

DEMONS 1151

[Chapter 1151](#)

Kat couldn't help but snicker at the thought. *It seems so oddly correct that the human king would just retire to the middle of nowhere and fuck around once he's done ruling the kingdom. It's also not that surprising that everything fell apart so quickly in his absence. Not because he was human, but because he was in charge for such a long time. Maybe it's different in this world, but I bet the humans just don't know how to deal with something like that.

Elves all have long lives, so their monarch living so long is just part of their culture... but for Ulf? He WAS the culture for a long ass time. Well, perhaps his wife was, but the point remains. The whole system was literally built around him. No wonder nobility was strong. They had what sounds like a relatively competent and hands of leader for thousands of years.

Still, the idea of an old looking man that's actually even older relaxing in a lawn chair and swatting dinosaurs that try to bother him away like flies is immensely amusing. Though... huh... I don't think Kress mentioned what Ulf looks like. They just said that farmer looked like him. So does he even look old? If he's immortal... he could look young or old or anywhere in between. Is it based on when he unlocked the ability?*

These were questions Kat wanted answers... but they were probably silly, and perhaps not ones that Kress had actually thought on. So instead, Kat asked, "So that's humans and elves... what are the people in charge of the beastmen nation getting up to?" no17elnext.com

Kress backed off and Nixilei stepped forward, fixing her glasses to catch the shine over her eyes just right. "Well the beastmen nation has always been the most... loosely connected of all the races. Some theorise this is due to their inherently unique nature, as despite their close relation to each other they are almost like separate races unto themselves. Others postulate that it is their environment that forced their society to evolve this way.

"Regardless, the beastkin work on a... well they call it a tribal system but that's more due to how the language developed rather than a tribal existence in the way most other races would consider it. Each section of land has a tribe 'head' that speaks for the group. They act sort of like kings in their own right, yet they're treated more like nobles in terms of deference. The beastkin have the greatest amount of land under control, yet it's not particularly productive land.

"Their society was mostly a nomadic one, though at some point in the distant pass forced them to build sturdy, and warm buildings to winter in. They couldn't stay there year round, not at the beginning, but it did centralise things a lot more. Many smaller tribes from an area would group up in one tribal hall to stay warm through the coldest moments of the year, then spread out again to forage.

"Anyway, this means that they have a whole bunch of leaders and more rumours then you care to shake a stick at... though... the funniest one that comes to mind? There was an incident just a few years back... I believe it to be five exactly... though without the date of the event, I can't be certain.

"The head of the wolf tribe, and head of the cat tribe were found in the centre of town, tide to a post and covered in tar and feathers. They were awake and snipping at each other, but neither could get free of the rope they'd been bound in because the tar was enchanted and very sticky. It kept their limbs

bound either to each other in the case of their hands, or the ground in the case of their feet. Their backs were also stuck to each other, just to add insult to injury. Tails included,"

Kat let out a hiss she didn't expect, flame burning in her eyes. Lily pulled her to the side and into a kiss, dazing Kat long enough to lose the menacing atmosphere. "Um... woops... sorry... I just... well... my tail is important and I'd probably murder someone for doing that to me,"

Nixilei nodded, filling that information away mentally into a folder marked 'important notes'. "It is an understandable sentiment," said Nixilei. "Many people were expecting to hear of someone getting executed, or at least attacked in retaliation for the event... but nothing. Nobody has spoken up about it. Nobody has admitted to doing it. Melf and Rex, the Wolf and Cat leaders, both refuse to say anything at all about the situation. It's still gossiped about frequently.

"We might never figure out what happened there. Even with a spy network, we just don't know. Too many rumours. Some say they did it to each other. Some say it was the turtle tribe's leader. Some say it was a plot by the dwarves, others say that Auctifer did it after getting drunk, others say they pissed off Ulf somehow and he tarred them, tied them up, and then threw them into that town all in five seconds. It's pretty much impossible to prove now...

"Unless someone like Thyme with time affinity goes back to the spot and uses a spell to view the past. Then they could probably find something out, but they'd have to be pretty strong and well... I have a feeling Thyme isn't going to bother," I think you should take a look at

The group all looked over to the spot Thyme had disappeared from, half expecting them to make a comment one way or the other, the bait was pretty good... but no catch it seemed. Nixilei gave it a few more seconds before deciding Thyme wasn't showing up and continued, "That's got to be the most interesting story. All the other beastkin ones are just... less interesting. The Turtle leader always falling asleep in meetings. That time the horse leader got caught being thrown out of a brothel naked, stuff like that,"

Kat nodded, "Well who's up next then?"

Nixilei answered "Dwarves," before Kress could say fae. Nixilei was hoping to save her own race for last to make it seem less crazy in comparison. She wasn't sure it was any more or less crazy, but it she might as well hold off. Plus, in a truly blessed timeline, Thyme would announce the start of the next round, letting her avoid the topic altogether.

So Nixilei continued, "Now, I won't be telling the story of any of the dwarven Kings or Queens that got drunk and did something stupid. If I started, we'd be here for months, not minutes. It's a common occurrence... but it does give some interesting context to the current dwarven Queen. Her name is Oditr Forgeheart and she doesn't drink alcohol at all."

Lily looked shocked but Kat just raised an eyebrow, confused look on her face. "That's it?" asked the demon.

Nixilei rolled her eyes, "This has literally never happened before in known dwarven history. Dwarves are immensely proud of their various ale and spirits. The idea that their royalty doesn't partake at all is a BIG deal. Now, granted, it hasn't always been a great idea for the past royals, but it's still a massive

upheaval. It'd be almost as bad as the human king Ulf revealing he was a woman this entire time. Theoretically it shouldn't be different... but it IS.

"There are all sorts of rumours as to why, some say she's allergic. Others say she had a terrible event occur to her while drunk... but it's actually a bit of an open secret for people that investigated the matter seriously. The rumours can be funny, and Oditr seems to encourage them...

"But the truth is she just hates the taste. Oditr seems to have developed unique tastebuds that let her identify alcohol in drinks... and apparently it tastes extremely foul to her. The first sip of ale she had, she spat out. Her parents beat her for it, because she was wasting expensive ale, but when they found out why... nobody really knew what to do.

"It's one of the reasons her condition is semi-common knowledge. Her parents tried to find a drink she DID enjoy. They hired a grand number of brewers for an ale contest, starting a new dwarven festival in the process. They even swallowed their pride and sought out foreign alcohol to try and find ANYTHING that Oditr could stomach... but no luck. Elven wines, human vodka, dryad whiskey, fae sake, nothing worked.

"Then. A man presented his drink for the then princess to try. She declared that while not great, it was much better than any served before her... and the man revealed that it was just grape juice. Not even particularly high quality grape juice. The man in question just... made some grape juice from the leftovers of his harvest and gave it to the princess on a whim after seeing everything else get rejected.

"The King and Queen didn't really know how to deal with that result. The man had just admitted to giving the princess poor quality grape juice... but he had also been the first person in over a decade to provide a drink the princess finished... yet once again, this was a brewing contest, and alcohol was a requirement. In the end, the matter was solved when the brewer declared the King and Queen share his winnings with a local orphanage. So the matter was resolved. Mostly," finished Nixilei.

[Chapter 1152](#)

"Well, just one leader left to go then," said Kat.

Nixilei's grin went a little strained, "Are you sure Kat? Really, I feel like we've covered everything," said Nixilei

"Do it or I will," retorted Kress.

"Or I can explain!" said Green with a grin. "You might have issue with badmouthing our leader, but I'm perfectly happy to do it!"

"You could cause a diplomatic incident if it gets reported back!" hissed Nixilei.

"Bah, Titty is a cool ruler, she's not going to cause us too many problems. Besides this is private enough, and Kat is a friend," said Green.

Nixilei felt like she was about to burst a blood vessel. "Why do you insist on using such a ridiculous nickname for the Queen of the fae? Her name is Titania and you KNOW that," said Nixilei firmly.

"Well, sure, but I couldn't pronounce her name back when I was a kid so... Titty! Now I just find it funny... and I called her Titty to her face once. She spent five minutes laughing on the floor," said Green with a massive grin.

Nixilei groaned. "Don't remind me. You're lucky she was indulging in cloud powder at the time,"

"Pretty sure it was stronger than Cloud Powder Nix, but sure, if that makes you feel better," said Green.

"I didn't take Nixilei for the super patriotic type," said Kress. "I mean... I guess it makes some sense now I'm thinking about it, but she's never gone full 'Fae Nation best nation' before now,"

"I... I just have a lot of respect for Titania is all," said Nixilei 'honestly'.

Green snapped her fingers as inspiration struck her. "Wait a minute! You picked it up from my mother!"

"I-I did not!" insisted Nixilei.

Kat felt her eye twitching as Green glared back at Nixilei and said, "Yes... yes I see it now. My mother has the exact same attitude towards Titania. I don't know why you picked it up, but man did I get punished when Mum found out I called her Titty to her face so like... don't report that I'm still doing that please?"

"I dunno," said Nixilei with narrowed eyes. "It's sounded like an awfully good idea right now. Perhaps your mother can ensure that you have at least some respect for our Queen," **NovelNext.cOm**

Gareth clapped his hands together, pulling the attention away from Green. "Hey, we made fun of the human King, the dwarven Queen, and two members of the tribal council. We probably also made fun of Auctifer... but he's a lot like Thyme in that it's hard to put them in a bad light. Now it's Titania's turn. It's really not anything to get worked up over,"

Nixilei held her tongue but glared at Green. Green, deciding that she might as well tell the story stepped forward, "Right so, Titty" Green glared right back at Nixilei as she spoke, "Is a big proponent for recreational drug use. While dwarves have their alcohol, the fae lands have all sorts of drugs. Though don't mistake that for having less regulation. We carefully test just about everything, both by itself, mixed together, and variants on the original.

"We crack down massively on anyone skipping the review process for new drugs, new mixes, or for people trying to sell to kids. It's... a bit brutal sometimes. Depending on the severity, execution is very much on the table, or worse. Not sure what that IS exactly, but it's in the lawbooks, and apparently it's kept a secret to make people fear it more. My parents SHOULD know, but I don't. I think you should take a look at

"Anyway, Titty," Nixilei coughed, but Green ignored it, "likes to test things herself as a last line of defence. Her two affinities are 'Poison' and 'Water', and she can usually cleanse herself of anything that gets too bad... but she tends to just ride out the experience. Thing is though...

"Because Titty is the last line of testing for a lot of these drugs... mostly because it's her favourite hobby... she sometimes takes an aggressive stance against things that just don't agree with her. One example of this is alcohol. Because it's such a common thing, especially among dwarves... Titania tried it when she was pretty young and... overindulged.

"Woke up with a massive headache that lasted for a full week and then she outlawed the stuff for anyone under the age of thirty, put strict quality control measures in place, and made it super illegal to brew alcohol without a license. Which... is a bit much, and there's always talk of her letting up on it because it's been nearly a century since she put the law in place... but for now it's hear to stay,"

Nixilei was nodding along. Happy to see that Green had chosen one of the nicer stories about Titania. She was about to be disappointed, because Green wasn't done. "Right, so with that bit of background knowledge," Nixilei paled "we can get into one of the most entertaining stories involving this testing.

"Titty was trying a new mixture, that wasn't supposed to have any mana boosting properties to it, but someone had accidentally given her the incorrect batch. She never came out and said who was at fault... but I personally think Titty just wanted to see what would happen and did it to herself. Anyway, it was a potent mix of things, that blew past quite a few of her safeties... and starting Titty of on a journey.

"Now... the interesting part of this is that she's quite a high level fighter... and she apparently forgot that doors were a thing that existed. The first thing she did was walk out of her testing chambers, straight threw the walls, and she took off exploring. She was 'following the wild pixies' apparently. People who analysed the mixture and know more than me think Titty was actually able to SEE and possibly taste mana at the time. There is also a theory that she... well she couldn't see anything else.

"Anyway, she proceeded to wander around the fae capital city, barrelling through walls and following things only she could see. The best part about this, is that while a lot of people were pissed off at her for the event, she managed to do a few notable things. Two hundred families reported finding a lost cache of valuable. Twenty-seven criminal gatherings were dismantled and the criminals involved in them detained. The ancestral fae crown that was thought to be lost during the great way was found, and, if the rumours are to be believed, Titty performed a few quick marriage counselling sessions during her rampage, but that last one is more rumour than fact.

"In regards to the property damage, it was surprisingly little despite her disregard for doors. Many of her impromptu exits showed off structural defects that needed repairing, and the ones that didn't tended to be used as either a new window, or new doorway. The funnies thing, was that after her rampage wore down, and she decided to rest...

"Titty collapsed in what seemed to be a random part of town, but when people went to pick her up, the found her curled around a box. That box, is where they found the lost crown of the fae. It's a powerful enchanted artifact that we used once upon a time to do... something. If Titty knows what it does, she's not telling and everyone else... sort of forgot?

"It's unclear if the other races know and don't want to tell us, or if we managed to keep it a secret from them... because if it's the later, we kept that secret a bit too well because WE don't know how it works even though we found the thing. Though, as I implied, some people think Titty knows what it does but desires to see it never used again. We do keep it on display though. So if someone knows how to use it, they currently aren't. It's on display in the public museum that takes up part of the palace."

"That's what you were scared of Green saying?" asked Kat confused. "That doesn't seem like a particularly embarrassing story,"

Kress grinned and added, "That's because Green neglected to mention that Titania's first action wasn't leaving the testing chambers, it was ripping off her clothes. It's also why so many people didn't complain about the damage, because they were left with sections of walls that the naked image of the fae queen imprinted on them. That's not even getting into the paintings that were spawned because of the day,"

Nixilei glared at Kress' reveal, while Kat frowned, somewhat confused. "Did... did she really walk around naked?"

"Yup," said Green. "Titty's titties were on display for a couple of days. Oh yeah, it was a multi-day event. Not sure if I said that,"

Nixilei groaned again, resting her face in her hands as Kat asked, "Not... not to be rude but... how did she... not... well... not get taken advantage of?"

"Oh, well Titty's titties were very well protected by a potent fast acting poison. It was a petrifying agent... and a laxative. Nobody bothered her after the first failed attempt," said Green.

Kat grimaced, "Maybe I shouldn't have asked,"

[Chapter 1153](#)

Nixilei chapter.

*Well... I suppose it could be worse. Kress and Green were still pretty light on the details of the story... especially things like how Titania 'dealt with' marriage issues via use of extreme amounts of aphrodisiacs. I'd be more embarrassed about that fact if it didn't WORK for literally all of them. I don't want to know what that says about society. Then again... it could just be that Titania only picked couples whose problems COULD be solved that way. Such extreme amounts of good fortune from that 'rampage' do seem to lead to the conclusion that Titania at least somewhat knew what she was doing.

Though I really don't want to think of Green's nickname for the Queen. She's not five anymore! Urgh, how she can get away with calling the Queen 'Titty' to her face is ridiculous. The fact I remembering hearing about that event just makes it worse. At least it hasn't spread. I've only heard Green call her that, so... small mercies I suppose. I guess... in the end things aren't too bad. Kress and Green didn't mention the time Titania burnt down a large section of elven forest for 'looking stupid', or that time she broke into the dwarven ale vault to mix it all together.*

Nixilei's thoughts were interrupted when Thyme reappeared. Shortly after that, the two groups that had left the area, March's and Nell's, returned through the elevator, ready for the next round. Thyme looked at everyone and said, "Technically we have a few minutes before we start up the final round of the day, but everyone is here once again. If there are no complaints, we can start now." Nobody spoke against Thyme's suggestion. "Right then, everyone playing Twister step forward,"

Thyme finished speaking with a wave, and the mat in question expanded out of nowhere, showing off a colourful mat filled with four rows of dots of the colours, Green, Yellow, Blue and Red respectively. The mat looked a little small for five people... but Nixilei supposed that was part of the point. She stepped forward, just after the other contestants, and she looked them over with a considering gaze.

*Blue. Acquaintance of Kat's. Likely chosen because Bonas took the chance at the table tennis round. With that robe of hers, it's unclear if she was chosen because she's the best option, or just because she's the least bad for the event. Likely won't try to cause trouble for me specifically due to familiarity with Kat, but not something to count on. No direct or noticeable sabotage.

Stan. Likely chose this even simply in the hopes that Kress would also be chosen for it. Likely has experience with seduction techniques. Whispering in his ears, or tickling his neck least likely to work here. Additionally, he's likely gay, though possibly bisexual. The chance of it is just lower, based on other comments about Gareth. Kat revealed that his contract has major loopholes... but he might want to show off his skills to Kress. Due to Kress' win before, he may wish for a win under his belt. A worrisome foe for this round.

Cyan fellow fae, and likely weak to the standard anti-fae tactics that can be retooled for tickling instead. If I can get a hand near his back, where his wings should be he can likely be taken down easily. The spot is hard to find, but I have plenty of training on the matter. He likely does not. I don't recognise him from anywhere, but that doesn't mean too much. Not all that many fae are as prominently tied to someone like I am to Green. With Marigold on his team, it's even odds that he's a spy, or just a random friend. Take out quickly if possible.

Marigold. I can already see her licking her lips. Her eyes are alight, and she seems the most genuinely happy to be participating in his event. I suspect she will be the toughest foe to defeat. I have some information on her but not too much. She's a frontline combatant that deals with strikes by regenerating wounds and enjoying pain. Based on the rumours I've heard, Vanya is likely used more for stress relief of a sexual nature than a real bodyguard.

I likely can't use any sensual tactics to try to distract Marigold. She fights in a heightened state of arousal regularly due to her enjoyment of pain. She's certainly going to be flexible, for it is important for both her combat style, and her bedroom pastimes. Her flexibility is likely the product of stretching her body far past its limits and healing the damage, gaining flexibility every time she does so.

The fact that she enjoys the pain means it's likely she performs regular stretching to keep herself limber. Additionally, she is tall enough to reach across the diagonal of the mat if the conditions are correct. She is by far my greatest foe here... but I do not know if I can beat her. It is perhaps something we should have considered when choosing events. Yet, I do not know if anyone else would have better chances. I think you should take a look at

Kat is the only person on our team with the required flexibility, and her tail might be a great advantage depending on how Thyme ruled its use. The issue is that Kat was best suited to dodgeball, and with Kress on table tennis we didn't have anyone else that could compete in it properly. Green lacks strength to prevent catches, Gareth lacks speed and flexibility to dodge and I lack both strength and speed, though less than Gareth or Green.*

Thyme clapped to grab everyone's attention before bowing down and letting another Thyme jump over the first. They were dressed as a clown. Their outfit was polka dots matching the colours of the twister board set against a white background, with a puffy afro that had a stripe of matching colours as well. Their gloves and boots however, each had a single colour to claim their own. The left glove was green,

the right glove was yellow, the left boot was blue and the final colour, red covered Thyme's right boot. It was a very colourful display.

The Thyme that had bowed out sunk into the floor as two wheels were summoned up. The one on the left of Thyme had a picture each limb, with a convenient label around the edge to remove an ambiguity. The wheel on the right was split into five, with four sections dedicated to each colour, while a smaller, fifth section that was only half the size of the others had a splash of all four colours on it.

There was also... one final wheel that rose up after the other two. It was situated behind Thyme and stretched upwards so that it could be easily seen over Thyme's head. With the afro taking into consideration, it was situated at quite a height. It was split into five even pieces with a picture of each contestant on it.

Thyme smiled and said, "Most of the rules are self-explanatory, but just to make it clear. This wheel to my right, your left," Thyme patted the wheel of limbs, "will dictate what limb you're moving this term. The other," Thyme patted the colourful wheel, "will dictate what colour you can place that limb on. If you get lucky enough to hit the rainbow section on the wheel? Then you can pick any spot you want for that limb BUT

"But you must move colours. You cannot lift a limb then put it right back down on the same colours, and especially not on the same square. You'll need to pick somewhere else. This final wheel, behind me?" Thyme jerked their head backwards, "It will only be around for the first turn. It will decide the order you all go in, and then that order will repeat.

"Now. There will be no magic, no attacks, and certainly no taking your limbs off a dot without it being your turn. If there are any questions speak now or be promptly ignored during the match!" Thyme waited for anyone to speak. "I'll admit I was lying about the part where I said I'd ignore you, but I DO want you to speak now with questions if you have them. Much more convenient that way,"

"What do we do with our limbs before they have a dot?" asked Blue.

Thyme gave a shrug, "Basically whatever you want as long as it doesn't interfere with the other rules. Oh... well I suppose no putting limbs on dots before they have been assigned a dot. The mat will be stuck down so it's not going to move as you do, so no funny business with that. Hmm... I suppose I should also add in a rule that you cannot touch the mat with a limb that isn't assigned a dot, else the game could go on forever if someone got exceptionally lucky," said Thyme.

Blue nodded in understanding. *Interesting... perhaps I can make use of this somehow? Taking up as many edge dots as possibly to try and make it awkward for those standing to the side? I will have to think on this for a few moments.*

[Chapter 1154](#)

Nixilei

"Let's get started by seeing who is going first!" said Thyme with a grin, that stretched their clown makeup wide. Thyme's gloved hand stretched backwards and upwards so it could reach the name

spinner, then pulled down hard. The limb seemed to rebound back into Thyme's body as if it was made of elastic for a few seconds before being sucked into his elbow.

Nixilei watched the wheel without much emotion. The order of things would be a fairly minor advantage all told. Those who were going first would have more spots open to them, but those who were going later could more intentionally cause problems for the other competitors. *Without study it's hard to know what's better, but I imagine the difference is minimal in the end.*

Eventually, the wheel stopped spinning, landing on Blue. When it did, the section of the wheel with Blue's face on it fell off, clattering to the ground. "It looks like we have our first contestant... what will she be doing..." Thyme said as they spun the two other wheels. "LEFT HAND RED"

This wasn't hard for Blue, she just moved over to the side red was on then leaned down and let her left-hand rest on the dot. She chose the top corner dot as her first spot. Thyme nodded, and then spun the wheel again, coming up with Cyan this time, his section falling off as Blue's had. The man nodded and stepped forward and Thyme repeated the spin. "Right hand blue," said Thyme.

Cyan complied; it wasn't exactly hard to manage. Cyan thought about it for a little bit, before moving down to the opposite end of the mat to Blue and putting down his right hand on the edge of the mat. Thyme nodded and spun the wheel a third time. Now it was Nixilei's turn. She watched her section fall off the spinner with a grim gaze. *Let's see what they have for me. Going third is... decent I suppose. Not too crowded, not too early. Then again, the fact that it's middle-of-the-road might be an issue in and of itself.*

"Right leg green!" said Thyme. Nixilei frowned at that a bit, and walked over. Ok how do I want to do this. I guess I choose the side that lets me face the mat and have my right leg on it? No but that would mean my left leg is trapped on the outer edge. Ok, other side then, and I'll just have to stand with my legs crossed awkwardly for a time... or stand backwards? I can spin in place... but no, I'm not sure I could manage to reposition well enough without leaving the dot.

In the end Nixilei decided to go with a bit more awkwardness right now. Nixilei moved to the bottom of the mat, and then crossed her right leg over her left to stand just on the corner. Thyme nodded, and spun the wheel, for the fourth time. Marigold. "Marigold... you're up with... right leg ANYWHERE! What a start for Marigold," exclaimed Thyme.

Marigold grinned viciously as she looked over the crowd. Apparently she decided Cyan was the weak link here because she strode up to him and placed her right leg on the second Blue square, one up from Cyan's hand, putting her ass right in his face. Cyan, not exactly happy with this turn of events tried to move, but with his hand 'trapped' in place there wasn't exactly a lot of room... until an idea struck him. Cyan took to kneeling, lowering his head and body without falling over or leaving the dot. It still wasn't ideal, but it worked.

Little did he know Marigold was overjoyed at the move. Cyan had cracked. He hadn't put up with it. He hadn't tried to one up her. No instead, he cracked. He backed down straight away. Marigold smiled like a shark that could smell blood in the water. She was ready and willing to decimate the poor fool. Whenever her next turn came up. Something Nixilei picked up on.

"Well, we already know who's going to be last... so no more spinning of this final wheel," as Thyme said that, Stan's section fell off, no spinning required. The wheel's base then seemed to crack before shattering into woodchips, falling down behind time. Thyme's two stretchy arms reached out, and spun. "Right hand blue! Looks like blue is getting busy here!"

Stan nodded, and moved around to look at everyone. There was the temptation to help Marigold fuck with Cyan... but that might put him in the crossfire. Instead, Stan just moved off to the right side of the map and put his right arm down, picking the third dot from the top. Decently far away from everyone, and technically not in anyone's way.

"Well, you're all on the mat now," said Thyme with a smile. "Part of me wants to break out aw hose or something so who I can get to squirm... but that's only for later, if you guys start taking to long. Promise! Anyway, we know the order now... so Blue let's see what's in store for you! Right leg Blue!"

Blue nodded and shifted slightly so that she could keep her hand touching the red dot, but it wasn't too hard because she'd claimed an edge section. She managed it, and then Thyme spun the wheel again, "This time for Cyan... it's right hand green! Lucky save!" I think you should take a look at

Cyan grinned, and pulled away from Marigold with a smile on his face. Marigold pouted as he strode around the outside and placed his right hand on the green do furthest from Marigold. *My turn again.* "For Nixilei it's... left hand red!" said Thyme.

Damn that's a bit of a tough one. Nixilei pondered how she was going to do this, before deciding to put most of the weight on her arms. She wasn't exactly heavy. Nixilei flipped herself around so that her left foot was above her right, sitting just outside of the mat, then leaned down, walking herself forward with her right hand, and reaching between Marigold's legs so get her left hand down on red. Nixilei chose the last dot in the row so that she could keep herself sideways. It would be a bit tough on her arms and legs, but it would work for now. Lucky Marigold was so tall.

Marigold smiled at the action, and was tempted to lower herself to rest her weight on Nixilei... but everyone was so fresh, and Marigold knew she wasn't that heavy. Against a healer that might no how to reduce muscle fatigue? It wasn't worth the risk just yet. Especially with her turn coming up. "Marigold, Marigold Marigold... holy shit! She's one lucky princess because it's RIGHT LEG ANYWHERE AGAIN!"

Cyan immediately paled, as Marigold did exactly what he expected her to do. She recreated the situation they were just in as best she could. With Cyan on the green, he had a bit more leeway to just get away from her, but Marigold did her best, placing her right foot on the space just below Cyan's and moving around with him as he scooted away the best he could.

While that nonsense was going on, Stan's turn came up. "Right hand green. Damn we've got a lot of movers this round. I might have to come up with a new rule that you can't get the same limb twice in a row... aw well that's for next time!"

Stan decided NOW was the time to fuck with Cyan. Cyan frowned when he saw Stan approaching. Stan picked the third dot, and leaned sideways, blocking off Cyan's escape route as he was now wedged between Marigold and Stan. With Stan looking at the fae and wiggling his eyebrows, while Marigold pressed her backside into the back of Cyan's head. "Can you two not?" hissed Cyan.

"I mean... I feel as though it is my royal duty to keep in close contact with my subjects," retorted Marigold.

"I'm not an elf!" insisted Cyan.

"Yeah, but you are a nice looking guy... wouldn't you rather snuggle up with me then Marigold? Why, I treat all my lovers nicely," said Stan.

Cyan groaned, "SPIN THE FUCKING WHEEL THYME I WANT TO GET OUT OF HERE!"

"I dunno... this does seem amusing... and I didn't make any rules about how long I need to wait between spins," said Thyme.

Cyan just closed his eyes and prayed. To who... he wasn't sure. Apparently it worked though, because Thyme pulled the wheels once again. "Left leg on yellow, Blue. Man... really should've picked a different colour when I found out Blue was participating in this,"

Blue just ignored the commentary and moved herself around. Her right hand was in the air, and both of her legs were on Blue. She was facing the red dots and hoping that she could get a bit more space to stretch out soon. Then again, she was in a decent spot right now. Perhaps she shouldn't tempt fate?

[Chapter 1155](#)

Nixilei chapter. Quick recap:

Blue – Left Leg Yellow, Left Hand Red, Right Leg Blue (Top right corner)

Cyan – Right Hand Green (Stuck between Stan and Marigold in top left corner)

Nixilei – Right leg Green, Left Hand red, (Laying sideways across bottom of mat)

Marigold – Right Leg Green (Top left corner)

Stan – Right Hand Green (Top left corner)

Thyme spun the wheel, ready to see what was going to happen to Cyan. "Left leg red!" said Thyme. Cyan's stomach dropped. Not only was Marigold in the way, with Stan on the other side, but Blue was taking up a good chunk of space on the other side of the mat, directly across from him.

"Fuck it, can I just forfeit?" asked Cyan.

"I'd allow it, but are you asking me or your team?" asked Thyme.

Cyan his head to his group, looking over them all with a glare. "Are you guys going to make me do this?"

"No," answered Romilda and Carl.

"Yes," answered Borgick.

Asteodia, the elf, thought about it for a few seconds before saying, "I feel as though you should appreciate your... close proximity with royalty a bit more. Could you really be happy with yourself if you forfeited right now, and lost this chance to be close to elven royalty?"

Cyan grit his teeth. While he didn't care at all for 'elven royalty' and especially not Marigold at this moment in time... he did have to admit that just giving up left a bad taste in his mouth. "Could you two like... get out of the way?" asked Cyan.

Stand and Marigold shared a glance before answering with a combined, "Nope,"

Cyan looked to Thyme who just shrugged, "They aren't attacking you, and while you might consider it bad sportsmanship, it's definitely within the rules. I'll confirm your forfeit if you want that still?" offered Thyme.

Cyan shook his head, deciding to at least give it a try. Marigold and Stan had made it almost impossible to move... but he still had options. Cyan stretched himself out then started to bounce a bit on one foot... before kicking off the ground and sending his body flying towards the other side of the mat...

Cyan couldn't really see but the angle was good and he was trying his best... but ultimately he was just a bit short. His foot came down, just a few millimetres from Nixilei's face, hitting the mat just shy of the red dot he needed. "Cyan is out!" declared Thyme and Cyan vanished from the map.

Cyan clicked his tongue and asked, "How close was I?"

"Real close," answered Thyme. "If you were just a bit taller you could have made it... but you also might have kicked Nixilei in the face, which would've necessitated you being eliminated anyway. Still, good effort, I'm honestly surprised you even went for it,"

Cyan shrugged and plodded over to his team that gave him their own motions of assurance, Borgick and Carl slapping Cyan hard, while Romilda gave a grateful nod, pleased that he even attempted it. Asteodia patted him on the head. Which was more annoying than anything else... but alongside the rest of the group? He didn't feel quite so bad about losing then and there.

Of course the show must go on, so while that was happening Thyme spun the wheel for Nixilei, "Left hand blue!" I think you should take a look at

Nixilei nodded, testing her weight a little by doing a few push-ups one handed. Then, with a motion that looked practiced, because it partially was, Nixilei pushed herself up, brought her legs in and landed her left hand easily on the blue square. *Nothing to it. An easy ask for me, and with everyone over the other half of the board things are looking quite good for me.*

"Left leg red for Marigold" said Thyme. Marigold nodded, a bit of a stretch but she knew she could do it. Marigold first stood, resting all her weight on one foot over the map, then she dropped downwards, letting her leg extend out as she placed her hands outside of the mat. Marigold was basically doing the splits, her legs just barely reaching across the two sides of the mat. Her shoulder was pushing into Blue a bit, and her hands were providing stability.

A part of Marigold screamed at her to just complete the dam split, to rest her aching muscles... of course, two much larger sections of her mind just egged her on. The part of her that loved training, loved pushing her limits? It was loving this. A good stretch to start of the day. The other part? The part

of her that loved pain. It was practically frothing at the mouth just at the idea of how much pain this would cause in a few moments.

Marigold licked her lips, then noticed just how close Blue's leg was, and started to lick that instead. Blue flinched, but not quite enough to leave any of the dots. "M-Marigold... w-what are you doing?" asked Blue confused and slightly flustered.

"Enjoying myself," answered Marigold.

"Um... can you not? That's... um... vey distracting..." said Blue as Marigold did her best to lick higher and higher up Blue's leg and towards her backside. Sadly for Marigold, if she wanted to keep her arms on the floor, she couldn't get high enough for 'the good stuff'.

"But I'm enjoying myself... and you can't say this is an attack can you?" explained Marigold with great mirth.

Blue looked over at Thyme for confirmation, but already knowing the answer, "It is not an attack... yet. I will be perfectly happy to call it one if Marigold goes anywhere too inappropriate,"

"Are you sure Thyme?" asked Marigold with a husky voice. "I would say the experience would be... rather enjoyable,"

Thyme just glared back, "No. It would be a step too far. Sexually harassing your competition is one thing, especially when this is an important tournament. Using all of your... talents is understandable, but I will not allow it to escalate further. I have some standards, and this isn't an excuse for an orgy,"

Marigold's eyes gleamed as Thyme's words gave her great ideas for the future. Sure this time it wouldn't lead to one... but she could dream. In fact, her dream was so intense, as she imagined half a dozen girls all naked and breathing heavily, attempting to play this game with her in the centre that she stopped licking Blue. Too lost in her own mind. Blue breathed a silent sigh of relief, and gave Thyme a nod.

Thyme gave a 'who me' look, exaggerating it with their clown makeup. Blue just narrowed her eyes. Certain Thyme knew exactly what they'd just done. Regardless though... it was time to SPIN THAT WHEEL. "Stan you're on left hand green," said Thyme.

Stan plonked his left hand down, just above his right, crossing his hands over. "Righto... and then it's... right hand red for Blue... which huh... alright," said Thyme awkwardly. Blue changed positions ever so slightly by moving her right hand from just off the mat, to on the red dot next to her left hand.

"Nixilei! Give us something interesting!" shouted Thyme spinning the wheel once more. The wheels stopped. Thyme stared. The wheels stared back. No really, they grew a set of eyes and glared back at Thyme. "Really? That's what we're going with?" The wheels nodded. "We're going to have complaints about this not being random you know?" The wheels shrugged. "Fine then... left hand red, Nixilei..."

Nixilei, having done this one before, simply repeated the motion she'd used last time to move her hand back to where it was. *Welp. That was easy. I wonder if it truly is random? Well it would have to be for the sake of fairness... but yeah I'm doing much better than the others now. Marigold is lucky she's so flexible and poor Blue is completely on the mat now. At least she has an easy position to maintain.*

"Come on Marigold, give us something interesting!" said Thyme as the wheels spun.

"Hey I was trying to keep it interesting before, but no, apparently I'm only allowed to lick people in safe for work places," retorted Marigold.

Thyme didn't respond, just stating, "Right hand Green!"

Marigold winced. This one was going to be a tad difficult. Luckily, Stan had been lazy and picked crossing his arms over instead of going for the corner. Marigold knew she needed to be careful though. She carefully 'walked' her hands over to the side. The muscles in her legs burning deliciously as she leaned over to the green dot in the top left corner, eventually making it.

If you were listening to Marigold's breathing, you might think it was requiring a lot of effort... but the sound of heavy breathing was for... other reasons right now. Only technically pain related.

Oooh... that might actually take Marigold out of this race. If she gets left hand red there's almost no way to recover from that. Perhaps she should've leant backwards and tried to hit one of the other green dots? Spread herself out a bit? Then again... that might've been too much of a risk for her. She's just barely keeping herself off the floor. It might have been too risky to flip backwards, risking her feet sliding a bit and hitting the ground. Guess we'll see if she gets lucky or not...

[Chapter 1156 Marigold Any-Where She Wants](#)

Nixilei Chapter.

Recap:

Blue – Left Leg Yellow, Left Hand Red, Right Leg Blue, Right Hand Red (Top right corner)

Nixilei – Right leg Green, Left Hand blue (Laying sideways across bottom of mat)

Marigold – Right Leg Green Left Leg Red, Right Hand Green (Showing off her flexibility at the top of the mat)

Stan – Right Hand Green, Left Hand Green (Top left corner) [Stan's Turn]

"Stan the man, let's see where your hands land..." said Thyme spinning the wheel, "Huh, seems your hands aren't going anywhere, but instead your legs. Just barely spun on left leg red... but then it would've just been right leg red, so... meh," Thyme finishes with a shrug.

He was right too. Nixilei couldn't see it well from her position on the mat but the stick that noted where on the wheel was selected happened to be just a single pin off right leg. As Thyme said though, it didn't really matter as they both produced about the same result.

"Dammit man, what's with this green to red shit," grumbled Stan.

"Hey at least you don't have to get down low like me," said Marigold, "You can just throw a bridge or something. My legs are pretty long, but you've got your whole torso AND your arms to help you along,"

"Yeah, yeah. I get it. I've got balls so if I tried that nonsense you're doing I'd be touching the ground. Technically. Wait, Thyme would that count me as out?" asked Stan suddenly curious.

Thyme let out a tired sigh, the clown makeup morphing into a frown. "I don't like that this is being brought out, but yes, technically speaking that would mean you were touching that mat, and thus eliminated. I pray that it doesn't come up. Ever."

With that statement made, Stan got to work figuring out how he was going to do this. In the end, he decided to go about it by first performing a handstand, then crossing his right leg over his left to hold it in place, then dropping down over to the red side. It wasn't too difficult to just fall into place. Stan's arms were strong enough that it wasn't an issue, and being a leg down was no trouble for the demon even if he was no Kat.

"Right, now let's hope things aren't too confusing for Blue's turn!" said Thyme as they once again spun the wheel. "Right leg red. Apparently Red is a popular colour these days,"

Ooh, that's a rough one. Nixilei winced internally. It was true. While technically speaking, moving Blue's leg from blue to red wasn't too bad, other things made it awkward. With Blue's right hand on red, followed by Marigold and Stan taking up their own spaces, the closest free space for her foot was actually four from the top. "Can I have my arm and leg on the same spot?" asked Blue.

"Nope," said Thyme shooting down that faint hope quickly. Blue just groaned and then started trying to work out exactly how she was going to do this. She'd already been leaning pretty heavily forward. Now she had to reach over Marigold and Stan to get her foot in place. Then a horrible realisation flashed through Blue's mind.

To get everything in place... Blue realised that she'd be more or less resting her ass on Marigold's face. "Marigold... could you... perhaps... move a bit?" asked Blue.

"Nope," said Marigold. "I'm very comfy as is," Marigold bounced a little bit, enjoying the burn in her tendons as they creaked under the strain of the bob. The slight slippage of her feet on the dots was a small price to pay. I think you should take a look at

"Well fine then," snapped Blue. Deciding to take a bit of revenge. She lifted her right leg and then shifted herself so that she was using Marigold's face as a chair to get her foot down on the red dot. "How do you like that Marigold?"

Marigold frowned into Blue's ass. She wanted to comment but her mouth would be opening... right there. And Thyme had been clear not to take things too far... but Blue had just sat here, of her own free will... and then ASKED A QUESTION. Marigold cursed her desire to win even as the extra weight from Blue increased the burning in her legs. She desperately wanted to answer the question for many reasons.

"Looks like Marigold's mouth is shut for the moment. Gee, I wonder why," mused Thyme allowed as they spun the wheel. "Looks like it's going to be right hand blue for Nixilei! Don't get that mixed up with Blue the other competitor, she's got enough contact with Marigold for the moment,"

Marigold and Blue had the intense desire to glare at Thyme but only one of them could do so. Nixilei meanwhile kept herself positioned sideways and simply lowered her hand down to the dot, choosing the

second from the bottom next to her other hand. Part of her wanted to move positions to 'lay flat' but extra movement was an unneeded risk for now.

"Yup, really crowding up around Blue there... so Marigold do you get away? It seems the answer is no because it's left hand yellow," said Thyme as the wheel spun once again.

Marigold smiled, rubbing her nose from side to side a bit but Blue clamped down on her instinctive response. This was an easy move and Marigold just moved her free hand over to yellow. Part of her wanted to place that hand on one of the dots closer to the centre, but Marigold decided that would be riskier than picking the one next to Blue's left leg. Marigold did of course make sure to caress Blue's calf along the way, but that was a given, along with Marigold's refusal to move her face. For... reasons. Reasonable reasons. *noVeiNext.com*

"Stan, are you going to join those two? Or will you be sent far away? Honestly who even knows at this point... it's... huh..." Thyme looked at the wheel with a glare. It said 'left hand green' and Thyme wasn't exactly happy about it. "Hmm... part of me wants to say you need to choose another dot... but as soon as you raise your hand technically it will be empty... so you know what? Do that! Or move if you want, but you do need to lift your hand up!" insisted Thyme.

Stan just shrugged, lifted the hand then placed it back down. Easy move. No fuss. "Well that was boring," said Thyme. "Blue gimme something interesting! YEAH THAT'S IT! RIGHT LEG GREEN"

"Oh fuck me," whispered Blue.

"Sure!" answered Marigold into Blue's ass.

"Not like that!" hissed Blue back as she tried to figure out how she was going to do this. Wait, no the answer was easy. Just abuse the fact she was using Marigold as a chair. With that knew knowledge in mind, Blue rested her entire weight on Marigold, who let out a moan Blue tried to ignore, and pulled her leg up from red and moved it all the way over passed her left on yellow and into the freed up corner space that Cyan had abandoned before.

"Playing rough are you?" asked Marigold, face still where it was before, now pressed up against Blue's boobs. Sure Marigold might not have moved but Blue sure did. Marigold was loving it. Thyme, deciding that yeah Blue didn't have a right to complain, let it go. If Marigold pushed maybe they'd do something... but yeah this was completely Blue's fault.

Blue shivered at the question. Trying her best not to react to the hot breath of Marigold. "P-perfectly f-fine and you c-can't say I'm taking advantage of you w-when you enjoy it," said Blue nervously.

"That was... significantly more boring then I thought it was. Marigold why did you just let her get away with that! You could've moved your head at any time!" said Thyme. Marigold blushed, realising that she wasn't thinking about the game so much as she was enjoying having a hot woman's ass pressed against her face. "Whatever, right arm red Nix. Just get it done. You've done it before, you can do it again, easily,"

Technically it's slightly harder now that I have an extra arm down... but yeah it's no issue, in fact it's easier with the other arm down. Nixlei did as asked. No troubles, and Thyme spun the wheel for Marigold. "Entertainment. Entertainment. Enter. Tainment," chanted Thyme.

pandasnovel.com "Oh come on!" said Thyme throwing their hands up in the air. "Why is it only Marigold that gets these! Fine whatever, Right leg anywhere you want Marigold,"

Marigold smiled, she wanted to get in a slightly less precarious position. Moving it to blue would be best in her mind... though... she was flexible enough for a joke first. Marigold flexed her legs and managed to place her foot on Blue's back. Barely. "There we go, Right leg Blue!" said Marigold with a smile.

"Nope, do it properly," said Thyme. Marigold was unsurprised, and moved her foot to blue dots without issue, picking the one second from the top without complaining. It was a silly joke, and a great excuse, but just that. A joke, and she knew it.

[Chapter 1157 Does This Count As Marigold's Luck?](#)

Nixilei recap:

Blue – Left Leg Yellow, Left Hand Red, Right Leg Green, Right Hand Red (Top right corner)

Nixilei – Right leg Green, Left Hand blue, Right hand Red (Laying sideways across bottom of mat)

Marigold – Right Leg Green Left Leg Red, Right Hand Green, Left Hand Yellow (At the top)

Stan – Right Hand Green, Left Hand Green, Left Leg Red (Lying down in the middle really) [Stan's turn again]

"So Stan... what have we got... it's... oh dammit really?" said Thyme. "Right leg anywhere. Just... do whatever you want. After the dry spell with the 'any' selection it's coming back with a vengeance. At least it's a new limb,"

Thyme might be pleased by the introduction of a new limb, but despite the slight issues it was currently causing, Stan wasn't all that pleased with the change if he was being completely honest. Part of him wanted to use up that last red space, taking it over for himself so that it would be causing problems...

But Thyme had never made a rule specifying what would happen if all the spaces of a given colour were occupied. It would also make it impossible to recover should he next roll a leg to green. So with that in mind, he decided to take one of the free blue dots, the one third from the bottom of the mat to be precise.

"Left leg red Blue," said Thyme after the wheel decreed it so.

"Dammit, that means I'm out doesn't it?" grumbled Blue. With one hand taking up the top red slot, Marigold taking up the next, then stan and Nixilei both occupying space as well, the only free dot on the red side was the one second from the bottom of the mat. Blue knew that she simply wasn't tall enough to keep one leg on green and one on red with the extra distance involved. "Thyme... can I ask... am I even tall enough for this?"

Thyme, curious as to the answer, used a quick spatial magic spell to check the answer. "No, you're not. Your legs are too short by a decent amount. If you include both Marigold and Stan's bodies and the extra distance that creates you are over twenty centimetres too short,"

"Right so... get me out of here then," grumbled Blue as she vanished. Blue sighed as Nell pulled her into a hug.

"Hey, it's fine Blue. You just got unlucky. I'm impressed you hung in there. Quite a few of your spins were really difficult to deal with, so the fact you managed to stick in there means a lot to us. Besides, this wasn't you failing, just you getting unlucky. Thyme even said as much. It was impossible for you to do better" explained Nell, as the rest of the team came in for a group hug.

Rather sweet, even if it's a sad way to get knocked out. I also wasn't expecting Blue to make such liberal use of Marigold's body to stick in and make it this far. Her determination is quite impressive. She would've made an excellent spy. Now I suppose I should focus on what Thyme has in store for me...

"It's a shame to see her go... but honestly with a name like Blue? It would've got confusing at one point or another so this might be for the best," said Thyme with fake tears streaming from their eyes. Nell glared at Thyme for the comment, but the dryad didn't react. "Left leg Green for Nixilei it seems!"

Nixilei frowned at the request. *Not hard for me. The dot just above the one I'm using is free... but it does put me in an awkward position. Way too many people have been taken out of the game this way. I swear on the faery queen if I roll left or right leg red after this I will RIOT.* Despite her budding anger, Nixilei completed the move without issue.

"Right hand yellow Marigold," said Thyme. No extra commentary. Just a statement of fact. It was an easy move for Marigold. She just walked the hand a bit and took up the top yellow spot now that Blue wasn't using it.

"Just do it, I know you want to," said Thyme when the next spin came up right leg Blue. Stan was looking at the mat though... so he didn't want to do it. He couldn't see. It took a few awkward seconds for Thyme to realise that. "Woops, sorry. No eyes in the back of your head. Stan, it's right leg blue but..." Stan nodded, lifting and lowering his leg with no issue.

"Right, we're already back to Nixilei. Maybe I should double time these spins, or give people countdowns. Anyway, Nixilei you've got... right hand green!" said Thyme. *Dammit that means I'm out doesn't it? I can't reach up to the upper green squares and Stan has taken the middle ones. Dammit. Not sure there's anything I could've done to prevent this.*

"Same issue as Blue?" asked Nixilei. I think you should take a look at pandasnovel.com

"Yup, your arms are a way too short. Don't even need a spell to see that," said Thyme as they teleported Nixilei away. "With Nixilei gone I'm going to slice off the bottom of the mat! Might cut more off later, but for now just the bottom row!"

Not sure how long this game will go on now. Blue and I both got unlucky. I'm not sure there was much we could do. I mean, how did things even end up this way? Basically everyone has been split across the entire map and it kept getting too much.

"There there," said Kress condescendingly as he patted Nixilei's hair. Nixilei batted the offending appendage away.

"I'm perfectly fine Kress. It's just how this is sometimes. I suppose I'm a little disappointed in not gaining any points for the team, but I'll live with the disappointment," returned Nixilei dryly.

bandasnovel.com Kress just kept trying to pat Nixilei on the head while she dodged or batted the arm away. Eventually, Nixilei just picked up Gareth and put him in the way, and Kress was too lazy to move around the armoured target.

"Rapid fire then, let's go. Right leg red," said Thyme. Marigold swung her leg around, using the fact she had too hands on yellow to keep herself stabilised as she swung her leg behind her. Then she just had to shift her torso down a bit and place her leg on the upper right corner of red. Nobody was using it now Blue was gone, so it was free game.

"Right leg green," shot Thyme.

"Ah shit," grumbled Stan. *Dammit! I was so CLOSE.* Stan made a decent effort. He first pushed himself, stretching to the limit to get a bit of space below himself. Then he pulled his right leg into his chest, before flinging it out towards green. He had to go upwards to deal with the space issues... but as he tried to get his heel in place he found he just wasn't quite tall enough.

He pressed forward, inching closer to the ground as he stretch forward... then that ridiculous question from earlier came into play. Right as his foot managed to hit the green dot, he felt something cold down below. Thyme burst out into laughter. "I can't believe it! Oh Stan what a question. Hahahahaha, I was getting a bit miffed there at the end, because we got a whole bunch of people that were forced to retire just by lucky but... hahahaha... oh this makes up for it all!"

Stan grumbled as he was teleported away, and to a standing position. Marigold was teleported shortly afterwards, but she dropped straight to the ground, her breathing heavy as her body finally relaxed and she stopped burning mana to keep herself functional. Not too much... but the constant drain and the burning had been doing something, and while enjoyable, did mean Marigold was somewhat tired now.

"So... how exactly did you lose?" asked Willow. "I'm confused..." Everyone in the room starred at Stan, waiting to see if he'd say it. Willow paled, and looked around at everyone whose focus had suddenly shifted. Not just in her own team... but everyone else? Willow was even more confused, and didn't know what to make of things. She had zoned out a bit earlier... was she missing something important?

Stan glared at everyone all around him, until his eyes settled on Willow. She collapsed further under Stan's intense gaze, feeling suddenly horrible for asking. Which of course caused Stan to crack immediately. "Fine... fine... you want to know?" asked Stan.

NOVeLnext.cOm

"Um... no it's fine?" offered Willow, really not wanting to cause trouble, especially seeing as she somehow managed to cause a whole bunch of it already, without meaning to.

Stan let out a sigh, "It's because my balls are too big," whispered Stan.

"What?" asked Willow confused. She hadn't heard the whispered answer.

"You making fun of me now?" asked Stan a touch annoyed, not realising that his idea of a whisper was barely anything because he'd grown up around demons. Willow genuinely didn't hear.

"Um... no... er... why would you?" Willow tried to say but just panicked.

Stan sighed again, realising that he was technically in the wrong. "Fine..." said Stan, at a normal volume, "I guess I'll tell you," Stan continued, raising the volume further. "I lost because MY BALLS ARE TOO BIG," Of course. Everyone except Willow burst out laughing.

[Chapter 1158 Team Names](#)

Kat: Main Protagonist Extraordinaire

Thyme clapped to get everyone focused on them, before sinking into the floor alongside the spinning wheels. A stage dropped from the ceiling with a Thyme in a tutu who said, "Sorry about that, I feel like I blanked out for about the time it would take to play a game of twister. Odd that. Now onto the current scores! Oh, and I get to reveal all of your team names! We've got, teams DK, and DS, as well as Team D, and then Team E and Team B. Which obviously makes perfect sense to everyone here,"

Ok... what? How the heck are these teams named?

[Pretty sure I know.]

Really?

[Right well, firstly, there's only one team with 'k' names in it, and that happens to be our team, and because I'm biased I'd guess our team is 'Team D-Kat'. Then, following that my guess for a similar reason, leads me to guess that team DS is 'Team D-Stan' so really both are 'Team Demon Person' which leads me to guess that Romilda's team is 'Team Dwarf' Marigold's team is 'Team Elf' and that makes Nell's team 'Team Beastkin' or something like that.]

That's just crazy enough to be an acceptable answer I think. Thyme waited for a few moments to see if anyone would speak up, but seeing mostly confusion continued. "Right so, clearly that's not enough of a hint. I'll add this in then currently the scores for all the teams can be seen behind you,"

Kat looked up and saw in first place 'Team DK' with 4 points. In second place, 'Team E' with 3 points. In third there was 'Team DS' with 2 points, with teams B&D both sharing fourth at 0 points. "Does this give you all a good enough clue as to who is who?"

I mean... yes but I sort of hate the fact that you were right. Why are we team Demon Kat? I mean... why not have one of us be Team human and the other Team fae? And really, why is Romilda's team 'Team D' when they only have two dwarves. Don't answer that, I sort of get it... still weird..

[You know what? I actually think it might all be for a sillier reason. Now that I'm looking at this... I'm wondering if it's so that Thyme can have as many teams with 'Team DX' as possible. It seems like the sort of silly thing they might do.]

Hmm... maybe. We can ask Mint later to see what she'll say.

[Oooh good idea.]

"Welp, that's the only hints you're getting till tomorrow. If you can't figure it out from this much I'm a bit worried about how you all managed to make it this far," Thyme shook their head with an overexaggerated sigh. "Moving on, I've got a few bits of news for you all. Dinner will be served in an hour, running for three hours with food being offered for the first two, and additional fancy drinks and snacks offered for the last hour. If you want a drink outside of that time, you can always get water, and sometimes something fancier but no promises.

"If you want me to stock up on something specific let me know when the cafeteria opens for dinner and I'll set aside a freezer full of whatever you request. Just know you'll need to return it at some point if you want refills, and I'll only be giving a maximum of one to each person. If you share, that's fine but the freezer I hand you is YOUR responsibility, not anyone else's.

*novel*Ext.cOm

"Um... hmm... what else... there's no curfew you can all stay up as late as you want but breakfast starts at six in the morning and runs until eight. We'll be having the next contest at ten and I expect everyone to meet me out on the docks for that where I'll show you to the next series of minigames. The first game will be Beach Volleyball. Each round, four contestants will be split into two teams with one having a bi.

"Your goal will be to win the most matches; matches are first to three and both you and your partner get a 'win' for the match if you make it. I'm not so silly as to only give a point to the person who took the team over the line. You'll play one match with each partner to give everyone plenty of chances to win points. Same rules as before, first place gets two for their team, and second place gets one at the end.

"After that will be the Log Splitting Contest. I don't really need firewood because I can generate it en masse or find plenty with just a touch of effort but I won't always be running this place, and I want to encourage more people to take up the sport. You'll be given thirty minutes to chop as many logs as you can into four, roughly even pieces. If the logs aren't split evenly, you don't get a point, you get a point for every four blocks, and if you just leave them in twos you won't get anything.

"The final contest... will be a secret. You'll have to sign up for it before you find out what it is. Just know that it will start at two in the afternoon and go until six. The full rules will be explained at two, and you'll get a bit of time to plan things before the challenge will officially start... but good luck deciding who to do it," said Thyme with a smile, melting away into the floor. I think you should take a look at pandasnovel.com

Only to pop back a moment later, "All questions will be addressed at breakfast. You can give them to me early, but I won't answer them till tomorrow morning. Rest well!" Thyme said before once again sinking back into the floorboards.

pandasnovel.com "I'll do it," said Kress.

"What?" asked Nixilei confused.

"Just trust me. I don't know what it is... but I have a really good feeling about this," said Kress firmly. "I'll take the secret challenge,"

"So will I then!" confirmed Stan from his group. Everyone else in it just shrugged.

"I guess I'm on log splitting then," said Kat with a shrug, ignoring Stan's comment entirely, not surprised at all by it. "I'll take the round afterwards off,"

"Ooh, in that case I want Gareth to do the volleyball match," said Green.

"Are you sure?" asked Nixilei with a raised eyebrow. "From what I know of the sport it's popular in some coastal areas and is more suited to your body type. Spin is the name of the game,"

Green nodded, hands clasped together as she said, "Yes... yes I understand that... but counterpoint," Green stopped to point at Nixilei, "This way I get to see shirtless Gareth, and I kinda want that,"

"You see him shirtless all the time!" shot back Nixilei.

Green shook her head, "No, no this is completely different. Shirtless Gareth doing sports is completely different to shirtless Gareth in the bedroom, or coming out of the shower. They have completely different appeals,"

Kat was about to question the logic of such a statement when she caught Lily nodding in the corner of her eye. The look on Lily's face clearly said that it made perfect sense for these things to be different. Kat raised an eyebrow at that. "Well Kat, it's like seeing my in lingerie or a swimsuit," said Lily.

"I don't get it, it's the same thing," said Kat, knowing that it probably wasn't for most people.

Lily just sighed, "Sorry Kat, I think this is just one of those things you'll never be able to understand. It just... it's just different ok? Though... I kinda want to see you in a swimsuit as well... hmm... but then I'd have to share. Decisions..."

"I don't have spare clothes though, only you do, and I don't think you brought a swimsuit..." said Kat.

"Ah, but before you caught back up to Mint, I asked a few questions and one of them was if we'd have clothes provided and the answer is YES we do have extra clothes. With resizing on them as well, so it should all fit," explained Lily.

Nixilei was just shaking her head. Clearly the planning for this next round had gotten away from her. Kress was insisting on the mystery event, Green was being distracted by thoughts of a shirtless sweaty Gareth and Lily had taken Kat's attention away just by talking. "Welp, guess there goes this planning session," grumbled Nixilei.

She wasn't truly annoyed. Green's reaction wasn't a surprise, and neither was Kat's. They had time to plan, plenty of it... but it was still a bit strange. Kress' nomination was particularly surprising, but Nixilei decided to just let it be. Either Kress would be right, and they'd get a point or two for his bold guess, or he'd lose and she could make fun of him for months. Win-win really.

[Chapter 1159 Elven Hero](#)

As the team exited the hidden elevator, Kat saw that the other groups had scattered. If Burnice or Blue had been visible, Kat and Lily would've gone to chat with them. For Burnice, a chat to ensure there were

no hard feelings, and for Blue it would've been a discussion about what happened during her mountain climb... alas they were missing.

pandasnovel·com Stan was laid out seductively on one of the couches in the lounge, making eyes at Kress, while Romilda and Borgick who were also using the room ignored him. The dwarven pair seemed to be debating the merits of tacking Borgick's cannon to the secret challenge, as they were assuming there would be no time to grab it if it was necessary.

Borgick seemed to be arguing against bringing it, while Romilda was arguing for its deployment. Though as her team spread out and Kat heard more of the conversation it became clear why. Romilda was arguing that anyone could hold it if Borgick didn't need it, but his counter argument was that the sand from the beach would get everywhere.

Romilda said it was a minor concern, Borgick refused to clean it, Romilda offered to do so, which Borgick shut down with vague mentions of 'last time' that Kat almost wanted to ask about. Alas, she didn't want to get involved with whatever Stan was doing, especially not as Kress seemed to have decided to speak with the incubus.

Over in the cafeteria Vanya and Marigold were arguing, with Vanya gesticulating wildly, and Marigold gazing back calmly. It was unclear what they were talking about, as while they were quite clearly discussing, intensely on Vanya's part, Kat could hear nothing at all from their table. Not their words, not the movement of air from Vanya's arms, not their beating hearts.

Knowing that Marigold was real royalty, Kat felt it safe to assume that Marigold had access to something that muted sound in a small area for moderately private conversations. Of course, why neither of them returned to their rooms was the real question, yet one Kat still had no answer to. *Why do you think they're just chatting out in the open when clearly there is at least some need for secrecy?*

[I wouldn't be surprised if it's just a reflex for Vanya. Maybe it's part of her job? Like, Nixilei is part bodyguard but spy part... etiquette teacher? That last one I'm a bit unsure of... but I'm sure if Green was about to do something really stupid Nixilei would stop her, not just for their friendship but also because I'm pretty sure it's her job. So... maybe it's Vanya's?]

Kat looked over the scene with Lily's insight and felt there was at least some truth to it. *Yeah... I can see it. Not sure how much authority Vanya actually has to tell Marigold off... because if she's part of the monarchy Marigold can just sort of do things right? Royal privilege?*

[Ehh... without knowing exactly how their society functions and just based on Earth? Yes and no. There are some things she can do that normal people or 'commoners and lesser nobility' but there are also things Marigold probably can't do because she's royalty all the same. It might not seem that way, but she likely won't chose her husband... or well... huh...]

[Maybe she can? Auctifer has a number of wives... and at least a few husbands as well. Or well Queens? Hang on, are the male lovers still called Queens? How does that work? Nevermind not the point. My point was, she might be forced into political marriage, but it's looking likely that's not the case...]

[So another example then. She's expected to act with decorum in public. Behind closed doors it's not an issue, and even at semi-private functions like parties she'd have more leeway... but when acting in public

in her official role as princess Marigold she'd like get in quite a deal of trouble for not acting 'nobly' or at least pretending to.]

So she's might need to... what... make sure she has good PR?

[YES! Actually that's the perfect analogy! Marigold isn't just Marigold, she's PRINCESS Marigold, and the 'royal brand' has certain standards it needs to uphold. There are benefits and expectations, but she's essentially an employee that's been forcibly hired but still needs to live up to company standards.]

[Which, admittedly might not be too bad with Auctifer in charge. He seems to have very much decided that he can just get away with shit, likely because he's old, powerful, of royal lineage and can have a lot of kids. Though that last one is more a guess... but just based on how they talk about elves? I'm guessing the fact he can have quite a few kids is considered a massive benefit to running the country. Probably one of the big reasons nobody cares how many people he sleeps with.]

[He goes from something of a... well I don't have any better way to describe it then 'manwhore' which I sort of dislike needing to use, but the word has the right connotations for this and gets the point across easily. Anyway, I don't want to complain, so my point. Instead of being a 'manwhore' he's instead 'performing an important public service' which is really weird to think about in that way. Perhaps 'Public Hero' would be better instead?]

[Wait that's it! He's an 'Elven Ideal' the idea that he can have a large family with lots of children. It's something that Elves likely strive for the same way most humans strive for money and power. Elves live for a long time so they can likely get both of those things casually just as a function over time. They don't care as much if it takes centuries to become strong because they have the time. What they don't have is large families. Normally anyway.]

[Auctifer is even better then that though... because ideally all of his kids will get whatever it is that allows him to have so many of his own, eventually exponentially increasing the number of elves in the world. It's probably why Nixilei didn't mention anyone challenging him despite not talking of his strength all that much. Elves, as a species, probably feel like he NEEDS to stay king.] I think you should take a look at pandasnovel.com

That's a really weird thing to think about Lily. *NOVELnext.CoM*

[Sorry... I didn't mean to make it weird.]

No I didn't mean it like that. There's nothing wrong with considering it, I mean it's weird to realise that Auctifer is likely incredibly popular for sleeping around. Something that a human politician couldn't really get away with. Not on a large scale anyway.

[Ah. Yes of course. Sorry for making the wrong assumption]

With that settled, Kat and Lily wandered over to Mint, only the girl... woman? The tree in question was much more tree-like then normal. She wasn't moving at all and if Kat didn't know better, she'd assume it was just a statue of a receptionist instead of a real one. "Uh... Mint?" asked Kat carefully to no response.

Lily frowned at that and leaned forward, pushing somewhat on Mint's 'body' to no avail. The wooden figure didn't even move with the push. Evidently it was stuck to the ground. Lily frowned again and knocked as if she was knocking on the front door of a house. To Kat's shock this seemed to work.

A ripple went across Mint's 'body' as if she was shaking off a layer of dust. The whole figure seemed to vibrate slightly as life came back to it. All the little details that made it seem alive starting back up once again. "Oh, hello Lily, hello Kat. Did you need something?" asked Mint.

"Oh, um... no but we were just going to chat and wondered if you wanted to join us?" offered Lily.

"Sure," said Mint with a smile, and the three headed upstairs. When they entered Kat's room, Mint spoke again, "Did you have any questions in particular?"

Lily shrugged, "Not really... but now that you've offered... what's up with the team names this round?"

Mint let out a small laugh, "It's a minor joke on Thyme's part, and they have a bet going with me in regards to how long it will take someone to ask him what the meaning behind all the names are... hmm... I wonder if that means I've lost? Thyme bet less then two days, and I said more. You asked me though... not Thyme... hmm..."

"So it's just a joke?" asked Lily.

Mint nodded, "Indeed. Thyme actually had appropriate names all thought up... or so I was told anyway. In the end, he decided that giving everyone simpler names fit better with the 'keeping it casual' idea he was going for in regards to this round of the tournament. I'm not sure if it was the right idea, but they seemed proud of it... then again, considering the mastery Thyme has over both their body and mind they can likely give that impression about anything.

"I suspect if Thyme wished, they could state the sky was pink with what looked like complete honesty and then argue for their point of view without anyone finding it strange. Considering Thyme developed a lot of the techniques I use to seem more 'normal' to the other races, it really shouldn't be a surprise,"

"So Thyme came up with it all?" asked Lily.

Mint winced at the question, "Well... no probably not. Or perhaps they did? It's... a bad assumption me and my classmates got into. Simply assuming Thyme invented something they handed out to our glades. They seem so wise and it's been confirmed they did invent a bunch of stuff... but it's a bad assumption, on Thyme would get mad at me for propagating."

[Chapter 1160 Growing Mint](#)

After Mint's apology, she went on to ask about Kat and Lily's respective childhoods. It was no issue for either of them to share. Mint had a few questions, mostly about technology that came up and had no direct magical equivalent, but she'd studied the other races quite a lot and didn't need to ask too many questions. When they finally finished the story, ending with how they got together (even if they skipped over Kat becoming a demon) Mint clapped her hands together happily and said, "Aww, you guys are so cute together. I'm glad you've found each other. I hope I find someone like that in the future,"

Lily felt the need to ask, "Do you... do you feel romantic or sexual attraction? I mean, not to be rude, I mean... it's just... well... I don't exactly know how dryads SEE that sort of thing you know? Considering the whole... lack of body issue,"

Mint nodded understandingly, "I don't think you're being rude Lily, it's a very valid question," said Mint calmly. "As far as I know... most dryads don't experience it the same way most sentients do... but I think I might be fairly close? I mean... for dryads it's meant to be all mental. You find your partner, and you move your grove there... and that's that..."

"But well... just based on Thyme's lessons I do tend to find things attractive. I... I haven't really admitted that to anyone... but I feel like I can trust you with this, especially after you just told me your life stories'. But... um... yeah I have the same sort of... I suppose the closest equivalent is 'blush'. I can 'blush' when looking at all sorts of races, or even some of Thyme's forms.

"Though... I'm sure you can guess by my own chosen form that I tend to prefer women, or maybe just feminine looking people? I don't find March attractive AT ALL. In fact, I probably find her less appealing than Gareth and Kress, your two teammates. Not that I find them particularly appealing either but... you know?"

Kat just shrugged and said, "I've already mentioned I just don't feel sexual attractions so I really can't relate..."

Then Lily picked up where Kat left off, "... and I do find March at least somewhat attractive. I don't know why it is exactly... but just knowing that she's a woman automatically makes her a whole bunch more attractive to me. I... I also think it might be a smell thing as well now? To me March still smells like a woman even if she's got muscles on her muscles, and I find that faint scent marker to be attractive all by itself,"

"Huh... so am I weird then?" asked Mint.

Kat let out a giggle, "I can't really say Mint. Though considering I'm a Succubus without sexual attraction I'm probably weirder than you are,"

"Huh, I guess so," said Mint with a smile.

"Honestly Mint, as someone who was a human beforehand, I can say that most of us don't know why we like what we like. Everyone is at least a little weird when it comes to sex. I'm sure even most dryads that say they don't find things sexually arousing probably just don't find more socially acceptable things arousing. And consider this, you never wanted to admit to it did you? So why would it be different with the others?"

"Huh... yeah I guess so," said Mint thoughtfully. "I'm still not sure I'd be comfortable answering truthfully if someone other than you two asked, but I suppose I can try. I wonder why it's so easy to chat with you two though,"

Lily shrugged, but Kat had a few guesses. "It could be because we're knew. We don't know you from childhood, we know you as you are right now. We have no notions of who we might think you 'should' be, instead we can much more easily see you as you are, because we don't know anything different.

"Another guess could be that if you really need to, cutting off contact with Lily and I is really easy. Just don't respond to messages after we've left, simple. Imagine if one of the dryads you grew up with told other people... like your parents or other friends, that could be awful... but we can't do that. The only one we can tell is Thyme and you clearly trust them enough not to spread things around... even if that would be an uncomfortable topic to talk about with your teacher," I think you should take a look at pandasnovel.com

Mint nodded, "Yeah... that makes a lot of sense. Thanks Kat," said Mint with a smile at the end. *novel* **Ext.cOm**

"Mhm, I've seen it a few times when kids come to the orphanage just for a few weeks while their aunts or uncles from overseas get to the country to pick them up. They feel free to talk about a lot more of their feelings than the ones that know there's a chance they'll stick around. Enough of that though, what can you tell us about your childhood Mint?" said Kat.

Mint nodded, "Right well... for dryads the... 'infant' stage I suppose you could say? We start as just trees. Then there is this... weird in between state. We aren't conscious, in fact we aren't really anything... but once we ARE conscious we can vaguely remember things that happened to us in the past. I'm not sure you can understand properly...

"Because when a dryad materialises... it's sort of like everything that we were before that point crystallises into a proper being? We tend to come alive already knowing at least one language, and how to we aren't really babies when we awake. We're... I suppose the closest comparison is an odd mix between teenager and toddler.

"We can barely walk if we form a body we just float everywhere... but we can be painfully naive. Despite knowing how to talk and looking fairly mature most of the time... we don't really 'know' things. Um... we have knowledge but not wisdom? I suppose? And... and it's not like we have too much knowledge. It tends to depend on what we've picked up in that not-quite-alive state.

"For myself, I was 'born' for lack of a better word, at the same time as a number of other dryads. That can happen sometimes, and it's more common in large groves but it doesn't always. I guess technically more dryads are born in groups... but only because there are multiple people in the groups? If that makes sense. Like... you might have five or so loners for every group, but a group could have ten or more people in it.

"Anyway, my group was on the smaller side, just four of us. There was, me, Mint, and the other three were Pear, Grape, and Thyme. Not that 'Thyme' of course but well... their parents had high hopes for them I guess? Um... we didn't stay particularly good friends for long. Which... I don't really know why?

"It all just seemed to fall apart around me. Even though I'm much older now, I still don't understand why. Thyme, the younger one obviously, went out to explore by themselves and never returned. Their tree is still alive... but they've never answered back. So we don't know if they're hiding in their tree in shame, they have a body moving around somewhere but haven't come back or... what happened really.

"Um... Pear and Grape had a big fight... but I don't know about what. I was sleeping when it happened and when I woke up nobody would tell me what it was about. The older dryads that knew said Pear or

Grape needed to tell me... but neither of them would. Thyme left shortly afterwards... so maybe the fight was about that? Or maybe Thyme left because of the fight?"

"Um... after that I was pretty lonely. I just slept most of days away until Thyme, the older one, announced they wanted to start teaching the younger dryads and I latched onto it as a way to make friends... but sadly despite Grape and Pear showing up, neither of them wanted to talk to me much... perhaps bad memories?

"Umm... I did have a few acquaintances... but I never felt like we clicked all that well I guess? My 'best friend' if they qualify was a dryad called Oregano but they were a massive magic nerd and threw themselves into work much too often. So even though we got on well, and we did hang out in our shared free time... they didn't exactly have much 'free time' to spend.

"The others I hang out with were more Oregano's friends then mine... but they had similar habits. They were all nerdy magicians... but they didn't like Oregano much because while they all spent way too much time with magic... Oregano was just BETTER at it. Oregano had, HAS talent. So... they sort of ostracised them for it, and me with them. Even if we could still sort of be called friends? Does that make sense?"