

Beloved Dog 991

Chapter 991

Rahle was sad

“Mr. Takumi. Please don’t make Lyra cry!”

“No, I didn’t mean to...”

Continuing this conversation seemed like a bad idea.

“In-in any case. Just remember what I told you.”

“Fine. From now on, I will try and confide in others before I go out and act!”

“You’re still going to act then... Well, I suppose it is an improvement.”

This was starting to sound familiar.

Ah, it was when Claire went to the forest alone, and Sebastian had to rebuke her. The two sisters really were similar.

“Well, let’s go and see Leo and Liza in the garden then.”

“Yes. I have to apologize to them...as well as the fenrirs.”

I wasn’t sure about Leo, but the others certainly did not care. They were just having fun outside.

Regardless, we then headed to the garden.

When we stepped out, I saw that Leo and Liza were lying on the grass and enjoying the sun, while the fenrirs were being petted by the servants.

I could not see the cockatrices anywhere. Perhaps they were eating bugs from the plants.

Sherry was near Feri, and was busy biting into a ball made of cloth. I suppose her teeth still felt strange.

As for Rahle...

“Rahle, what’s the matter?”

“Oh, Tilura. Were you able to apologize to Mr. Takumi?”

We approached Claire, who was watching Leo and the others.

“Yes, she apologized.”

“I see. Well, it’s no surprise after hearing all of that. I would not want to be in the same place right now...”

“...You’re talking like you weren’t one of the people scolding her?”

“At first, it was only me and Sebastian. But then...”

“In any case, what is the matter with Rahle?”

Rahle was standing in the corner of the garden and looking rather dejected.

Its head was pulled in and the body looked a lot smaller than usual.

Overall, there was an atmosphere of sadness.

“Um...when I came out into the garden, Leo was barking loudly and...”

“Leo was?”

I had not seen Leo bark very loudly since coming to this world.

Well, I suppose she did when facing monsters.

“Sherry and the fenrirs were frightened... I did not understand what Leo was saying, but I think she was rebuking Rahle.”

So Leo was barking as a way of scolding Rahle.

Unless Sherry, Liza or I were there, no one would understand what Leo was saying. But it was obvious enough.

I suppose it was because Rahle had taken Tilura out and put her in danger, on top of making everyone worry...

Chapter 992

Claire tried on the slippers

“So Rahle was scolded by Leo too...”

“That’s right, Tilura. As a familiar, Rahle would obey most of your orders. But because of that, Rahle might be blamed as well.”

“Yes...now I have to apologize to Rahle...”

Rahle had a will of its own as well. And so there would be times when it didn’t obey Tilura if it didn’t want to.

So I suppose if it really wanted to, it could have stopped Tilura from going to Ractos.

That was why Leo was mad.

After that, Tilura went to apologize to Rahle and the fenrirs.

I stood next to Claire and watched.

After Tilura bowed her head, Rahle patted her with its wings consolingly.

“Now that I think about it, Mr. Takumi. I heard that Halton came here to show you some slippers?”

“Ah, yes. He wanted to talk about his prototypes. Were you able to talk to him too then?”

“No, I leave such things to Sebastian. But, how was it?”

“Well...why don't you try them on? After all, he really wanted to know what your opinion was as well.”

“Really? I thought it was all between you two.”

“Well, we need a woman involved as well. Regardless, he left some here, so you should try them on.”

“Very well then.”

After that, Ms. Lyra came and brought the bag with the prototype slippers, and so I took them out.

However, we were out in the garden, where they might get dirty...

“I suppose we should go back into the house once.”

“Very well. Tilura...seems fine for now.”

And so we went back into the house.

Tilura and Rahle were now apologizing to Leo. But they did so quietly, so as not to wake Liza.

Though, Leo seemed to be sympathetic now, as she licked Tilura's face.

"I'm sorry, Lyra."

"No, not at all."

As soon as we entered the house, Ms. Lyra helped support Claire as she took off her shoes.

"Oh... These are very light."

After taking off her shoes and putting the slippers on, Claire took a few steps to see how they felt.

"They are made of cloth, so they are much lighter than ordinary shoes."

"Indeed. They are quite easy to move around in... Oh, they came off."

"Haha. Yes, they fall off if you are not used to wearing them. They are not strapped onto your feet, after all..."

While Claire was impressed with their weight, she moved her feet around, so that the slippers slid right off of her feet.

She looked a little disappointed by this, and I could not help but chuckle.

Well, that's how slippers were. They were not exactly suited for exercise or any strenuous activity.

Chapter 993

The slippers could be slippery

"I think they may take some getting used to."

“Hmmm. Well, they are supposed to be comfortable, so I wouldn’t think about it too much. After all, they are not for running in. You just wear them when inside.”

“Indeed. But they are quite easy to... Ah!”

“Lady Claire!”

“Claire!”

After taking one step, her foot slipped and she leaned backwards. I had to run up and support her, while Ms. Lyra grabbed her from the other side.

“Are you alright, Lady Claire? Please be careful.”

“I’m sorry. And thank you. Are they supposed to slip like that?”

“Uh... No, that would not be very safe... I suppose it’s because they are made of cloth...”

I was relieved that she had not actually fallen and hit her head.

Still, the material of the slippers was not a good match for this floor, which was made of marble.

I should have been more thoughtful about that.

“Something must be done about it... I will talk to Mr. Halton later.”

Rubber would be an easy solution, but they did not have any here.

I’m sure there were other options, but it might end up being quite expensive.

“So it is still an idea that is being developed then. Lyra, will you support me for a moment?”

“Yes, certainly.”

“Uh, you’re not done?”

“Of course. I still want to get a better idea of how comfortable they are to wear.”

As we had already found one problem, I thought it would be over. But Claire wanted to be a little more thorough with it.

“If you are on the carpet, it doesn’t really... No, it definitely slips a little.”

For some time after that, Claire walked around in the slippers.

As for the carpet, I suppose it was because there was more friction. Hmm...

Getting an idea, I checked the bottom of my shoes.

“I thought so...”

My shoes were not flat, but had bumps on them. It was not something I thought about usually, and so I had forgotten.

“Phew... It is a little tiring. Having to be careful while walking in these.”

“Tiring is the exact opposite of what you should feel. They need a lot of work...”

“But I do like that they are light. Even if they fall off easily...”

After that, she told me about what she thought for some time.

Ms. Lyra also said that she liked how they would be easier to clean compared to shoes.

“I talked to Mr. Halton about making ones where the toes came out for ventilation.”

“Toes? Oh, that sounds rather embarrassing.”

So she was not enthusiastic about it after all.

Well, maybe they could be like crocs, and just have small holes all around...? But there was no need to decide now, as we had plenty of time.

“Mr. Takumi, can we try them as well?”

“Of course. Though, I don’t know if it would be good for servants, since you walk around so much in the house. Still, we want as many opinions on them as possible.”

After Claire was finished, Ms. Lyra asked if she could try them on.

Still, I wondered if it would be a good idea. Especially since people like Ms. Gelda were already prone to tripping.

“Yes, I don’t think it would be good for regular wear. But if it is just for testing, I can help with that.”

“In that case, we have a few more that Mr. Halton brought. So please use those.”

“Certainly.”

“As for me, I try them on in my room so I get used to wearing them.”

“Yes, thank you.”

Chapter 994

Leo was jealous of Sherry

The bag that Mr. Halton brought had about ten pairs of slippers, and so I let Ms. Lyra and the others use them.

“Uh, since you might slip, perhaps it would be best to try them on when you are with someone else who can help you.”

“Indeed. I will be careful so that I do not fall.”

“...So they all have ears...”

“As the hats were quite popular, he tried putting them on the slippers as well. Though, I think it will not be worth the extra cost, so he will probably not put them on the new ones.”

“Really? I think it’s adorable.”

“Perhaps... But there may be old men wearing these too.”

Though, as Claire seemed to like them... It might be a good idea to have one type with them.

Regardless, I then returned to the garden to check up on Tilura and the others.

Tilura must have finished apologizing to the fenrirs, as she was now petting Feri. Liza had also woken up and was talking to them.

“Wuff-wuff!”

“Oh, Leo.”

When I stepped out, Leo approached me and barked.

I suppose she was bored.

“Ah, that’s right. Leo, you really shouldn’t have been so harsh. Rahle was just following Tilura’s orders, you know?”

“Wuff...”

“Yes, yes. You were worried about Tilura.”

“Wou.”

Even if stopping Tilura was possible, I did not think Rahle should be held responsible for it.

And so Leo had definitely gone too far.

I petted Leo and told her to be careful next time. Also, I told her that she probably would have done the same in Rahle’s place.

“Wuff. Wou... Wuff?”

“Leo? Are you interested in these?”

“Leo. These are not toys. So don’t bite them.”

Leo was now interested in the slippers that Claire was holding.

“Wuff...wuff-wuff.”

“Over there... Sherry?”

Leo turned her head, and I saw that she was looking at Sherry, who was biting on the ball of cloth.

“Do you want a toy?”

“Wuff!”

“Hmm... It wouldn’t have been a big deal before. But you’re so big now. And you would bite through anything.”

“Wou...”

When she was small, I was able to give her various toys and things to chew on.

But I didn’t see what I could give her now that she wouldn’t destroy with one bite.

“Even if she bit it softly, it would still make holes... She can destroy wood and rocks with her teeth.”

“Wuff. Wuff.”

“Claire, Ms. Lyra. Do you have anything...stretchy?”

“That is not cloth?”

“Hmm...yes. Something that won’t rip easily.”

“Wou...?”

“I suppose...it would have to be like rubber.”

“Rubber? Oh, you did talk about that before, Mr. Takumi.”

“Mr. Sebastian said there is something similar in the south. But we have no such thing here...”

Rubber was a kind of sap from trees.

In that case, maybe I could make it with Weed Cultivation? But then again, perhaps it was something altered by the people who grew them... Hmm...

“Mr. Takumi?”

“Ah, sorry. I was just thinking.”

I shook my head and turned back to Claire.

Even Leo was looking at me oddly.

Chapter 995

I made something new with Weed Cultivation

“Hehe. Did you think of something? You usually do that when there is something that we cannot do.”

“Hmm. Why don’t you try it then? There is time before dinner.”

“Sebastian? When did you get here...”

He always appeared during times like these, as if he could smell it from far away... I could not underestimate him.

“So, what are you going to try?”

He asked with a smile.

“Weed Cultivation. I don’t know if I can really grow it... It is not very likely. But it’s worth a try.”

“I see. Well, if it is Weed Cultivation, then it is something that only you can do. So we just need to wait for the results.”

“Indeed. Leo, this might not work... But just wait a while.”

“Wuff! Hah-hah!”

Leo looked at me with expectation and wagged her tail. That was a lot of pressure. I was not worried about disappointing her.

“Uh...”

I moved away from the others and closed my eyes so that I could concentrate.

And then imagined the thing that I wanted.

“With Weed Cultivation, you can make something new, even if you do not know the shape of the plant.”

I thought about the time when Sherry was badly wounded.

I had made a plant, even though I didn’t know if it existed in this world...

After all, I did not know what a rubber tree looked like. So I would just imagine the effect and activate Weed Cultivation.

“Alright...”

I put my hand on the ground and used the Gift.

“Ohh...?”

I could feel the ground swelling up under my palm.

And then a single plant sprouted out. Was it a success then?”

“...It’s a little different from what I imagined.”

Ten seconds later, what was there was not a tree, but a plant with a one meter stem.

There were no leaves or anything. And it was about as thick as two of my fingers.

“Did it work?”

“What is it, Mr. Takumi?”

“I think...it did?”

“I have never seen this plant before.”

Sebastian and Claire both looked puzzled.

I then pulled the plant out of the ground. It did not even have any roots.

“And now...I can change the state and... Ah.”

“Oh?”

“White liquid?”

It was supposed to change the plant into a state where it would have the most effect. However, as my imagination had been a little vague, the plant did not look any different.

But there was not a white liquid dripping out of the stem.

“...It seems like you can get a lot from just one... Yes, this is promising. Sebastian, Claire. Try holding it.”

The liquid made a puddle on the ground and started to harden. And so I squatted and poked it.

It had a squishy texture. And so I picked up a small piece and gave it to the others.

Chapter 996

I was able to make something like rubber

“This...does not feel very nice...”

“Hmm. How strange...”

“I think if we wait a little longer, it will harden more. And then it will be similar to what I was looking for.”

There were different kinds of rubber, and you were probably supposed to combine it with something else.

“Indeed...it is hardening already.”

After a short while, the sap was practically solid.

Claire and Sebastian were poking and squeezing it with their hands.

“Try stretching it. But not too hard, or it might rip.”

“Ohh... It stretches and then goes back.”

“You’re right. So this is what Mr. Takumi was talking about.”

“Though, the one I remember would stretch even more. But this is close enough.”

They were able to stretch it a few centimeters, so it seemed to be proper rubber.

And while I was happy, there was one thing I was concerned about.

“Sniff-sniff... Wuff? Wuff-wuff.”

“You think so too, Leo? It smells quite different from the rubber that I know...”

Leo was saying that it smelled a little sweet.

And while that seemed strange, I doubted that it was dangerous.

Besides, it smelled like that the moment that the sap started to drip...

“Hmm... Now that I think about it, this smell does seem familiar...”

Where had I smelled it before... There was something that reminded me of chemicals.

Regardless, I stopped thinking about it for now, and instead told the others about what this material could be used for.

“Ms. Lyra. Excuse me, but could you bring a pot from the kitchen? An old one, if you can... Something that can be thrown away.”

“Certainly. Just wait one moment.”

I didn’t know if it would be possible, but perhaps I could make something with it...

“Wuff?”

“Mr. Takumi. What are you going to do?”

Leo and Claire looked at me with puzzled expressions.

“I want to use it to shape the liquid. It is just a test. But perhaps I will be able to make a toy for Leo?”

“Wuff!?! Wuff-wuff!”

Leo wagged her tail happily.

“Gurr?”

“Papa. Feri and the others are interested as well!”

“Ahh, I suppose they will need toys too then. Though, it will be one at a time...”

It seemed like fenrirs also like to play by biting onto things.

“Well, I might as well make more while we wait...”

“Are you sure? You do not want to use Weed Cultivation too much. Especially when it is a plant you have never seen before.”

“I think I should be fine. It’s a feeling I get. That I haven’t gotten close to my limit yet.”

I had gotten quite used to using Weed Cultivation now. So I had a good idea when I was in a dangerous place.

Well, when using the Gift, there was something like a thin layer that I could feel, and it told me how much I could use. And it would not happen after just using it once. ¶

Of course, it was just a feeling, so perhaps not completely reliable.

Chapter 997

I tried to make a toy for Leo

What I knew from using Weed Cultivation up until now was...when it came to plants in books that existed already, they did not require much power.

But when it came to plants with special, unbelievable power, even making just one put me in a dangerous place.

“Mr. Takumi. Sorry to keep you waiting.”

“Thank you, Ms. Lyra.”

The pot that she brought me was burned in several places, and it looked like something that they might throw away.

“Sebastian, could I use fire here?”

“As you are outside, it should not be a problem.”

“Alright then. Fill the pot up with the tree sap and...”

I pulled out the rubber plant that I had made, and used Weed Cultivation to change the state so that the liquid would pour into the pot.

Ms. Lyra then helped by gathering branches to make a fire.

“Now...Fire elemental, flame burn up!”

“Oh, you are able to use fire magic now.”

“Phillip taught it to me when we went to Bleiyu village. Hmm. That should do it.”

As the branches burned, I stepped away for a moment and waited as the pot warmed up.

“Hmm. It really does melt.”

“Indeed. It was hardening at first, but now it is like water again.”

“How interesting...”

“Wuff! Wuff!”

“Mama is happy.”

“Leo is enjoying this.”

I suppose she was looking forward to her new toy.

“Ah... I’m sorry, Claire and Sebastian. I think you better step away.”

“Why? Ah, I see...”

“It smells quite bad... It’s a good thing we didn’t do this in the house.”

It was a rather familiar smell, though.

The smell unique to rubber.

“Wuff. Kuuun...”

“Yes, Leo has a sharp sense of smell, so it is worse for her. You should stay away...”

“Wou!”

“Ah... That’s good too. But try not to hit the pot directly.”

“Wuff!”

Leo had started to create a gentle breeze.

That way, the smell would not waft towards us.

Though, it wouldn't do if it changed the temperature too much, and so I told her to be careful.

"Pipi!?"

"Pipi!"

"Ah...the cockatrices. There you are. Sorry."

As the cockatrices were now hit by the smell, they began to cry and flap their wings.

After apologizing to them, I began to move the pot around in order to mix the contents.

"This should do it. Now I just have to wait for it to cool off. Thank you, Leo."

"Wuff-wuff."

As it appeared to be finished, I took the pot off of the fire.

Now that it just needed to be cooled off, Leo made some magic wind again. That would speed things up a little.

"I'll have to think of a way to deal with the smell. Hmm. It looks good now."

As the rubber cooled off, the smell also died away.

"Oh, it has some firmness to it. Now I just...hmm. It's hard to take out... Oomph!"

While it was a little difficult to take out of the pot, I was able to jam my finger into a crack, which helped to loosen it.

It was like taking pudding out of a bowl.

Chapter 998

The fenrirs were interested as well

“It’s not the best shape, as it was made with a pot... But, what do you think, Leo?”

“Wuff. Sniff... Wou!”

“So the smell is fine. Alright, why don’t you try biting it?”

“Wou... Guff. Guff... Wou! Wuff-wuff! Wou!”

“Oh, seems good.”

The rubber was about the size of a basketball, and after giving it a few bites, Leo barked and wagged her tail happily.

That was great. So she now had a toy. And the issue was resolved.

“Mr. Takumi. What is that? Is it for Leo to eat?”

“No, no. You cannot eat rubber. Leo, you can bite it all you want, but don’t swallow it, alright?”

“Wuff! Guff, guff...”

“Mama likes it!”

Leo was holding it down with her front paws and biting it happily.

“Gurr...”

“Grau? Gau.”

“Kyau!”

“Oh, everyone is watching now. Well, I’ll have to make more then.”

They were looking at Leo with rather jealous expressions.

And so I chuckled and got to work.

Even if the fenrirs didn’t know anything about toys, they became interested after seeing how much Leo liked her rubber ball.

Though, Sherry already had one made of cloth...

Still, I did not want to use Weed Cultivation four times in a row. So for now, I would just make on for Feri, since he was the leader.

And then I could do the others tomorrow.

As for the possibility of sharing, the fenrirs had rejected the idea.

It wasn’t really about cleanliness...they just wanted something for themselves.

Besides, they had helped with the search for Tilura, and I wanted to reward them.

“I’ll have to test it first, but this rubber could probably be used for the stairs too. So you don’t slip.”

“The stairs?”

“Slip...?”

While making the rubber toy for Feri, I talked to Claire and Sebastian about other uses.

“Right now, there is a carpet, so you don’t slip too easily... But it could still be dangerous.”

“I see. Yes, I have slipped a few times when I was in a rush.”

“Yes, I think plenty of the servants have experienced the same.”

While the floors were generally made of marble, the stairs and some other places were covered in carpets. And apparently, Claire and Sebastian had nearly slipped before.

“Another idea would be to put them on shoes. It would be even more effective.”

“What about the slippers?”

“Yes, of course.”

The rubber toy that Leo was biting had the same general feel of rubber that I was familiar with.

So I was quite sure it would be effective.

“Shoes that do not slip. That would be nice...”

“Ah, but they might not be suited for use outdoors.”

“And why is that?”

“Because of dirt and sand. They wouldn’t be as effective when wet. Sometimes, they can be even more slippery.”

“They become slippery when wet?”

“I am pretty sure there are solutions so that it won’t happen, but... I really don’t know how to do it. In any case, when the rubber becomes wet, the surface is...”

I was no expert when it came to rubber.

And there are different types. Perhaps there is a type that can get wet. Regardless, when they do get wet, the water creates a layer between the rubber and the ground, and the friction is reduced.

Chapter 999

Liza was fine even if it fell on the floor

“Alright, it’s ready. Here you go, Feri.”

“Gurrr! Guru!”

As we were talking, the second rubber toy was completed.

Feri wagged his tail and bit into it immediately.

Yes, it seemed fine.

Tomorrow, I would make some for Fel and Riruru.

Speaking of Riruru, she was currently staring at me.

Sherry had climbed onto her back, and was looking at me as well.

Even Tilura and Liza were watching Leo and Feri as if they were jealous.

Well, it seemed like the main use for rubber would be to play with for some time.

If only we had real rubber balls, it would be perfect.

“See, like this... If you put them against each other, they do not slip.”

“Indeed. It looks like they are stuck together.”

“Oh...”

On the following day, I demonstrated how it was harder for rubber to slip.

“Sticky!”

“Huh?”

“Ah, Liza!”

I suddenly heard Liza and Tilura laughing.

“What is it?”

“Ah, papa. This actually tastes good.”

“I’m sorry Mr. Takumi. Liza ate it off the ground.”

“She ate the rubber!?”

Apparently she had torn off a piece that was hardened and tasted it.

However, I was relieved to see that she had just chewed a little and then spat it out.

I suppose it had smelled nice, and it was almost dinner time

However, even in this world, it was not normal to taste something that had fallen on the ground.

But Liza used to live in the slums, and didn’t have the same mindset yet... I would have to be careful.

“Mr. Takumi. Is this thing supposed to be edible?”

“No, you are not supposed to eat rubber. I’m so glad she didn’t really eat it...”

“I’m sorry, papa...”

“Liza. You can’t eat something that has been on the ground.”

“Still, Mr. Takumi. I am wondering about why she said it tasted good... What if it is edible?”

“Sebastian. No, it cannot be eaten. Humans can’t digest the stuff. It might give you a stomach ache or worse.”

Well, perhaps it was different for beastkin... Though, Liza and Ms. Delia ate the same things we did, so I doubted there was a big difference.

“So it tastes good but is not edible. Indeed, it does smell...rather nice and unique.”

“Yes. Leo said that too. There is a bit of a sweet smell to it.”

It was sweet, and kind of like chemicals. Perhaps similar to a snack. It was quite familiar...

“Ah, I think...”

“What is it, Mr. Takumi?”

Well, when it came to snacks that you chewed but didn’t swallow, there was one thing that I knew of.

Besides, it was also made of something similar...

Chapter 1000

The sap from the rubber plant was familiar

“Perhaps it is...gum.”

“Gum?”

“Well...like chewing gum...”

I believe it was a type of rubber with different things added to it for taste and smell.

“Maybe there is some kind of sweetener in it already?”

“Mr. Takumi. What is this chewing gum?”

“Um, it’s...”

And so I had to explain it to Claire.

Liza and Tilura were also very interested. I suppose it was because it smelled and tasted sweet.

“If you just chew it without eating, I’m not really sure if it would be considered a snack.”

“Hmmm. That is true.”

They did not seem very convinced.

“Why would you want something like that? What use is it? Just to taste sweetness? Or perhaps it has some greater use. Like it raises your physical strength?”

“It has no powerful effects like that. Well, perhaps it will improve your mood.”

Sebastian thought about it with a conflicted expression.

“I suppose it could also help you stay alert or improve focus.”

At least, I remember hearing something like that.

And perhaps it could help to strengthen your jaw?

“I see...”

“Though, I don’t think the effects would be that strong. For the most part, it really just is like a treat, similar to candy.”

“Hmm. I see. Well, since sugar is expensive, I suppose it could be a decent substitute.”

“...Perhaps.”

“Mr. Takumi, I would like to try it...”

“Indeed... Very well. I shall make a new batch for you.”

“Really!? Great! I was very curious after seeing that Liza liked it.”

Not only was Tilura excited, but even Claire and Ms. Lyra were happy.

Though, Leo and the fenrirs did not seem interested at all. They clearly did not want any.

It was not a toy and could not be eaten.

I quickly grew another rubber plant with Weed Cultivation, and then washed the pot that I had just used before filling it up with the liquid.

If he heated, it would change and smell like rubber, so I just left it and waited for it to harden.

And then once it was done, I ripped off some pieces and handed it to the others to try.

“Hmm... Yes, this does taste good.”

“I have never chewed anything like it...”

“It’s true. As Liza said, it’s delicious!”

While Claire and Sebastian seemed to be having trouble chewing it, they all smiled due to the sweetness.

“Haha. You seem to be enjoying it. Hmm... I see. So this was why it smelled like that.”

While watching the reaction of the others, I also put some in my mouth and chewed it.

The taste was just like the gum that I was familiar with.

It was not the sweetness of sugar, but some other kind of chemical sweetener. And it was on the strong side.