the baby from the dead mother, one of the trolls turned out to still be alive, and it attacked the fenrir.

And that was when it injured its right front leg.

The wood cutter who raised Ms. Delia had said that the fenrir looked weak, so that must be the reason...

“So that’s why...”

“Guff.”

“It says there is no pain now, but it is weak.”

“Guff, guff.”

Even after being wounded, the fenrir was able to kill the troll. And then it picked up Ms. Delia and moved. However, the pain was too much, and it could not heal itself. And so it had to lie down.

That was when the wood cutter found them. And so it left the baby with the human and returned to the forest.

After that, when it was healed, it would leave the pack and check up on Ms. Delia to see if the humans were treating her well.

The graveyard offered a good view of the village, and there was a lot of wind. Apparently, it could tell by the scent that Ms. Delia was enjoying life there.

“So it was true that the villagers did not treat me badly because they were afraid of the fenrirs...”

“It seems like it.”

Perhaps if they had treated her in the same way that Liza was treated in the slums, then Bleiyu village would be attacked.

Well, during the feast...I had noticed that there were a few...and only a small few, who seemed like they were avoiding Ms. Delia.

I doubted they would do anything, so it was not a problem.

In any case, she was accepted as one of them now. And it seemed like any initial reasons did not matter now.

Still, this fenrir did feel very responsible towards her. I suppose it was because she was a beastkin.

Had it just left Ms. Delia there, it would never have been injured, and would be living happily with the other fenrirs.

“...Th-thank you. It is because of you that I lived happily in Bleiyu village. Besides, I have now met someone who might be an owner.”

“Huh!?”

“Guff!”

“Uh, wait, Ms. Delia... Did you just say owner...?”

“Yes, you, Mr. Takumi?”

“What!?”

“If I work for you, then you will be my employer.... And since Leo is there, and in a way, I have to yield, then...”

“No, no, no. That sounds terrible...”

I turned to Phillip for help, but he just chuckled.

Was this because I was always patting her on the head?

Is this what beastkin want? No, aside from the ears and tail, they are quite similar to humans. In no way should they be seen as similar to a house cat...

Chapter 906

Escaping from reality

“...Takumi. Shouldn't we be returning soon? Though... I understand how you could get carried away...petting a fenrir like that.”

“Oh...you just had to bring me back to reality.”

“Guff?”

“I know that you like it, but we can’t just stay here... Unless Phillip wants to stay and pet you instead?”

“Huh!? Well, I have petted the fenrirs back at the mansion, but...”

“Guffu...”

I sighed and stopped petting the fenrir as I got up to my feet.

The fenrir looked at me with a disappointed look, and so I made Phillip take my place.

He was used to being around Leo and even the other fenrirs.

Still, it seemed like he still felt uncomfortable about this one.

Well, considering how tense things had been a moment ago, it could not be helped.

“So this is the grave of the person who raised you.”

“Yes. My grandpa’s grave. Grandpa, I know it’s been a while... But I brought someone today...”

The grave was slightly larger than the others. Perhaps it was because he was the foreman... And it was clean. The villagers must have a lot of respect for him even now.

Ms. Delia then squatted in front of the grave and started to talk to it.

The wooden sign read ‘Karuyakato,’ which must be the old man’s name.

“So his name is Karuyakato.”

“Yes. But I just called him grandpa. The others called him by his name. He was kind to everyone, not just me.”

Apparently, he had a very calm and gentle personality... Unlike the current foreman.

“Uh... My name is Takumi.”

I squatted down as well, and introduced myself.

And because it was a habit, I closed my eyes and put my hands together.

When I opened them again, Ms. Delia was looking at me strangely.

Clearly, there was no similar custom here.

“Thank you, Mr. Takumi. I think he is happy.”

“I hope so...”

I suppose if he was a kind and gentle person, he would not be angry about Ms. Delia getting close to me.

In any case, she was wagging her tail happily. So I felt that coming here had been worth it.

I then thought of something that I could do, that would not only make Ms. Delia happy, but the other villagers as well.

“Ms. Delia. Do you have any custom of offering flowers here?”

“I have heard that other villages do that. But it is not done here. Though, since the forest and prairies are close, there are wild flowers.”

“I see...”

As the graveyard was a little far away from the village, there was no custom of planting flowers near it... Well, it was a lot of work.

But when I looked around, I could see that vegetables and other foods were placed in front of the graves, so it wasn't like they didn't bring anything.

Though, a lot of it seemed to be serpent wine... I suppose it was a very Bleiyu village thing to do.

In any case, I thought the place looked a little too plain, and perhaps it could use some flowers to brighten it up...

Chapter 907

I grew some flowers

“In that case...”

“Mr. Takumi?”

I placed my hands in front of the grave and activated Weed Cultivation.

And while Ms. Delia watched with a puzzled expression, I made plants grow under my hands.

“I have poor knowledge regarding flowers, but I managed to do it.”

“Uh, Mr. Takumi? Is this what you were talking about earlier?”

“Yes, Weed Cultivation.”

This ability was supposed to allow you to grow plants that were not affected by humans...such as farm crops.



Usually, I just made wild herbs. But that was not all.

It was just that there had been no need up until now...

“...I’ve never seen these flowers before.”

“Haha. Well, I suppose my knowledge of flowers is a little different.”

As I was basing it off what I knew of in Japan, the flowers might be unfamiliar to the people here.

As for what I made, there were chrysanthemums, and tulips in many different colors, which were popular in Japan.

I had thought of making morning glories as well, but the vines might start wrapping around the wooden sign, so I decided not to.

Also, I made some lotus flowers as a test... As they were water plants, I was not sure if it would work, but Weed Cultivation had no trouble with it.

“Th-thank you, Mr. Takumi! They are so pretty!”

“Well, I don’t know if your old man would like it. But I think it has improved the scenery.”

“Yes!”

Ms. Delia was overjoyed and seemed rather moved. And so I felt that it was worth the effort.

“...That being said, there are things you will have to do now.”

“Huh? Do you mean like making sure they don’t get eaten by bugs?”

“That too. But there is also...”

I told Ms. Delia what happened when I made plants with Weed Cultivation.

They grew very quickly.

With herbs, I picked them immediately, so it did not matter. But if you left them, they would multiply rapidly.

“And so you should pick the old flowers right before they start wilting. And then a short while later, you have to pick the new set of flowers, and...”

By picking them and making sure there were not too many at the same time, you could minimize the effects on the soil...

“It might be a little troublesome, so you should get the others to help you...”

“Since they were made by you, I will do it happily! I’m sure the other villagers will help me as well.”

“I hope so... Uh, just tell them that the flowers were brought here from some other place.”

While there were a lot of them, no one would assume they had suddenly grown here.

Phillip then suggested that we say that the fenrir brought them. But it was decided that it was better if they did not know about the fenrir.

Even if Ms. Delia was fine now, the other villagers might still be afraid of it.

And like that, we ended our visit to the graveyard.

Chapter 908

We went to the forest to make a grave

After that, the fenrir returned to the forest.

Ms. Delia and I planned to return later to pick the flowers, and we went back to the village.

—

“So this is where me and my mother...”

“Guff.”

At midnight, we went to pick the flowers, and then I slept a little.

When I woke up later, I went out with Ms. Delia and met up with the fenrir.

And then we went into the forest.

It was deeper in than when we went hunting... The place that Ms. Delia's mother was attacked by the trolls.

As it was a long time ago, there were no traces of the event. Still, Ms. Delia looked around carefully.

“Guff.”

“...Ms. Delia.”

“Yes. ...Mother? I think that is who you are. Thanks to you protecting me, I am now living happily...”

Though the fenrir had dug a hole and buried her, there was no tombstone or anything. Regardless, Ms. Delia sat down and started to talk.

At the same time, she removed the grass from the area.

As she did not know her name, there would be nothing on it. But she had brought a wooden sign like they had with the other graves.

“Ah...Mr. Takumi... This...?”

While picking the weeds, Ms. Delia seemed to notice something. And so I looked and...

“Ah...perhaps your mother liked flowers.”

“Yes, perhaps. It is very pretty.”

One small flower was growing there.

The other plants were all weeds, and so it stuck out. Even though it was smaller than a dandelion.

The fenrir looked puzzled, and clearly it would not have planted such a thing. It could just be a coincidence, but... I did sense something that could have been Ms. Delia's mother.

I then had Phillip help Ms. Delia with the weeding, and I approached the fenrir.

“Uh, you were hurt when you helped Ms. Delia, right? I think it was your right leg?”

“Guff...”

“...Could you show me the wound?”

“Guff....guff...”

I petted the fenrir while asking, but it took a step back.

I suppose it did not want to show it to me.

“Hmm... You really can't show me it?”

“Guff...? Guff....”

“Thank you. Uh, so it is here...”

Finally, it barked with resignation, and sat down again before lifting its right paw.

“I see... It must have been quite deep... Did it hurt?”

“Guff...!”

There was a part on its legs that had no fur, and there was a big scar on it.

It must have been difficult for it to carry Ms. Delia like this...

“Well, in any case, it must be hard to walk like this? And so, you should use this...”

“Guff!?”

I then took out some Loe and placed it over the scar.

And then the scar disappeared, and it looked like there had never been a wound.

“Sorry for surprising you. But, I think your leg can move now?!”

“...Guff? Guff... Guff!”

“Haha. I'm glad!”

Once the fenrir realized it could move freely, it was overjoyed. It wagged its tail and ran around me.

Though, I could tell by the way it balanced, that it was not used to using that leg. Still, it should not take long for it to get used to it. And then it would be just like it was before the injury.

## Chapter 909

The fenrir's name was decided

“Mr. Takumi's ability really is amazing.”

“Well, making herbs so easily is impressive. But I think the most amazing thing is the Loe, which can heal and erase scars.”

In fact, I had learned about this effect of the Loe from the wood cutter foreman.

I had wondered if the scar on his cheek could be healed. And so...I used him as a test subject for my experiment.

It was not as if a failure would result in anything. I was only able to do it because I knew that it was safe.

In any case, I made up some story about how I got it, and placed it over his scar. And then, just like the fenrir earlier, it healed without a trace.

Perhaps this was less about healing wounds, but returning that area to its original state? I wondered... But I would have to ask Sebastian about it later.

“Ms. Delia. The grave?”

“Oh, it is finished. Uh, can you do it?”

“Of course. That is why I am here...”

She had finished putting up the wooden sign and surrounding them in stones.

It looked just like the graves in the village graveyard now... It was now up to me to add the finishing touches.

“Uh, I don’t want to make too much so... That should do it.”

“Thank you. And you left the flower that was already there.”

“Of course.”

As I did yesterday, I used Weed Cultivation to make chrysanthemum, lotus flowers and tulips.

And in order to not get in the way of the nameless flower that was already there, I kept them at a short distance.

Ms. Delia had been looking at it protectively, so I could not get rid of it.

“Guff! Guff!”

“Ahaha! It’s nice that your leg is healed now, Fel.”

“Guff!”

“...You gave it a name already... Is that a beastkin thing?”

Even the way she named them was quite similar to Liza...

“Guff!”

“Oh?”

“Guff-guff! Guff!”

“Oh, is that so? You did...”

Fel had suddenly stopped and sat down in front of me.

It started to bark and then bow its head, and then Ms. Delia raised her voice in alarm.

She seemed to be surprised a lot lately.

Apparently, it was thanking me, as now that its leg was healed, it was easier for it to run after monsters.

According to Fel, once it saw that humans were hunting and eating the orcs, it would try to chase them in the direction of the village whenever it found one.

Obviously, Fel had to stay hidden at the same time.

It was kind of like a hunting dog...

“In that case, Ms. Delia’s so-called hunting luck was... And the fact that the hunts I’ve been on during the past few days...”

“It was all because of Fel. Fel really has helped me so much.”

“Now that I think about it, there had been such strange things...”

When we hunted the Audhumbla, for some reason, we found traces of an orc and serpent headed in the same direction.

It must have been because they were being chased by Fel.

But as Fel was careful to not leave any footprints, neither the wood cutter or Ms. Delia ever noticed.



Though, Phillip was a little depressed once he realized that a fenrir had been close by all along, and he had not been able to find it...

## Chapter 910

I spent my time peacefully in Bleiyu village

For the next two days, I spent my time gathering the flowers grown with Weed Cultivation, or going to see Fel in the forest.

Some of the villagers were surprised to see the flowers, but were satisfied when they heard the explanation... Though, it seemed that they also assumed that I was just trying to show off to Ms. Delia.

“Hah... I think that Nicholas should be back soon?”

“Indeed. I honestly wondered if he wouldn’t come back yesterday, but I suppose they were able to stop him back at the mansion.”

“Yes, it would be very tiring to have to return immediately.”

Nicholas and I were drinking tea together in what was like an open cafe, and the only place like it in the village.

“So, you will be leaving, Mr. Takumi...”

“Well, we cannot just stay here forever.”

Ms. Delia had a delicate tongue, and so she blew on her tea as she sat next to us.

We had really been able to fit in nicely here. I enjoyed the peacefulness, and we had not encountered any serious problems.

However, there were a lot of things I had to do when I returned... Also, Sebastian had said that the candidates for my butler would be arriving soon, and I would have to meet them in order to decide.

But more than anything, I had not seen Leo, Liza and Claire for some time now... Especially Liza, who I had left during a crucial time.

“We had a good time staying here. While I did stay close to Takumi, I often forgot my purpose and was able to relax.”

“In your case, maybe you relaxed a little too much?”

“But... There is little danger when hunting in large groups. Even more so when Ms. Delia is there. I was not needed most of the time. Besides, drinking while talking to women is such a great way to spend your time.”

“I also had a good time. Being able to do different things with you, Mr. Takumi.”

“Haha. Thank you, Ms. Delia.”

Ms. Delia had been our guide here. She introduced us to the villagers, and helped a lot in getting us comfortable.

That being said, there were some people who seemed to avoid her, or have less than positive feelings towards beastkin.

There was nothing outwardly hostile, at least.

They would answer when you talked to them, but then quickly get away as soon as it was possible.

“Well, even after Nicholas returns, we will likely stay and rest for another day or two. Also, it is not as if we will not meet again, Ms. Delia.”

“Yes. I suppose since I will be going with you... Well, until then, perhaps I will ask the grandmothers to teach me reading and writing again.”

“If you have the time, it might be a good idea...”

As we would not be leaving as soon as Nicholas arrived, it was not as if there would be a sudden farewell.

Besides, when I asked Ms. Delia about it again, she confirmed that she was determined now to come to Range village and be a tutor for Liza.

She did not know when. It might not be immediate.

However, it was true that we would be able to meet again...