

Beloved Dog 981

Chapter 981

I gave Liza an allowance

“Alright, I decided. Uh, and we just arrived.”

Mr. Haine’s store was larger than the others around it, and it had a large gate as well, which welcomed its customers.

Regardless, we had Ms. Johanna wait outside with Leo, as we walked in.

Sherry was currently taking a nap on Leo’s back.

“Welcome, Lady Claire. And you too, Mr. Takumi and Mr. Sebastian.”

“Thank you.”

Mr. Haine and about five other employees welcomed us.

As Leo stuck out so much, they must have realized that we were coming.

“Now, if you would come this way...”

“Ah, wait one moment please. Liza?”

“What, papa?”

“Here. This is your allowance. Obviously, if it’s not enough, I could buy it for you. But you should try to spend within your budget, alright?”

I put one silver coin in her hand.

After much thought, this was the amount that I had decided on.

It might be a lot, but I trusted that she would not waste it.

“Are you sure?”

“Yes, of course. Because I want you to be able to buy things that you want with your own money.”

“Oh...thank you. I’ve never had a silver coin before.”

While she looked surprised, her tails were wagging so she must be pleased as well.

“Also...excuse me.”

“Yes, what is it?”

“Could you show Liza around as well? I think she would not know where anything is if she goes alone.”

I said to one of the employees.

“Certainly. Then I will go with her.”

“I will go too.”

“Mr. Takumi, can I as well?”

Ms. Lyra and Tilura volunteered to go with her. I suppose it would be more fun that way. And so I nodded and thanked them.

“You’re not coming too, papa?”

“This time, you should go alone... I mean, with the others. Just get anything you want, alright?”

“What I want... Uh, okay...”

She muttered with a nod, and then went off with Tilura and the others.

“Perhaps it was too early?”

“She will be fine.”

“Well then...we should...”

“Yes, Mr. Haine. Today, we came for...”

And so we told Mr. Haine of our purpose here today.

We were then taken to a secluded room with a table, and sat down so that we could talk.

And after nearly an hour of looking through catalogs and asking questions, we decided on what to purchase.

Chapter 982

We finished talking with Mr. Haine

There was some larger furniture, like beds, which they did not have at the store, so they would have to be purchased from a different store.

But as it would be a hassle to go around to each one, Mr. Haine would contact his other merchant friends, and with their help, gather everything together at once, and then sell it to us.

“Aside from a few things, I would like to have the items delivered directly to Range village. Is that alright, Sebastian?”

“Yes. As they are to be used in the house there.”

“Certainly. I will send you the bill, but have the items delivered to the village. As for the time...”

It would be no good to have so much large furniture sent to the mansion, and then have to carry them all the way to the village later.

While the house was still in the middle of construction, considering the date we agreed upon, it should be at a point where we could store the items there.

“Thank you, Claire. If it was just me, I wouldn’t know what we needed. Especially things that women use.”

“Not at all...”

After we finished, we drank some tea and relaxed.

She had picked out dressers and racks for clothing.

“Mr. Takumi. Lady Claire. I have returned.”

“Ah, Ms. Lyra.”

“Welcome back. Did Tilura and Liza get anything?”

I looked behind them and saw that they were carrying some bags.

“They did, but... Well, you should look at them yourself. Lady Tilura. Lady Liza. Why don’t you show everyone what you chose?”

And then the two put the bags on the table enthusiastically, and opened them up.

“This is what I bought!”

“Huh... A small box...for treasure? And there is a wolf on it. That is very like you, Tilura.”

It was a durable wooden box with a wolf carving on the lid.

She probably thought that it resembled Leo, Sherry and the fenrirs.

“I thought I could use it to carry the necklace of Leo that you gave to me before. Also, I bought this thing!”

“Is that...a bird?”

Tilura held up a wooden carving of a bird.

“It looks just like Rahle!”

“Uh, I guess they do look similar?”

“Tilura likes things that look like Leo or Rahle...hah...”

“Now it’s your turn, Liza.”

“Yes! Uh, I got...”

“...There is a lot.”

“Cloth? And a rock? And...more cloth.”

Tilura started pulling things out of her bag and placing them on the table.

There was a large, plain cloth.

And a few rocks. And then another cloth that was thin and wrapped around a stick like yarn...

I had told her to get whatever she wanted, but I didn't even know what this was supposed to be used for.

"Uh, with this, you can drink water without getting wet!"

"Water? What do you mean?"

Chapter 983

I saw what Liza purchased

"If you put the water on top of this cloth, the clean water comes out."

"Oh...is that..."

"Grandpa taught this to me!"

So it was something to purify the water?

"Liza, if you want water, then Leo could make as much as you can drink. Besides, there is plenty of it at the mansion?"

"Yes...but, grandpa always said that it was good to prepare. And I don't want to soil the clothes that you bought for me..."

"Ah, well, it's nice that you think that..."

"Also, I can use this to make a fire!"

"That doesn't look like a flint... Is it a magic tool?"

Liza then showed me the two stones.

When used together, the two could make a small flame that quickly disappeared.

“When making a fire, people often use magic. And so such products are often sold. And they are rather cheap.”

Said Mr. Haine.

“I-I see... Hmm.”

Liza certainly gravitated towards tools that would be good if you were trying to survive in the wild. I suppose it was due to personal experience?

“What do you think, papa?”

She looked at me with an expression of concern.

“Ah, it’s good. Just not what I expected... But you should get what you want. That’s what the allowance was for, after all.”

“I’m glad...I thought you would be mad. Though, Tilura and Sister Lyra all said that as long as I chose what I wanted, you would be happy.”

“Oh? But it seems like there is something still in there?”

“Ah, this...”

There was something white that was peeking out from the bag.

Liza then took it out and showed it to me.

“It is a cloth used to protect wounds.”

“Uh...like a bandaid?”

“Since you bought me a knife before, this is what I wanted now.”

“I...See... So this is the result of all of your experiences up until now.”

Liza nodded happily

It seemed like her experience in the slums was at the root of all of these decisions.

Well, it would take time for this to change.

“So, did you two have enough money?”

“Yes, it was fine.”

“Yes, I had enough, papa.”

Liza then took something out of her pocket and handed it to me.

“Hmm?”

“It’s the change.”

There were about ten coppers... Her pockets were still stuffed, so there was probably more.

“This is the allowance that I gave you. It is all yours.”

Apparently, she did not fully understand what an allowance was.

It was no surprise, as I doubted she had ever received any before.

Chapter 984

We returned to the mansion

“...Are you sure?”

“Yes, of course. So if we come back again...you can buy anything. Food etcetera. Or you could save it and buy something more expensive eventually.”

I reassured her, and so Liza quietly put the money back into her pocket.

Well, that was not very convenient.

“Excuse me, Mr. Haine. Could I get a small bag...like a leather purse to put coins in? Also, perhaps a small bag for that box...”

“Yes, certainly.”

After that, I paid off everything and thanked Mr. Haine. And then we left the store.

Leo was waiting outside. She was sitting patiently while Ms. Johanna petted her.

“Hehe. Mama, look! Papa bought this for me!”

“Wuff-wuff!”

Liza excitedly showed the bag and the box to Leo.

Leo then barked happily.

“Haha. Liza, I’m glad that you like it. But it would probably be for the best if you do not show it off too much.”

“Okay!”

After all, the leather bag contained money... One had to be careful when outside.

“Liza sure looks happy. Ah, Leo. I have a box that looks like you. See? And the necklace will go inside!”

“Wuf? Wuff...”

Tilura then showed the box that she had bought.

Though, Leo did not seem that happy... Perhaps she thought that the wolf carving would be a replacement or something.

Also, she was not at all interested in the wood carving of a bird.

“Hehe. Both of them are so pleased.”

Siad Claire with a smile as she watched them.

“Though, Tilura won’t be as happy once she returns to the house.”

“Ah... She does have a lecture coming up.”

Claire said with a slight grin.

Both she and Sebastian would be sure to lecture her thoroughly later on... I suppose Leo could play with her after that, in order to cheer her up.

“Welcome back!”

Once we returned to the mansion, we were greeted by the servants.

“Leo, Sherry, Liza. Let’s go to the garden and see if Rahle and the others have returned!”

“Wait, Tilura. Don’t think that you can run away so easily? We have some talking to do. Come over here.”

“Uh...oh, no...”

“Haha. There is a lot of reflecting that you need to do. It can’t be helped.”

“Don’t worry, sister Tilura!”

“Wuff-wuff!”

“Kyau!”

And so Claire dragged Tilura away.

“Alright then. You better come with me, Liza. You too, Leo.”

“Okay, papa.”

“Wuff!”

“Kyau?”

“Oh, Sherry... I don’t think you want to go with Claire and Tilura. Why don’t you go out to the garden with the fenrirs?”

“Kyau!”

At least she would not be bored over there.

And so she barked once and then ran off...

Chapter 985

I organized my belongings in my room

After seeing Sherry off, we returned to the room.

“Liza, you can put the box with your money in this drawer.”

“Okay. Uh, and when I go out, I should take out the money and put it in this bag, right?”

“That’s right. It will be easier to carry that way.”

I let Liza use the bottom drawer in the desk for now.

I had a different place to store money from the duke.

Though, I should probably think of getting a safe soon.

Well, perhaps I wouldn’t even have much money after buying everything for the new house in Range village.

“Wuff?”

“Hmm? What is it, Leo?”

“Wuff-wou.”

“I see. You are remembering the smell, so that if someone takes it, you will be able to trace them...”

I didn’t think we had to worry about that when in the house... But perhaps Liza might take it out and lose it somewhere.

“As long as mama is with me, I have nothing to worry about.”

“Wou!”

Leo barked and nodded reassuringly.

“Uh, papa. Where should I put this?”

Liza asked while holding the bag of other things she had bought.

It was cloth and tools to make fire.

“Oh...right...that... You know, you could just store them in your own room...”

“No, I want to put them here!!

“I see... You can place the cloth and bandages in the drawer where the clothes are. That way, you can find them easily if they are needed.”

“Yes! And these rocks?”

“Hmm... While I doubt they are dangerous...I still wonder. Uh, we will put them by the desk then. So they won't get lost.”

“Wuff...?”

“What is it, mama?”

When Liza took out the cloth and bandages to put away, Leo suddenly moved closer to them.

“Leo? Ah!”

“No, mama!”

“Gudd! Wuff!”

Leo started to pull the edge of the cloth with her teeth.

While we were surprised, Leo then turned her head and pulled more of the cloth out. Her tail was wagging now. Did she think it was a toy?

“Mama! Hmph!”

“Guff. Guff...”

Leo pulled on the cloth on one side, and Leo pulled back on the other... Well, it certainly was a typical way to play with a dog.

But while Liza was pulling with all of her might, Leo was quite relaxed.

“Now, now. The cloth will rip if you keep doing that.”

“Papa! Help me!”

“Yes, yes...”

“Guff...”

But even when I pulled, Leo did not budge. It was no surprise.

And like that, we ended up playing.

While Liza looked serious at first, she soon started to smile as she was having fun.

“Hah...pew... You sure are strong, Leo.”

“Wuff!”

“Hmph. The cloth got ripped...and I just bought it...”

That was how the game ended.

Liza was now puffing out her cheeks in annoyance.

Though, she was not really angry.

Chapter 986

Mr. Halton paid us a visit

“Wuff. Wuff-wuff! Wou!”

Leo was telling Liza that she did not need cloth to purify water. She would prepare the water for her.

It was true, as Leo could create drinkable water with magic.

But perhaps there was some other reason?

“But there might be times when we are separated...”

“Wuff. Wuff-wuff.”

“Haha. Well, even if you are separated, I doubt you will be in a situation where you can’t get water. It’s not really something you have to worry about.”

It seemed like she was using knowledge learned from Mr. Reyndorf in order to survive.

“Anyway, look at this, Liza. I lined up the tiny lights.”

I placed all three on the desk, with hers in the middle, and then I turned them on.

“Wow...”

“Wuff!”

Liza’s eyes lit up happily and Leo barked.

“They do look pretty when set up like this.”

“Yes.”

It would look even better once it was darker... Regardless, I was glad that I had decided to buy them.

“Mr. Takumi. Do you have a minute?”

“Hmm? Ms. Lyra? Yes, of course.”

“Wuff!”

As we watched the lights for some time, there was a knock on the door, and then I heard Ms. Lyra’s voice.

“Excuse me. Oh, I see that you are using the tiny lights.”

“Aren’t they pretty, sister Lyra?”

“Hehe. Yes, they are. Uh, by the way, Mr. Takumi. There is someone who is here to see you.”

“Me? Who could it be... The only one who ever visits me is Nick...”

“It is not him, it is Mr. Halton, the tailor.”

“Mr. Halton?”

“Yes. I believe you spoke to him before about slippers.”

“Oh...right. I thought we could use them in the house in Range village.”

“Apparently, he has made some prototypes that he wishes for you to look at.”

“I see... Well, I better go and meet him then.”

“He is waiting in the drawing room.”

And so I headed to go and meet him. While Leo and Liza went to the garden.

It would not be a very interesting conversation. Besides, Sherry and the fenrirs were there, so Liza would be able to play with them.

When I entered the drawing room, I saw that Mr. Halton was sitting inside and sipping some tea.

“Hello. Mr. Halton.”

“Mr. Takumi. I’m sorry to visit you so suddenly.”

“I heard that you want to show me the slippers...?”

There was a bag next to Mr. Halton’s feet.

However, it seemed like there was a lot inside. Did he make too many of them?

Chapter 987

I saw the slipper prototypes

Mr. Halton was wearing the hat with the ears.

At first, it had been made to help Liza hide her fox-like ears, but now it was a rather popular product in Ractos.

“Thanks to you, I now have connections to other stores in Ractos that make hats.”

“Haha... Well, I’m sure you would have preferred to have more success with the clothes you actually make.”

“Not at all. Hats are clothes too, and have their own purpose. Regardless, I and the others have decided to wear these hats as much as possible when we go outside.”

“Uh...well...it looks good on you...”

We both chuckled awkwardly.

Aside from the ears, it was not a very strange design.

But it wasn’t really good either.

“I am relieved to hear you say that, Mr. Takumi. It is one thing to see children or young ladies wearing them. But older men... And so your words are reassuring.”

“Uh, of course.”

“Now, here are the slippers.”

Mr. Halton said as he took them out of the bag.

“I wanted to make something elegant and pretty. What do you think?”

“...It is sort of similar to what I wanted... But why...does it have ears of all things?”

He placed several different slippers on the table.

Some of them had two ears per slipper, while others had two ears per pair. He had certainly given this some thought...

They were made of thick cloth that was layered, but were still lighter than ordinary shoes.

Some of the cloth was plain, while others had patterns.

“I did it so that they would match the hats.”

“Hmm... While I see what you mean, these slippers will only be worn indoors...”

Liza and Tilura might be amused by them, but I did not think the adults would want to go around wearing these during the day.

Especially not people like Mr. Ekenhart or Sebastian.

“Hm...if you say so... We can make two different types then.”

“Do you really have time to make so many prototypes? Um...I don't think this will be profitable...”

I suppose he was already thinking about turning these into products, but it could be costly to make so many prototypes now.

“That won't be a problem. Besides, this is the first time we are doing it. We will make various types, and the ones that don't sell, will be dropped. And in any case, these are quite simple, and do not cost much to make.”

“Is that right?”

“Yes. The hats actually cost more, as they use more cloth. Of course, there is more manpower involved when making something new. But it is still nothing.”

Well, he would know more about such matters than me, so I decided to not worry about it.

“So, the shape and designs are fine for the most part. That being said...in terms of how comfortable they are...”

“Comfortable? They seem quite soft to me.”

Apparently, that was one thing that Mr. Halton was concerned about.

Chapter 988

We talked about the slipper prototypes

In order to see what Mr. Halton was talking about, I took off my shoes and tried on the slippers.

“This...is not quite what I had imagined...”

“We thought of different things, but could not think of a good solution. And so I decided to bring them here and ask you about it. After all, you were the one to make the suggestion.”

“Hmm...”

Inside, the slippers had layers of thin cloth, but the part that covered your feet had something hard inside to help maintain the shape.

Also, the bottom part still felt a little thin, so that you could feel the hardness of the floor underneath.

You might as well just walk around in your socks.

“Couldn’t you add some kind of cushion here?”

“Hmm. There are already several layers of cloth. But I suppose it would be possible. Even if it will cost more...”

“I don’t think it needs to be anything too fancy. Just a little more... Also, this covering over here...”

“The vamp.”

So that’s what it is called.

“Right now, it covers the toes. But what about just making it a strap? I think it will help with ventilation and be more relaxing.”

“Hmm. I am no cobbler, but you may be right about that. And some people do not smell very nice without good ventilation.”

I thought about how Leo used to like smelling my damp shoes when she was younger. But never mind that.

“As it’s not a shoe, it should be fine even if it comes off easily. Also, you will not have to use as much cloth.”

“Hmm. Though, some ladies might not want their toes to stick out like that.”

“That’s true.”

Mr. Halton did not look very convinced.

“Well, would it be alright if I consult the others about this?”

“Yes, of course. These are still prototypes, and there is no great rush. I will also ask Claire and the others about it.”

“Thank you. I would very much like to know Lady Claire’s opinion as well.”

There was no reason to decide on everything now, since the slippers were going to be used in Range village.

“Now, about the proposal fee...”

“The what?”

“It was your idea, Mr. Takumi. And since we shall be selling these as our own product and making a profit, it is only right that you take a share.”

“Oh, I see... But it was something for personal use...”

Besides, it wasn't even my original idea. I was just thinking about something from back at home.

But I suppose it was new for them.

“After all, it could prove popular, similar to the hats with the ears.”

“Yes, I was just thinking about helping Liza...”

Chapter 989

Tilura returned after being scolded

I nodded at Mr. Halton's words. And though I felt like a fraud, I decided to accept the money anyway.

After all, it would trouble him if I refused it.

“Of course, we have not decided which products to sell and at what price yet...”

Still, he suggested that I would be paid two or three coppers with every sale.

That seemed like a lot for just slippers, but it was apparently going to be about twenty percent of the price.

“I would be fine with just ten percent. I wasn’t really thinking about profit to begin with...”

“No, that will not do. You are connected to the duke. While it will not be made public, some people may still find out. And it could affect your reputation.”

“You...think so?”

“It is possible. In any case, there is a right price for everything.”

“Well...if you insist.”

I suppose if you always buy things cheaply, people will underestimate you?

Regardless, I decided to leave matter to Mr. Halton for now.

“Well, things will get quite busy now. Still, if you have any ideas, please feel free to tell us, Mr. Takumi.”

“Yes....if I do...”

“Thank you. Now, have a good day.”

We moved to the entrance hall and I saw Mr. Halton off.

As for making suggestions, I was already doing that with Sebastian and even Ms. Helena.

There was only so much that I could do. And I didn’t want to get overwhelmed with other things.

“The last thing I want to do is become overworked again. I would rather live a quiet life. Like how things were in Bleiyu village.”

“Mr. Takumi...”

As I was standing in the entrance hall, I saw that Tilura was looking at me hesitantly from the hallway.

She was a little teary-eyed, so it was clear that Claire and Sebastian had been talking to her.

“Uh...”

“What is it?”

“...I, I’m sorry! Not just to you, but to Leo and Liza. For causing so much trouble!”

“Yeah. I see...”

Tilura bowed her head and shouted loudly.

It was a good thing that she could apologize.

“Aside from my sister and Sebastian...the others were upset with me too...”

“The others?”

“Uhhh... Not Lyra and Gelda... But the head maid...and the other servants. Johanna too.”

“Ah... Hahaha! Well, it’s because they were worried about you.”

Apparently, some of the servants had scolded her as well.

I suppose having so many adults be upset with you like that...could be scary. But she had done something very dangerous with Rahle.

Normally, servants would not do something like that, given their position. So I saw it as a sign of just how much they cared.

After all, when we were headed towards Ractos, the people who came with us had all been so worried about her...

Chapter 990

I decided to use Weed Cultivation

Hmm. I had already decided to hire Ms. Delia, so there was no point in keeping it a secret, since she would find out about it anyway.

Thankfully, the wood cutters were gone and there was no one else around us..

“Uh, Ms. Delia. What kind of herb is it?”

“Uhh... It is called black nightshade.”

She told me the name, characteristic, size and the shape of the leaves.

It had white flowers and black berries, but you could not eat them, as they were poisonous. Apparently, they were used by crushing them with another root.

I had actually seen them in the book that I borrowed from Sebastian.

“Ms. Delia. The chief hurt his back because he was trying to pick up something heavy, yes?”

“That is correct. The pain makes him sweat, and he has trouble moving.”

“I see... Hmm...”

“Is something the matter?”

“Ms. Delia, do you know of a plant called ramogi modoki?”

“I know of ramogi but... Modoki?”

“Yes. It is similar, so sometimes even pharmacists get them mixed up...”

“Oh. I have never seen them before. But what does this have to do with the chief’s hurt back?”

This was also something that I had read in the book from Sebastian.

While doing research for Weed Cultivation, I had something like ramogi that helped to warm up the body, and I had made it by accident.

While the plants looked slightly different, once they were dried out, they looked the same. By the time they were turned to powder, there was no way of telling them apart.

That was why you had to be very careful.

Well, at least it was not poisonous. It would just not have the effect that you were hoping for.

That being said, any pharmacist who sold it would lose the trust of customers. Sick people would buy it and not get well.

Regardless, it was important for me to not be thinking about other things when making ramogi.

“Well, we’ll be making ramogi in the herb fields. And since this is a similar herb, I thought it would be best to show you.”

“Show me? Do you have that herb with you right now?”

“No, I don’t. Well, I cannot say for sure, but I was thinking that it might be better to warm up the chief’s back, instead of cooling it off. And this is a herb that could help with that.”

“Warm it up... But you said you do not have the herb with you? But there is black nightshade growing here... Do you mean to go into the forest and search? Well, I am not too tired after the hunt. So I suppose that I do not mind, but...”

I thought that while telling her about Weed Cultivation, I could also show her how I make the ramogi modoki.

Ms. Delia looked quite confused when I told her I did not have the herbs with me.

And now she thought we were going to go search for them in the forest...

Still, even after fighting the Audhumbla, she was not that tired at all.

However, there was no need to go into the forest... Well, it was time to get right to the point, and show her how it was done...