

Earths GMagus 391

Chapter 391: Agreement

Thanks to Arthur's assistance, the agreement went smoother than he thought.

Not only did King Uther decide to release Morgana, he even made an announcement to free Emery from all the charges related to the death of Sir Badgemagus and his knights with his position as the knight commander of Divine Order.

The announcement dictated that what happened at that time was a self defense and thus could not be tried.

Honestly, the decision made by the king bothered Emery, somehow. There was a hunch that made him believe this would become a problem later down the lane. However, after thinking it through, Emery just decided to accept this as a win for now.

The next thing that came as a surprise was the king's, or rather, Arthur's initiative to give him a title within the Divine Order. It was a recognition for his alias, Merlin, as a wizard.

The title itself was an empty one without even a useful perk at all, but Arthur insisted Emery to receive it because of how important it was. Apparently, the title would help and further smooth the relation between him and the other figures in the Divine Order.

If Emery was to be honest, he felt he didn't need such 'benefits' as he had no plans to mingle in the murky waters of the 7 kingdoms.

Moreover, as if it wasn't useless enough, the title actually came with a responsibility that he had to fulfill.

The moment the aid of a wizard was needed, he would have to appear and lend a hand no matter what.

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In the end, an agreement had been made between the two parties.

One of the tasks in the agreement was the collaboration between Emery and Logress Kingdom in the hunt for a certain witch named Meave.

Emery did his part by giving a detailed description of Meave. He hoped that with this information, the knights would be able to catch the shadow of her in a short period of time.

King Uther and Arthur were gobsmacked when they heard the description Emery told them. It was almost unbelievable for them that the witch responsible for the incident 20 years ago was a woman who appeared to be in her mid 20s.

Emery also told them about Meave's modus operandi, in which she traveled from village to village under the identity of a healer.

King Uther looked visibly excited at the moment, probably because he now finally had the opportunity to catch the damned witch.

After the agreement was made, Gaious, who was also one of the wizards of the Divine Order, assigned a specialized bird to Emery. He watched in interest as Gaious let the bird perch on his shoulders for a while before taking it back.

It turned out the bird had already recognized his scent and could quickly find him if there was any information they wanted to convey to him. In short, this bird was a communication channel.

Then, while Emery was eyeing the bird with curiosity, Gaious gave him another bird that looked similar to the first one. But, different from its counterpart, this bird would return to the Order if Emery had an important message or information he wanted to send.

Even though Emery felt the bird was useless due to the existence of his [Spatial Gate] spell, that allowed him to easily return to Logress Kingdom, he still accepted it because he thought there might be an occasion and moment where he would need its capability.

After all, it was better to have it and not use it, than to need it and not have it.

When he accepted the bird that was locked in a small cage, Emery grinned as he looked at the red-haired girl standing next to him.

"This is your official task from me, Morgana. You will be in charge of this bird!"

At first, Emery thought the girl would refuse to do it, because he could see a frown on her face. However, the moment she received the cage and locked eyes with the bird, she seemed unwilling to let go of the latter, even if the world were to be destroyed in the next moment.

Emery appreciated how Arthur really gave extra thoughts and consideration to make sure their agreement would work out.

So far, except for a few knights, who were still afraid of him, everything had been resolved and proceeded smoothly.

Now, Emery only had to find a way to actually help Arthur pull the sword, as the agreement per se.

He returned to the room where the sword was, in the endeavor to crack the dilemma. Unfortunately, Emery still wasn't able to find even a concrete solution to this.

The only clue that he had at the moment was the matter about the light element and the requirement of strength.

Left without any possible path, Emery, at the moment, could only hope that the Lady of the Lake could help him.

This would be ideal, the High Priestess helping Arthur and he could reap the credit. Thinking about this somehow brought a smile to Emery's face.

In the chance that even the Lady of the Lake was unable to help him, Emery was confident the Magus Academy would certainly have the answer. It just meant it would take more time for him to help Arthur, as the latter had to wait until he returned for his third year.

Finally, after a whole day had passed, the necessary preparations had been set.

Not wasting any more time, Arthur swiftly prepared a convoy that would bring them to the Forbidden Forest.

Destination: Venta Town.

It was finally the time to bring Morgana back home.

Thinking about home, Emery once again frowned. There was still one more girl problem he had to solve, before he could finally put all these things away and focus on his training.

Chapter 392: Worries

The convoy finally left Camelot castle. Among those who departed were Emery, Morgana, Arthur, Sir Gawain and Gaius, the old magician, accompanied by a dozen other knights.

Previously, the king had prepared over a hundred knights, including a dozen belonging to the gold and silver tiers, to come along for the journey. But of course, Arthur dismissed the idea. Over a hundred men crossing the Logress border and entering the Forbidden Forest could be interpreted as an act of aggression, not just from the Fey people, but also the Lioness.

To ensure there wouldn't be any trouble, Arthur sent a bird messenger to the Lioness King with a letter regarding his visit.

When Emery went with the princess, the passage between both kingdoms took four days. Without the carriage and less rest, however, they could arrive at Venta Town in two.

He silently wished he could simply utilize his [Spatial Gate] spell to instantly return to Lioness. With the added pressure of unfinished business with Gwen, he wanted things settled as soon as possible.

Despite his restlessness to complete this mission, he thought back to all the misfortune that had occurred when he left Morgana before. He couldn't help but feel protective towards her, especially concerning this matter. Hopefully he could stop worrying about her after she was safely delivered back home.

One less girl to worry about. That just left one more for him to take care of.

It had been over a week since he was transported to Luna Quintis by the princess. She should have long returned to the palace by now, frantically busying herself in the aftermath of the Cantiaci attack.

Emery breathed in a long, exasperated sigh. He wondered what she thought about the current state of things — now that she knew his true identity, what would she ultimately decide?

If his identity was revealed to the Lioness king and Fantumar, he would only have more trouble on his plate.

But more than that, what he really worried about was what she thought of him. What her perception of him was and whether or not it had changed, now that she knew he was still alive.

Once again, Emery drew in a deep sigh. He really had to stop worrying about these matters and shift his focus to training.

"Young wizard, you seem to be facing a lot of trouble," uttered an aged, croaking voice beside him. It couldn't be anyone else than the old magician, Gaious, who happened to ride next to him.

"You can just call me Merlin." Emery silently thanked him for the distraction from his whirling thoughts.

"Great! And you can call me Gaious. Or "old man" like you did before is also fine," he chuckled, a friendly glint twinkling in his eye.

Emery slipped out a slight laugh. "Alright, Gaious. I also like to apologize for my previous behavior."

"What behavior? Ah, forgive me, this old man has really got some memory problems. hahaha."

There was an ease to Emery and Gaious' conversation. The cordial warmth that was so natural to the old man's character invited others to befriend him.

Emery used this as an opportunity to ask the old man about magic, how he came to learn it and information on all the other wizards he knew.

In Gaious' case, apparently, his abilities had stemmed from pure talent. Coming from a well-educated background, he was heavily involved in the apothecary association before discovering his magical abilities at the age of 35.

With his newfound gifts, he poured himself into an extensive amount of practice and experimentation, in line with his thorough, bookish nature. It took him years before he was able to cast even the most basic plant and fire magic spells.

Emery found it amazing the aging magician was self-taught. He curiously ruminated on the magician's aptitude in the two elements of his specialty.

Gaious also told him he knew about a dozen wizards, as well as others who possessed magical abilities.

Including Emery and him, Briton now had 5 known wizards. The other three included the court magicians of Norgales, Icenii and Demetae. They would sometimes meet one another every few years.

"All of them are old men like me, Emery... the youngest is Frayne from Icenii, who is in his mid-40s."

"What about the others? You said you knew a dozen?"

Gaious explained that the island across Briton had shamans and there were others he met during his travels to Rome. They held different titles, but they all knew and understood the secrets of spirit energy.

Hearing this, Emery felt an ache bloom inside his chest. He missed his four friends. He wondered how they were doing, as the group rushed past the countryside.

After two days of continuous travel, they finally set foot in Venta Town. News of their arrival spread quickly, the townspeople began to chatter endlessly about the newcomers. Soon enough the cobbled streets were filled with whispers about the royal party. All the citizens of Venta emerged from their houses, craning their necks out of their windows just to catch a glimpse of the golden prince of Logress.

It was late by the time they reached their destination, so Emery decided to bring them to the Quintin's estate to retire for the night. When they arrived, a group was already assembled in front of the gate, as

if standing in wait. A few familiar faces emerged, Luna and Kastan were among them. He was surprised to see a few Lioness knights propped readily beside them.

"Probably a party sent by the king to welcome this Logress envoy," he thought.

But he quickly realized he recognized all of them. They were the few that came with him to Logress for the tournament. To his shock, he saw Golden Knight Yvain in the midst of the crowd.

Luna cautiously approached him, her brows furrowed in clear confusion. Leaning into his ear, she began to whisper.

"Merlin, how come you came with them?"

"Luna, what do you mean?"

Luna looked at him, her expression twisting into a puzzled incredulity. She began to stammer out, "We... we were still waiting for your news... It's been 7 days, Merlin. We even thought you were dead."

"We... Who's we?"

From the corner of his eye, he saw a flash of golden hair — his heart immediately started to thump faster in his chest, as a beautiful girl walked through the door of the estate. It was Princess Gwenneth of the Lioness.

Their eyes locked, hundreds of questions rushing through both their minds.

Chapter 393: Confusion

The girl that had been occupying Emery's mind suddenly appeared in front of him, startling the hell out of him. Not only that, she also seemed to have been waiting for news about him for the past few days.

The situation instantly became awkward and confusing, adding to the fact that the convoy from the Logress Kingdom was still present at the moment.

Emery could clearly see that she was trying very hard to keep her composure, but the nearly perceptible fidgets of her hands and feet could not escape his watchful eye. Inwardly, he didn't know whether to sigh or smile at her reactions when she saw him once again.

The two looked directly at each other's eyes, but neither of them said anything. This situation kept going on until a voice interrupted them, breaking the silence completely.

"Princess Gwenneth! What a pleasant surprise that you are here!" Arthur said as he got off from his horse. Immediately after, he approached Gwen, whose attention was still somewhere else.

At the moment, Arthur still hadn't noticed Gwen's notion. Hence, he continued his advance.

"Princess, I heard about the attack, and wow! I am truly glad to see you are alright!"

While Arthur was speaking what he thought ceaselessly, Luna was kind of confused with the current situation. She just stared at Emery, her gaze asking him for an explanation. Alas, Emery only kept his silence, his mind still accessing the predicament he had, somehow, landed on.

What was Gwen doing here? Why was she still here? What was she thinking? What did she want?

Those questions swirled in his mind, as Emery was dying to ask them, but he knew he couldn't do that. Otherwise, he would immediately be exposed. Luckily, there was Arthur, who asked Gwen those questions for him.

"Princess, I'm truly delighted to meet you, but I find it very odd to see you here. I just sent the news to the Lioness Kingdom a day ago, and I can't believe that you are here already. Therefore, if my guess is right, this means that you are not here because of me"

At his own deduction, Arthur looked at Gwen with a strange gaze, "Then, why are you here?"

Gwen, whose gaze did not leave Emery for even a second, was startled by Arthur's question and accurate conjecture. Even so, she quickly regained her calm composure befitting of a princess and replied, "What do you mean that I am not here for you, my prince? You did ask me to see a wizard named Merlin, didn't you?"

Emery noticed that Gwen took a glance at him again as she said those words. Meanwhile, Arthur breathed a sigh of relief as his hypothesis was proven wrong by the other party.

"Ah, yes... Yes, I see. Let me introduce him to you, princess." Arthur said as he politely beckoned Emery to come over, to which the latter responded in kind, "This here is Merlin. We just came together from Camelot."

Arthur's words of introduction about Emery certainly added more confusion to Gwen and Luna because they thought he was still being treated in the Forbidden forest. After all, the last time they saw him, he was standing on the fine line between life and death.

On the other hand, Emery inwardly frowned at Arthur's action. Now that the latter had introduced him to her, things became much more complicated. He sighed deeply at the thought of resolving this dilemma.

Throwing the thoughts to the back of his mind, Emery swiftly returned his attention back to the current situation, or rather, to Gwen's reaction to Arthur's words. He wanted to see how she would react.

What will she say? Will she tell him that Merlin is, in fact, her childhood friend? Or will she decide to confront him about all his lies?

Their eyes met once again, but still, neither of them said anything.

Arthur finally noticed the tension between Emery and Gwen, making a expression. A few seconds of silence later, seeing as the situation remained the same, he resolutely decided to break it.

"You two know each other already?" Arthur asked as his eyes moved back and forth between Emery and Gwen.

After a few more seconds of silence, Gwen turned to Arthur and said, "No... I don't know this man." She shifted her eye to Emery, staring straight at him, and added, "I really don't know him."

Even though Arthur noticed that something wasn't right, he decided not to pursue it further on the account of Gwen, the Lioness Kingdom's princess, and more importantly, Emery who literally had the Logress Kingdom in his clutch for some time now.

Afterwards, Arthur introduced more about Emery, more precisely, he introduced Merlin to her. He told her Emery was entitled to be the new wizard of the Divine Order, and that at the moment, he was helping the latter for a quest.

Seeing that the topic of conversation gradually became much deeper, Luna quickly invited all of them to her Quintin's estate. After all, it was already late and dozens of important figures standing around in front of her estate might bring questions or gossip that she didn't need.

Currently, Luna found the situation amusing. All of a sudden, the Quintins were hosting two important figures, a prince and princess of the 7 kingdoms. However, what still amused her the most was the confused expression on Merlin's face. She was still anxious to hear Merlin's explanation about the situation.

The knights' convoy swiftly put all their horses to the stables, where they would be led to their prepared quarters by the Quintins' servants. As for the two golden knights, Sir Yvain and Gawain, they still followed Luna because they had the obligation to protect their respective prince and princess.

In a matter of seconds, the playful Luna swiftly became a good host to impress the unexpected yet important guest of hers.

The small group was brought to a room by Luna. There, a table full of extravagant and exquisite cuisines had already been prepared. Emery was a little surprised, as he saw the reception Luna had managed to arrange in such a short time. Soon, they were all seated at the dining table.

"Thank you, Lady Quintin, for the hospitality." Arthur said with a smile.

Reciprocating the gesture with her own smile, Luna replied, "Please prince, you can call me Luna."

Afterwards, she shifted her gaze to everyone and said, "Please everyone, enjoy the small gesture of him as today's host."

Knowing exactly what Luna meant, Arthur nodded his head and began to fill his plate with the various foods on the table. Following him was Gwen who also started taking small pieces from every cuisine. Seeing the two esteemed guests already started, the others swiftly followed suit.

As they feasted, Luna as the host asked Arthur the question about his intention in coming here.

Arthur knew the Quintins' reputation and the fact that they were recommended by Merlin. Moreover, Gwen was the ruler of the land. Therefore, he explained some details as much as he could share.

"We are here to make contact with the Feys."

Arthur's words immediately shocked a few on the table, especially Gwen. She was so shocked that she forgot to put the food in her mouth.

Arthur then told them about their objective, which was to foster a good relationship with the Feys. In addition, he hoped that the Quintins could be of assistance, knowing their territory was close to the Forbidden Forest. He starts telling a bit of the history between the order and the fey. Emery realized the prince was quite the storyteller.

Throughout the meal, Emery was extremely quiet. In fact, he almost didn't say a word, except when he was being questioned.

Morgana, who sat next to Emery, whispered to the latter, "It's her, isn't it? She's the princess in your story."

Emery glanced at the red-haired girl and only nodded his head as a confirmation.

"She's beautiful... I bet you like her very much."

The moment the dinner was over, Luna immediately brought Arthur away with the reason of showing him accommodation. She knew about Emery's complicated situation with the Lioness Princess as the latter was bringing Emery's dying body and accompanying him for 7 straight days until he recovered. Therefore she thought they would need some private time to sort out their problems.

The ones still who still in the room were the people who somehow knew there was something between the princess and the wizard.

Gwen stood up and gestured to Emery to follow her. She led him outside, away from everyone.

When they were already quite a distance away from the estate, Gwen stopped in her tracks. She turned around, and Emery could clearly see anger on her beautiful face. Then, she proceeded to throw her hand at him.

Slap!

Chapter 394: Answers

Slap!

With his skilled reflexes, Emery unconsciously caught Gwen's arm midair, stopping her attack. The situation had instantly turned more awkward, with him clutching the princess' arm tightly and being in such close proximity to her.

Why are you hitting me?! Those were the first words that came to mind, but his intuition told him there had to be a reason behind this, as he could practically feel Gwen's emotions bubbling behind the surface.

The princess looked to be in a raging tantrum, but standing this close to her, Emery saw tears reflected in her eyes. She pulled herself away from his grasp in a forceful motion.

"You...!" Her anger was so visceral she could just barely choke out her words. "Why did you lie to me?! Lanzo! Emery! Merlin! Who are you, really?!"

It appeared she had been repressing these questions for a long time and was now finally able to hurl them back at him with seething venom.

Emery drew in a deep breath, trying to preserve his composure. After all, it was an answer she already knew.

"They're all me, all the same. Calm down and I'll explain..."

"Calm down?! Emery, I... I thought you were dead ! ...twice! And now you're just strolling around like nothing happened... why? Why are you hiding from me?"

Her outburst had begun to slow down, this time into a genuine show of anguish and confusion.

"I thought you were dead... why are you hiding?"

Hearing this, Emery answered.

"Hiding..???. Of course I am hiding... my father, my family... they're all dead! I was being hunted down. Of course I'm hiding!"

"Emery... you should've come to me... me and my father, we could have helped you!"

"Your father...? Oh, forgive me your highness, but it was the kingdom who wanted me dead!"

By this time, his facade of calmness had already shattered. His voice was raised to a resentful shout.

"It was the people around you who wanted me dead!"

Gwen was in shock, in a state of half-belief about what she had just heard. She began to tremble as she started speaking again.

"What about me...? You can trust me... Emery... We have known each other for so long... You can trust me..."

Flinching at her words, Emery closed his eyes. The memory of her on that night two years ago immediately rushed back into his mind. Upon opening his eyes, he stared intently at her, trying to regain the mirage of composure he had put on before.

"Trust you? Did you remember the last time we spoke? You said we couldn't be friends anymore... Don't tell me you forgot about that! You didn't want anything to do with me cause I am a Fey! Just admit it!, you said it clearly that night!"

Emery finally felt as though his pain could be expressed tonight. He felt such relief.

Temporarily feeling a slight triumph in his admission, a moment later, the tears that were welling in Gwen's eyes had started to flow freely down her cheeks.

"You fool, Emery... You hate me for that? I... My mother died because of Fey, can't I have one night of mistakes?"

She stops for a second and continues

"I am sorry for what I said, I really am. There's not a day that goes by that I don't regret what I said..."

She gasped, attempting to hold back her tears.

"And you know what's worse? You went missing right after, presumably dead... How could I ask for forgiveness from a dead person?! You didn't give me a chance... you were dead!"

These words struck something deep inside him. They reverberated throughout his body, making him quiver with emotions. All these years, he had been waiting for her apology for that night. But when it came out like this, Emery wasn't sure he wanted to hear it anymore.

He couldn't accept it... why? Why couldn't he accept her apology...?

Emery was conflicted. Overwhelmed, he began to speak.

"So... What now?"

His hands began to shake. "Are you saying you could accept a Fey now? You want to be involved with the people that killed your mother?"

Gwen was stunned into stillness at being asked such a question so abruptly. She shifted in uncertainty.

"Tell me princess, will the kingdom ever accept me? A Fey boy? No, no... I bet even Lanzo, the young silver knight who gave glory to Lioness... I doubt even he could be welcome well if he was a Fey! Right?!"

This time, Emery had pushed Gwen to her limit. She didn't have the answer, so instead she once again regained her composure, yelling back her response.

"What do you care! What does Lanzo care! I thought Lanzo didn't want anything to do with the kingdom! Don't make up things when the truth is... the truth is... you just don't care about the kingdom... about..." she abruptly paused, as if mustering up the courage to utter the words she was about to say. "You care about nothing but yourself!"

Hearing it from someone else, Emery realized she was speaking the truth. At the moment, his main priority was the Magus Academy. He didn't even care that much about Fantumar anymore. As far as he was concerned, those kings and ministers could just kill off one another, fighting for their stupid titles and thrones.

Emery took a deep breath and said "You are right. That is true."

Gwen's face fell, expression melting from genuine anger to a wounded disappointment.

"Then I suppose there really is no point in arguing with you about this," she said and continue

"You do whatever you want and you can return to being dead for me. Let us both agree to never cross paths again."

Emery could feel a sudden pain blossom in his chest, as though he had been stabbed. His skin was flushed with emotion, hot to the touch. He replied,

"Fine... it's probably what's best for both of us."

Gwen closed her eyes, forcing herself to calm down. Wiping the tears from her cheeks, she regained her composure, as regal and princess-like as ever.

"For what it's worth, Emery, I really did miss you... And I'm glad that you're alive."

She met his eyes once more, this time with a sense of finality in her gaze.

"Good bye, Emery."

She turned around, leaving him standing there, feeling hollowed out and more exhausted than ever. That evening, he received word that Gwen had apparently decided to leave the Quintins' estate with all her knights, not even saying a word to Arthur.

Emery did feel something in his heart shift, but he tried his best to suppress his thoughts.

"It's for the best"

Chapter 395: Disturbed

One week after their argument, the calm atmosphere in the Quintins' estate was suddenly broken by a commotion. A convoy of the Lioness Kingdom's knights dispatched from the capital city arrived at the front door of the estate.

It was her, the esteemed Princess of the Lioness Kingdom, Princess Gwenneth, came for Emery.

"Emery! We have found out everything and uncovered the truth. It was Fantumar. All that happened was his evil works. He was captured and beheaded already in front of the Lioness Kingdom's citizens"

"Also, another great news, Emery! Following the Logress Kingdom's decision towards the Fey people, my father, the Lioness King, already announced that we will do the same as them. We have accepted all Fey people under our banner, becoming our citizens!"

The princess then walked forward approaching Emery who stood in front of the gate watching her.

"I am truly glad you're alive, Emery. I missed you." said the beautiful princess with a smile.

With this news, it appeared everything he ever wanted was fulfilled.

However, before Emery could respond to the beautiful princess, the symbol in his hand suddenly gave off a series of messages.

[ALERT!]

[Universe is in chaos, Emergency recalling from the academy]

[Duration 100 years]

[The recall spell will activate in 5 minutes]

Emery watched all the notifications with shock on his face. This definitely had something to do with the war against the elves.

100 years would basically mean that even if he managed to survive through the war, Gwen and everyone here would probably no longer be alive when he returned.

With the minutes he had left, Emery immediately tried to explain the matter to Gwen, but once again, the symbol in his hand restricted him from doing so.

[Restriction Spell activated. You are not allowed to say any information regarding the academy to those who are not part of it.]

"Arrgggghhh!!!"

He could only helplessly watch as his body began to disappear with every passing second. The last thing he saw was Gwen looking at him with a tear flowing down her cheek.

"Goodbye, Emery."

Emery was startled awake from such a dream. His back was drenched with his own sweat as his mind wandered back to it. The dream was so vivid that it disturbed his heart greatly.

He quickly sat in a lotus position and began calming his anxious heart.

After a minute of serenity, Emery finally opened his eyes and let out a long sigh. A sigh that contained complex emotions.

He thought that by confronting Gwen and expressing all of his genuine thoughts to the princess last night would give some kind of release to his mind. Apparently, it only gave him more concern - something he already had a lot of on his plate.

Not long after, the morning came as the sun shared its brilliance with the world. Soon, Emery's thoughts were distracted by a knocking sound on the door. Turning his head around, he spotted the lovely red-haired girl, Morgana.

Schooling his expression into a smile, Emery asked, "What is it, Morgana?"

"Did something happen?" she asked, with a concerned tone in her voice.

Even though he was surprised by the question, Emery kept his smile, "What do you mean Morgana?"

Unexpectedly, the red-haired girl gave him a confused look before saying, "I can strangely feel that you are in pain."

Emery was completely caught off guard by her statement.

"It's just a bad dream, Morgana. No worries." Emery replied with a smile, trying to assure the girl.

At the moment, Emery found this situation to be extremely interesting. There was no way he would believe that this was a mere coincidence. This definitely had something to do with his Fey bloodline.

The thought of starting an experiment about the matter and starting his training once again quickly brought Emery's mind off what happened last night and the vivid dream.

Hearing that Emery was fine, Morgana decided to not bring the matter up again.

The two went to the dining room where breakfast had been prepared by Luna, apparently.

There, Emery saw Arthur who already enjoyed some bread with butter. The prince then inquired Emery about Gwen's sudden leave. He asked because he was worried something urgent must have happened.

The person in question, Emery, surely could not really explain what had happened. Therefore, he decided to just be quiet about it.

After breakfast, it was finally the time for them to head out to the Forbidden Forest to visit the Fey village.

Knowing the nature of the visit, Luna quickly asked for permission to be allowed to follow them.

At first, Emery wasn't sure if the idea was a good one, as maybe only Arthur's entourage was welcomed by the High Priestess. But knowing how helpful Luna had been and the fact he would probably need her to interact with the Feys more in the future, he decided to bring her also.

Before they left for their destination, Emery asked Luna if she saw a black dagger when he was brought here in wounded state by the Lioness Princess. Unfortunately, she didn't see it, slightly disappointing him.

It seemed now only Gwen's group might have an idea where the dagger was. Alas, with the situation he landed himself with the princess, Emery probably should find a time in the future to ask about it. Maybe the squire's Marc or Lucas might know anything about it.

The group consisted of Arthur, Sir Gawain, Gaious, Kastan, Luna, as well as dozen knights immediately departed for the Forbidden Forest with Emery at the front. He led them through a path that would allow them to reach the village in the shortest possible time.

The moment they reached the deep end of the forest, where Emery himself wasn't sure where to go, several dozen Akavi warriors had waited for them.

There was indeed a little tension during their first encounter. The temperamental Akavi leader, Cavvi, was there leading them and these dozen knights did give a lot of concern for this group of Fey Guardians.

Fortunately, the tension swiftly dissolved when the warriors saw Morgana. With one gaze from her, Emery and the others clearly see they turned soft. Moreover, added with the message that came from the High Priestess, informing them firsthand about this visit, the Akavi warriors reluctantly allowed Arthur's entourage to enter the village.

There, Arthur and the others, except Emery and Morgana, were amazed when they saw the elusive village with hundreds of Fey people living in it.

Chapter 396: Welcome

Today was the first time Felaenon Village was opened to so many outsiders.

Not only has that never happened before during the whole history of the village, but the ones who came to visit were knights. Soldiers equipped from head to toe with weapons and armor. These raise concerns to the villagers.

Near the entrance of the village, Chief Brennus was already waiting. Right as he heard the clang of metallic boots, the old man stopped leaning against a tree and said.

"Welcome, outsider. While you are here, please leave your weapons outside."

Sir Gawain quickly opened his mouth to voice his concern, but the prince shook his head, before ordering the soldiers to hand their weapons over.

The chief placed the weapons in a neat pile, moved aside and gestured to the soldiers to enter. "You are now welcome to enter our village."

Arthur and the knights, Luna, and even Gaious, who supposedly had experience with unique things, were looking at every corner with interest.

Around the houses in the village, stood tall trees with hanging branches and glowing leaves, while the buildings made of all-natural materials provided an unique sight. It was clear from how they acted that none of them expected such a unique place to exist in the heart of Briton.

Emery and Morgana walked among them and he occasionally answered the questions asked by the curious soldiers.

Although the two known figures were walking among them, the villagers seemed to be reluctant to welcome them.

Arthur too, was quite surprised. Other than the unique place and clothing, these fey chrutins villagers look much like any Briton citizen. The only thing that differentiates them was the light green pupils that could only be seen if one looking closely.

After a lot of cold gazes and hushed whispers, the group arrived at the largest tent and were finally greeted with a few warm smiles. A girl ran towards them, followed by three others.

"Sis Morgana!"

The girl was Glita, the youngest of the fey sisters.

She quickly ran and hugged her big sister who has been away for few months. Especially after all the concerning news.

"I am glad you re fin Sis"

The eldest sister Tyra approached and said "Thank you for bringing her back.", not only towards Emery, but also towards the group. From her actions, it was clear she was unfamiliar with human greetings and she was keenly aware of it.

However, everyone merely looked at them in confusion, reminding Emery and Morgana that the knights didn't speak the fey language. The two decided to help and translate them.

They made small talk and after a few minutes, Chief Brennus walked out of the deep forest to inform Emery and Arthur that the High Priestess was ready to see them.

Once more the golden knight Gawain wishes to follow the prince, but Arthur rejects.

With that, they left the rest of the group with Morgana.

"So, who are we meeting?" Arthur asked while walking into a much deeper and denser woods. He watched as roots started to grow and weave themselves into the ground and fill out the surroundings.

"Hmm, how do I say this..." Emery looked at the forest. "We are meeting the guardian of the Gaia."

"Gaia? What's that?" Arthur raised his eyebrows.

Emery remained silent, for he had no answer to that question himself, but after a few seconds, he said.

"Just be respectful and speak only when being asked."

"Alright, I can do that."

Actually doing such a thing was not necessary, but Emery remembered how Master Xion kept on saying the same thing back when he brought him to see Grand Magus Zenoia. In addition, he has no idea of how the High Priestess would treat the prince. It was better to be cautious.

The two finally stopped in front of the shrine and, once more, the golden prince found himself at a loss for words. From entering the village to now, he had seen a lot of fascinating things. From the rare, strange-colored animals scurrying just beneath his feet as they walked. He saw all kinds of wonders, from a rabbit with horns like an antelope with the corner of his eyes, to a tree with glowing, soft blue leaves. Everything was magical and deep down, it terrified him.

Just beyond a pond, they saw a large, towering tree with huge branches blocking the light of the sun. The bluish glow of its leaves was the only source of light, giving the place a surreal atmosphere.

Actually, Arthur has seen this tree on the vision gave out by the legendary sword, he still unable to believe the wonder it shows in front of him.

It was at this moment when Arthur saw the huge bear-like creature coming out from behind the tree, the prince took a step back, his hand on his wrist to grab onto the sword that no longer rested on his waist.

Right as he panicked, a gentle echo came into his mind.

"Prince Arthur... Please do not worry, Artio is a gentle creature."

The voice that spoke into his head, along with the information that such a huge bear was gentle, only made Arthur even more bewildered.

"Welcome. I am Nimue, the High Priestess of the fey."

The beautiful woman came out from behind the tree, while propped up with branches and roots that served as a makeshift seat. Arthur calmed himself down right as she saw her.

"Thank you for bringing him here." as she glance at Emery

Emery nodded in response.

The meeting was not complicated, as the all knowing High Priestess seems already knew about the prince's intention to foster peace between the two races, Logress' plan for the fey, Morgana's return and their quest.

The High Priestess simply told the golden prince to do one thing. That was, for him to touch Gaia's tree with his own hand.

"It wasn't me who have the answer that you seek prince. It was Gaia."

Arthur found the concept of a mythical tree hidden in Briton all this time, as an amusing thing, but he had come here prepared. Before he decided to undertake this journey, he had resolved to take in what he saw with an open mind.

The prince bowed to the priestess, before walking closer and touching the tree with the tip of his fingers. Right afterward, surprisingly his confusion turned into a much calmer expression, to the point he smiled in delight. It was as if all his questions had been answered.

Chapter 397: Gift

What exactly would define a great king?

Is it its royal heritage?

Is it its prowess?

Is it the strength of the military he can command?

Is it the size of the land he conquered?

Is it the number of supporters he has gathered?

These were the things that always existed in the mind of the one known as the Golden Prince. He was born with it and he lived for it. He never actually questioned it.

He already had all of the above, which caused him to think that he would definitely become someone people called a great king. However, his thoughts instantly changed the moment he grasped the legendary sword.

The moment he did so, he was convinced he could be more of that, to be that one king who would finally pull the sword and be the king of kings.

He was given the vision of the great tree situated within the heart of the Briton. This was the thing which led his steps to this moment.

The moment his finger touched the mystical tree, he was immediately given an insight - a realization that everything he relentlessly pursued before was merely a little sprout within a large forest. Just a small parchment in the thousands of years of Earth's history.

The tree did not let out a voice like the sword, but it could touch his heart and give its assurance that he would play a role in a much higher stage, his future was linked to the sword of destiny.

Then all of a sudden, all the pressure he felt was lifted off and Arthur knelt in front of Gaia, his breath slightly panting.

Moments later, he walked back to give his gratitude to the High Priestess, before stopping and standing next to Emery.

The High Priestess eyed the Golden Prince and asked,

"Have you found the answers you seek?"

Arthur was silent for a moment, before he opened his mouth,

"Yes... It was life... This is my purpose, to prevent destruction and bring life to the kingdom."

High Priestess Nimue let out a genuine smile at his words and commented,

"You will be a great and wise king."

Afterwards, the High Priestess did a slight bow to the prince and Arthur instinctively took a glance at Emery who nodded his head. Soon, he walked out of the shrine, leaving Emery and High Priestess Nimue alone.

The High Priestess subsequently glanced at Emery, "I can see it, Emery. Gaia's blessing is shining brightly upon that prince. You did good by leading him here."

Emery swiftly shook his head and replied, "I only brought him here because you asked me to, Priestess."

Upon hearing his modest reply, the High Priestess softly smiled, "It was never that simple, Emery. Your path will never be simple."

Alas, hearing those words only made Emery even more concerned than elated.

"Please give me your guidance, Priestess. What should I do to brave this tricky path of mine?"

The High Priestess unexpectedly responded to his question with a light chuckle.

"I indeed can see many things, Emery. My foresight is a gift from Gaia. However, it's strangely always unclear when used on you. There is something, a shadow and a mist that I can't really see through. However, with the way you're progressing at the moment I'm sure soon enough there won't be anything else I can do for you."

Emery once again was troubled, extremely so, by the High Priestess' words. What did it exactly mean? Even Arthur was able to receive the guidance he needed. So why not him?

Nimue naturally realized the concern Emery had through his expression. Therefore, she said,

"There is one thing I know you will definitely need, Emery. I wasn't sure before, but I think it's time you learned this"

Emery inwardly cheered as he heard that. Something that could help him would always be welcomed anytime.

Without further ado, the High Priestess instructed him to get inside the pond. Hearing that, Emery swiftly followed each and every instruction she gave with the utmost precision.

There was a series of instructions he had to do and a chant, which was then followed by the High Priestess' own spells.

After an hour worth of unbroken chanting and concentration at the words that sounded like a song, Emery finally could feel the energy of the water in the pond reaching out to the glowing roots, into the Gaia's tree.

Immediately after, he could perceive a deeper connection with the pure energy residing within Gaia. Emery felt as if the energy came flowing into him, his body was slowly rejuvenated. Any hidden exhaustion seemed to fade away, as he felt extreme comfort coursing through his entire body.

Soon, a notification appeared in Emery's mind, bringing him out of the ecstasy-like feeling.

[New skill acquired!]

[Nature Grasp - Rank 4 Plant Element Spell]

[Connect the caster to a source of natural energy and absorb it into the body]

Emery was excited beyond words by the new spell he just gained. He still wasn't sure on how the spell could be of any use to him, but he was confident the spell was no ordinary spell. After all, High Priestess Nimue had deliberated about the matter high and low before finally deciding to bestow it to him.

Emery slowly made his way out of the pond and gave his gratitude to the High Priestess.

"This spell is the greatest treasure of our people, Emery. It's said to be the reason for our role as the protectors of Gaia."

Emery was shocked when he heard the High Priestess' words. He didn't expect this skill to carry such significance. He then inquired about the reason as to why she was concerned about giving the skill earlier.

Unfortunately, the High Priestess only smiled and said.

"You will know why soon enough, Emery"

Again more riddles, why couldn't the priestess just give him a straight answer?

Chapter 398: Good Start

Night had arrived and a glimpse of stars peeked out from beyond the tight foliage of the trees. The silver light of the moon illuminated the magical forest with a beautiful, mystical glow.

To celebrate the rare occasion, Chief Brennus decided to host a feast to honor their guests.

Some villagers had arrived with meat and vegetables, which the chief gave them orders to prepare. Simple drinks were served on a long table and, before long, the villagers celebrated together with the guests.

A huge bonfire could be seen in the middle of the place, the scent radiating from the cooked food was heavenly, but overall, he could feel that the celebration was not as merry as expected. Some laughter and chatting could be heard, but it was clear to Emery that everyone was holding back, in favor of glancing at the knights with wary eyes. Only a few dozen fey decided to open themselves up and partake in the feast and dances, while the others watched from afar.

In other circumstances, the Akavi Warriors would be rowdy with excitement, but this time they were watching in vigilance. Their body language looked tense and their expressions serious, as if expecting something to happen any time soon.

It appeared it would take more time for both sides to start feeling more comfortable toward each other. But this was still a good start.

At least the fey sisters seemed able to light up the situation. Glita, Lilith and Lelith filled in with dancing, while Tyra showed her talent in signing. Their beauty and performances were able to lighten up the mood and save the feast.

Emery saw Morgana leaning against a tree by herself, merely watching, but not participating in the party. He approached her and said.

"What about you? Can you sing?"

"No!" As usual, she gave him a short, direct answer.

"What about dancing, then?"

"No." Morgana hurriedly answered, her face tinged red. It seemed dancing was a bit of a sore topic for her.

"Any particular talent to share tonight?" Emery kept on insisting.

Morgana furrowed her brows and thought hard and suddenly her hand started to glow, a sign of her casting fire magic.

"I can maybe do some fire performance," Morgana said with a serious look on her face.

"No! No! Definitely No!" Emery shook his head and hurriedly said. "You can just sit and enjoy the show,"

A performance involving magic used for battle in this already awkward party would just result in the opposite effect. It would be a disaster if the flames accidentally hit the trees, or even worse, the people.

Afterward, while everyone was busy talking and eating, Emery approached the prince and asked him about the vision Gaia imparted.

The prince seemed to believe he would be able to pull the sword when he became worthy of the title. He planned to return and try to understand the people's plight to ensure he could create the peace he desired. With his planned coronation coming in a year's time, he couldn't afford to dawdle.

Emery was speechless upon hearing such words. For him, pulling the sword was merely a matter of having enough spirit force and battle power.

Unfortunately, even though he knew this answer, he had no way to increase the prince's spirit force. They didn't have access to the origin stones like in the academy.

Actually before even thinking of increasing his stats, Emery had to first find a way to measure someone else's stats. Unlike him and the acolytes from the Academy, Arthur and the others had no magic symbol on their hands.

Therefore, he needed to find a way to measure the spirit force of others around him.

There must be some item he could purchase from the academy, but for now, he believed his current solution to this could be found within the path of apothecary.

Now that Morgana has been returned to the village, Arthur has found his purpose and the problem with Gwen was more or less settled. It was finally time to focus on his training and experiments.

Right as he finished talking to Arthur, the feast was beginning to die down. People had started to leave and the villagers were busy tidying and cleaning up the place. The chief provided the group with a moderately sized hut filled with beds to rest.

The next day, the sun had just started to peek out from the edge of the foliage, it was a cue for them to end their visit to the village.

After they gathered, most of the knights and the prince looked refreshed. On the other hand, Gaious had dark circles under his eyes. His conversation with Arthur revealed he didn't sleep at all last night, for he had been busy collecting multiple plants for his research.

Emery merely smiled and shook his head. Somehow, what Gaious did reminded him of his own behavior last year.

He decided to make a mental note to visit and see Gaious' laboratory for himself sometime soon.

Last but not least, there was Luna, who had been trying her best to get acquainted with Chief Brennus.

The last meeting between Luna and the chief was during the night they were hunting for the silver rabbit, which led to the deaths of many from both sides. This time she needed to make sure all grudges ended in favor of Briton's peace with the fey race.

... or at least, that was what she claimed.

Emery could smell business prospects and profit from one mile away knowing her intent, but as long as both sides could benefit, there should be no harm.

First, she mentioned trading. There was potential for the village to trade their rare resources with the material they couldn't find within the forest. The most obvious was the current use of wood and stone for their tools. Therefore iron would be very much helpful for their.... Pots and pans.

Second, she discussed about manpower. Luna was always in need of strong warriors to help her trading business.

She showed the chief how Morgana managed to understand the outside world, she also promised to teach them of the Briton's language and customs. This somehow convinced the chief to get onboard with the idea.

They were there for only one night, but the Quintins had managed to improve their relationship - from killing each other to trading partners. Emery had to admit Luna's superb talent in this matter. He chuckled at the thought that Luna could be a better choice for an advocate of peace compared to Arthur.

Now that their business here was done, they could finally prepare to leave. It was then, Emery realized he needed to settle one final problem.

Right as he turned around, he noticed that Morgana was about to follow him again.

This gave him another headache.

Emery really hoped she would be willing to stay in the village now. The last time she followed him, it ended up being such a bad experience and, if he were being honest, he was scared to bring her along ever again.

When Emery asked her to stay, the girl merely gave an innocent smile.

"Didn't you promise to teach me magic and so many other things?" Morgana said, mimicking what Emery told her a few days before. Emery knew she was at least partially insulting him, but he decided to let it slide for now.

"Yes, I will. I will come to visit often and teach you then. Meanwhile, I will just stay in the Quintins' estate most of the time, you can come and visit of course"

"No!" Said Morgana. She left no room to negotiate at all.

"I will follow you anywhere you stay. You promised."

This actually became a little problematic for Emery as he would often move around with his spatial gate or most of the time he would be going inside the Khaos space. It would be awkward if he had to make up some explanation again.

"There was no way to convince you otherwise, was it?"

"No!"

Emery wasn't sure if the girl was just not smart enough to understand his intentions, or if she's too smart and used Emery's past mistake to force him to agree to her terms.

Either way, without waiting for his answer, Morgana had already said her farewells to her sisters and announced she wished to follow Emery again.

Even without looking, Emery could feel the four sisters' threatening gaze drill holes onto his back, with the unsaid threat of what would happen if he made them worry again.

Ohh damn! At least Emery had no plan to go far at the moment, probably having her around wouldn't be much of a problem this time around.

Emery told her he would have places to go that he couldn't bring her along all the time.

She nodded in silence, but unfortunately, her expression was truly worrisome for him.

The group said their goodbyes to the village and returned back to the Venta town.

After arriving at the town, Arthur and his knight had no plan to stay much longer, hence they said their goodbye and left for Logres.

Chapter 399: Estate

The Logress knights said their farewells and left the Quintins' estate. Right after the huge gates were closed, the place suddenly went very quiet. Without the presence of the knights to serve as a

distraction, Emery realized he hadn't seen Luna's brother, Silas, along with her father. Curious as to their whereabouts, he asked Luna about them.

"Ah, are you concerned for me as well, Merlin? I am so happy."

Now that her father was better, Luna explained, he had been taking her younger brother along on work-related trips, so he could learn how to operate the family business. They were both currently traveling across the sea to supervise the distribution of goods in another continent and to visit some of their contacts, in order to maintain a good professional relationship across borders.

"I suppose my life story is not as exciting as someone who won the Divine Order tournament... Please, do tell me more about it, Merlin! Ahh, no! Actually, I'd prefer it if you gave me all the details about how the princess came to wait for you here for seven days! I can't miss a story like that!"

Luna spoke in an elated voice, she was so excited she could barely stick to one topic before jumping to another. Meanwhile, Morgana, who was standing just behind her, simply stared at Emery blankly. The two of them were waiting for his explanation.

During moments like these, Emery wished he could use his [Spatial Gate] to run and maybe stay in the Khaos space for several days. But, considering the many things Luna had done for his sake, Emery figured it was about time to come clean with her...

He revealed his real identity as Emery Ambrose and his relation to the princess. His explanation included some information about Fantumar, as the cruel noble's plans had taken the Quintins' family to the edge of ruin several times over.

Lastly, he talked about the recent incident in the Logress Kingdom and Maeve's sudden attack.

Luna was a prominent figure in Venta and, as a merchant, she would naturally have come across a variety of information. Emery hoped she would let him know if Maeve ever showed herself in this town.

They talked about important matters, but surprisingly, Luna was not interested in any of them. In fact, Luna's response was,

"So, are you close with the princess? A friend, or perhaps more than that?" She smiled innocently.

"A friend," Emery gave her a firm answer with a straight face. Knowing her, any show of emotion on his face would have implied something more.

"Emery, I am not a fool, I can see how concerned she was while she waited that whole week for you... Definitely more than friends, right?"

Emery kept his mouth shut. He refused to answer, he would not be lured to elaborate any further.

"Alright, alright," Luna teased and glanced at Morgana instead. "What about your relationship with this one, then?"

He looked at Morgana's shocked expression and hurriedly responded.

"She's more than friends, actually... She is family." He then looks toward Morgana and said "We are related, aren't we? So, we're like cousins."

Upon hearing that answer, Morgana nodded quickly and quietly left the room.

He stared at the closed door and sighed. "What is it this time? Did I say something wrong...? I'm -"

"Oh, Merlin, apparently even a scholar like you can also be a moron." Luna flashed a knowing smile. "I am no seer, but even I can see many problems with women in your future."

"... So, does that mean I am the third in line? Good enough, I'll take that."

After talking some more, Luna suggested they went for a walk, talking animatedly as she stood up from her seat. Something about a surprise for him.

Right as the mansion's main door closed behind the two of them, Morgana appeared next to Emery as if by magic. Huh, he didn't know she had such an ability...

Under the light of the setting sun, the three walked together towards the town's outskirts. People had started to light their torches in preparation for the night and, along the roadside, Emery could see street vendors packing their goods to end the day and go back home.

Even though the day had almost ended, the streets of the city were still bustling with activity. They enjoyed the view and exchanged a few words here and there, until they finally arrived at their destination. The place was merely a few minutes' walk from the Quintins' estate and it was close to the edge of town.

The structure that emerged before them was an average-sized building, with two floors and a modest yard. It was painted in sleek, eggshell white with accents of sophisticated beige. The walls that surrounded the area were tall and painted in the same white as the mansion.

"Merlin, this is what I promised you before," Luna said, while gesturing towards the gate. "It's almost ready and when it's done, I hope you can feel more at home here. Treat it as your own place."

Emery was stunned beyond words. Luna had mentioned something about giving him an estate of his own before, but he didn't expect it being this large or built this quickly.

"How I wish I could keep you in my estate, as long as possible," Luna added. "But with each passing day, you keep getting more famous, so you will need your own place as soon as possible."

Not only did the Quintins' give him a mansion, but it was also accompanied with a dozen assistants to take care of the estate.

Emery really appreciated their kindness. He was reluctant to accept it at first, but he believed that soon enough, he could return the favor. For now, he would accept the gift with gratitude.

The inside of the estate was far more spacious than it looked from its moderate exterior. Rows and rows of rooms were scattered throughout the grounds and some parts were already furnished with chairs, shelves and wardrobes.

Luna guided Emery around the property for a simple tour. As she talked cheerfully she began to tease him once more. Smiling at Morgana mischievously, she said,

"I guess from now on, you are the lady of the house... Take care of him well, okay?"

Morgana nodded with a serious expression, right as Emery glanced at them. It was clear she hadn't taken Luna's words as a joke at all.

"See, Merlin? This is why I am more worried about you!"

Chapter 400: Herb and Garden

Preoccupied with his new place, Emery decided to delay his training for a while. He chose one room in the estate that faced the garden and decided to turn it into an apothecary room.

He then went to town, checking the shops for apothecary utensils. The ones he had now were standard clay ones. He was hoping to find better quality materials appropriate for his new, lavish home.

Unfortunately, even in a town as big as Venta, the stores also only sold standard-grade tools. Therefore, he decided to cast his [Spatial Gate] spell to a more metropolitan area, where there were ports that shipped items from outside the island. When the spell was complete, the soles of his shoes clacked against the cobblestone roads of Lionarch City.

Walking through the bustling streets, Emery passed through various storefronts in search of the right supplies. Once more, he went to speak with the Alistairs in the apothecary shop about his needs. With their recent trade, they were more than happy to help.

The most crucial items for apothecary included a cauldron, as well as a mortar and pestle. But there were also other appliances he had to account for, such as jars, sieves, strainers and weight measuring instruments.

The cauldron, mortar, and pestles were available in materials of three varying qualities. The cheapest ones were clay, then bronze and the best were made out of black marble.

"Yes, the best ones, please. I'll take five sets."

With five sets, Emery could concoct multiple potions at the same time. This would definitely increase his productivity, as well as the progress of his experimentation.

The black marble sets were imported from Greece, however, so it would take quite long for them to arrive. There was an estimated time of about six to eight weeks before his order would reach Lionarch and that was assuming the delivery process went smoothly.

It appeared Emery needed to be patient before he could start his experiments. While he was there, he also decided to buy a bulk amount of potion ingredients and seeds from the large selection the store had on hand.

As the Alistairs were picking out sacks of herbs from the wide expanse of shelves, they revealed they were hoping to stock up on more cleansing potions. Hence, they agreed on a new transaction: a hundred cleansing potions as payment for 5 sets of top quality apothecary equipment.

Handing Emery's purchases, the two men behind the counter grinned from ear to ear. It appeared they had profited more than they were telling, but Emery did not really care. The father and son duo wished him well, as they hoped to trade more special products with Merlin in the future.

When Emery returned to the estate, he did two things. First, he began to prepare his batch of a hundred cleansing potions and second, he started to transform the spacious yard into a herb garden.

Unlike before, he now had assistants to help him tend to it. He simply had to make sure the plants were prepared accordingly, in the best possible conditions.

Two dozen different types of seeds were planted all over the estate garden. This would serve as a good experiment for him to understand the way the soil interacted with the seeds. As the estate's staff watered the ground outside, he watched them from the apothecary room window, feeling a pang of gratitude towards Luna for providing him with such abundant luxuries.

Within two days, all his required arrangements were completed and all he needed to do was wait. While Emery had been busying himself with his personal projects, Luna and Morgana also had business to attend to.

As requested by Emery, Luna had provided Morgana with tutors to teach her more about the language of Briton, along with basic knowledge such as mathematics, history and geography. Her days were therefore mostly spent in the mansion's study, hard at work memorizing a dizzying amount of names, places, dates and words.

On the third day, however, things became more rowdy. The first batch of Fey warriors had arrived in Venta to follow up on the agreement Luna had with Chief Brennus. Ten warriors had come to join the tutoring session and among them there was Cavvi.

The Logress knights' last visit and Morgana's situation had forced even the strongest Akavi warrior out of the forest to learn more about the outside world. With them having zero knowledge of the language and a minimum understanding of the culture, Morgana was forced to assist.

With Morgana now preoccupied, as well as his tools and garden not yet ready, it seemed Emery was finally free from distractions. It was a good chance for him to return to his training; he no longer had any excuse to slack off.

Training also served as an opportunity for him to push back the uneasy thoughts he was having about Gwen. He hated to admit it, but he still found himself subconsciously replaying their last conversation together whenever his mind went blank.

Pushing his emotions to the side, he forced himself to focus. He refused to dwell on arbitrary matters when there were far more important tasks at hand. The first thing he decided to learn was the new spell he had just learned from the high priestess; [Nature Grasp], a Tier 4 plant element spell.

Although he could learn it, he was currently unable to use it. He had yet to cross the spirit force requirement to cast Tier 4 spells because of the restriction.

[Spirit Force: 217 (142)]

He only needed 8 more points to cross that threshold and finally fulfill the requirement.

Give or take, he could reach that target within two or three weeks of training in the Khaos space...

Finally, it was time to see Killgragh again. It had been a while since Emery had last been there.

He wondered how the dragon would react, as he had been postponing his training all this time.