

## Earths GMagus 521

### Chapter 521: The Jarl

"You are in the presence of Jarl Haraldson, protector of Bergen Town," said the men, as Emery walked into the great hall, meeting the man they referred to as Jarl Haraldson, who was sitting on his wooden throne.

Meanwhile, standing next to Jarl Haraldson, there were two dozen warriors, a few ladies of the house and a blind old man who seemed to be a shaman.

The town guard walked towards Jarl Haraldson, showed his respects and handed the scroll over to him. Soon after receiving the scroll and opening it, Jarl Haraldson's face showed a hint of surprise. He seemed to have been slightly taken aback by what he saw in the scroll.

"A sealed letter by King Fjolrin of the Scyfling," Jarl Haraldson muttered, his low voice filled with a mix of surprise and interest. The jarl's words quickly shocked the old man standing next to him. In disbelief, the old man requested to touch the letter and feel it with his hands and nose. Of course, their surprise and disbelief were to be expected. With a light nod, Jarl Haraldson handed the scroll over to the old man for him to examine.

Having seen the scroll and its contents, the jarl quickly turned much more hospitable. He made eye contact with Emery before saying with a smile, "Pardon my impertinence. Please understand, I have only seen the seal of the Immortal King twice in my life, hence it wasn't within my expectations that he would send me a guest."

The blind old man appeared to have finished examining the authenticity of the scroll. He gave Jarl Haraldson a nod to inform him that the scroll was indeed real and the jarl's eyes showed pleasant surprise.

"It seems we now have a special guest. Please do not hesitate to tell me if there is anything you need. I will be sure to do everything in my power to have them provided," Jarl Haraldson politely told. Although his tone was polite and accommodating, it was not flattering or submissive.

Emery quickly went ahead and told them what he came for. He asked them about rumors regarding a certain wolf, a wolf that was reported to the king a dozen years back.

"Fey wolf? I have never heard of such a creature," Jarl Haraldson replied after a quick thought.

Seemingly in deep contemplation, the blind old man mumbled a few vague words with an expression of uncertainty. After a moment of hesitation, he finally whispered something to the jarl.

"My shaman thinks you might be talking about the wolf beast that was sighted on an island southwest of here," Jarl Haraldson conveyed. Although he himself was not sure whether this was the case, he still chose to inform him, as there was still a chance this information was true.

To confirm, Emery asked if the beast that was sighted was indeed a fey wolf, but as neither Jarl Haraldson nor the old shaman knew anything about it, they couldn't personally confirm his inquiry. This somewhat disappointed him, but before he could express anything else, the old shaman began talking.

"That wolf beast was gigantic in size. A few years ago, it was said it went on a rampage and killed numerous villagers on the island. Of course, there were warriors who challenged it, but no news of them ever returned since their departure. It has been quite long since we last heard anything regarding the wolf or the villagers on the island."

"That wolf might be long dead," Jarl Haraldson said with uncertainty.

"Or the island's villagers are no more," the old shaman added, seeming to be thinking deeper.

"Either way, every time there is a mystical sighting of any kind, it is to be reported to the? Immortal King, which is why it was reported a dozen years back. Unfortunately, it has long been forgotten."

Emery was undoubtedly disappointed by the result, but he still wanted to check the island to make sure. He didn't want to leave just like that, as he didn't want to just ignore what could be an important clue.

Jarl Haraldson was kind enough to provide him with a ship and a dozen crews to take him to the island. In truth, they were in a shortage of ships due to the coming invasion, but as it was a request from a special guest from the king himself, he chose not to refuse it.

After previously hearing it from Torstein, another word of battle piqued Emery's interest. Since they were being very open with him due to the scroll from the king, he might as well take advantage and ask them about it.

"Invasion? Yes invasion of Britannia, of course!" As expected, Jarl Haraldson was more than happy to spill it out. He even seemed extremely proud about it, as he told him about how five jarls of the Danes united to invade Britannia.

"This will be the largest force we have ever gathered! We are talking about 100 large warships, a total of more than 10,000 men!"

The jarl continued talking about how after all their preparations up to this point, they would finally be able to invade Britannia. This gave Emery mixed feelings. He knew full well that throughout history, the Danes had never invaded with such a force.

"We are just waiting for the winter to be over and for all the ships to gather. If everything goes well, we should be able to leave in a few weeks," said the jarl, brimming with confidence.

Emery believed this news must have already reached Arthur's ears. After all, these Danes were the complete opposite of sneaky. Emery turned to ponder once more, thinking about if he should be involved in such a war.

But in the end, he still decided not to be involved too much with it, since other than the safety of the people he cared about, he didn't really care about which group of people owned which land. Of course, on the premise it would not affect the people he cared about.

Either way, at the moment, his top priority was to focus on his cultivation, so he decided to put it off and think more about it after he finished checking the mysterious island.

Before he departed, Emery made another request to Jarl Haraldson. He asked the jarl to take care of the two dozen slaves he just bought well.

After he was done, he went to check the ship and the crew that was provided for him.

### **Chapter 522: Three Claw Island**

When Emery first came to town and arrived at the harbor, he did not realize the dozen ships in front of him were all warships.

He saw more of them just arriving at the bay. Each was filled with warriors armed with a shield and an ax; they were all Danes warriors ready for war.

Before Emery could observe more, an unfamiliar man approached him from the side.

The man bowed and introduced himself with a polite smile, "Greetings, Sir. My name is Kanut. Please allow me to guide you to our ship." Emery simply responded with a nod and followed Kanut as they boarded one of the smaller ships.

It was a ship with oars attached to each side. Its crew began to move the oars, soon after, the ship began moving to the middle of the sea and the sail was released.

Feeling the breeze of the sea blow his way, Emery could feel the ship smoothly moving forward, as if it was completely unhindered by the fierce water and crashing waves below.

The bright sky turned dark and the dark night sky turned bright once again. Before he knew it, he could already see an island with three mountain peaks.

As he was admiring the view of the mountains getting closer, from behind him, he could hear footsteps nearing before stopping a close distance away.

"Sir, we have arrived at the island of three claws."

Diverting his eyes back to the mountains, he understood why they called it the island of the three claws. The position of the three mountains and with the peak of the central mountain being taller than the two other peaks indeed painted a picture akin to three massive claws.

Taking a look at the island itself, it was quite large. On one side of it, he could see a small village. It seemed peaceful from afar, but looking closer, it felt more deserted than peaceful.

The ship docked at the side of the village. From what he could see, the village had approximately 40 houses, all similar in size. But despite the number of houses, there was not a soul in sight. Instead of villagers going about, they could only see claw marks and what appeared to be dried blood. The place appeared to have been abandoned for at least a few months.

To confirm, Emery began using his spirit reading. Although he expected that there really were no living humans within the vicinity apart from themselves, what surprised him was that he could not get a clear read of the mountains.

Kanut was also perplexed by the state of the village.

"Although the island is not well-known, it is still unlikely for the villagers to completely abandon the village without any news," Kanut expressed his thoughts.

Emery found the situation to be extremely concerning. It was very likely that something happened to the people of the island. And whatever that something was it could not be good.

Half of the warriors who accompanied him here were asked to stay at the ship and wait, while Kanut and the rest were to follow Emery into the forest. After a round of selection on who had to stay and who had to follow, they began walking into the forest, heading toward the mountain with their guards up.

Saying the forest was just dense would be an understatement. It had only been a short while since they entered the forest, but they could feel it was a little cramped up due to their number and the surrounding trees.

After about an hour of walking straight, Emery could sense a living person near the foothill of the mountain. Unknowingly, his walking pace became faster the closer he got to the location.

When they finally reached the place, they could see an old woman sitting in front of a small house. She seemed to be around 60 to 70 years old; she remained calm when she realized there were visitors.

After a moment of hesitation, Kanut walked forward to ask the old woman about what happened to the village.

Hearing him mention the village, as if out of reflex, the old woman immediately exclaimed, "Demon!"

This confused them. At the same time, it did not give them a reason to believe the woman. They might believe it if the woman told them it was the act of a group of beasts, but a demon...

The group thought of the woman as senile and she began telling her story from 10 years ago, about a demonic wolf that terrorized the village.

"It was as big as a bear, fangs as large as a human arm and fur sharp like a sword... a demon!"

The old lady continued saying that many died due to it; not even the strong men of the village could survive. At that time, the villagers had already reported the situation and its severity to the jarl, but only a small group of warriors were sent and they were quickly killed by that demon.

Since then, nobody dared to challenge it. To appease it, the villagers began offering their sheep as sacrifices every week. It was enough to appease the wolf to stop massacring the villagers. That is, until someone came to kill the wolf last year."

"It's already dead!? Someone? Who was it?" Emery quickly asked.

The old woman thought for a while before slowly saying, "A sorcerer, a woman."

Emery was caught off-guard. He didn't know why, but he immediately thought of Meave, the witch of Britannia. This place could be reached within a week by boat, so it made sense. Not to mention, to be able to kill something even a group of strong and capable warriors were unable to.

"What happened after that?" Emery continued to ask. He had to know more.

A few months after that sorceress succeeded in killing that wolf and left, a second demon appeared. It rushed out of the forest and massacred everyone in the village, causing it to become what it is now.

"It seemed the demon cared nothing for an old hag like me... but... I can hear it... once a week it comes staring at me... until today... That's what's happening for this past year," she lamented.

Although it was an unfortunate incident for the old woman and the villagers, Emery was hoping the beast could have something to help his bloodline.

It was at this moment that the old woman suddenly asked, "You came here to kill the beast, didn't you?"

Although it was a question, he felt the old woman did not ask to confirm and that she already knew.

It was Kanut who affirmed it.

"Good, very good... because I think that sorceress needs help to kill that second one, this demon is bigger than the first one."

Hearing this Emery was surprised and quickly asked? "Elder, are you saying the sorceress is here? Right now?!"

"Yes, she arrived a few days ago. Hmmm... Are you not with her?" The old woman affirmed and asked back as she thought that they were in the same group.

Emery was shocked, could it be that Meave was here all this time? Now that he had this information, Emery told Kanut and the warriors to stay and accompany the old woman and he himself immediately rushed toward the mountain.

Emery constantly used his spirit reading in hopes to find the witch as soon as he could. Not long after, he senses a figure, a woman running through the woods.

Realizing how slippery Meave was when they last fought, Emery felt he needed to be decisive, he cast [Spatial Storage], pulled out a sword, and quickly used [Blink] to tackle her.

He swung the sword into her neck when he suddenly realized something was wrong... the woman was not Maeve. instead, it was someone he know very well.

"Morgana!"

### **Chapter 523: Wolf Beast**

He could not believe his eyes. The woman that was under him at the moment was someone he knew really well.

Dozens of questions quickly ran through his mind as he stared down at her. She appeared to be experiencing the same, but immediately realizing the position they were currently in, Morgana swiftly pushed him away.

Ignoring how she pushed him, Emery asked the first question that ran through his mind, "Morgana! Why are you here!?"

The girl looked at him with a sharp gaze in response before saying, "I was gonna ask the same to you!"

Emery wanted to ask her more about various things, but the words got stuck in his throat as he noticed something. Morgana had been holding her arm the entire time, with blood dripping between her fingers. She was injured.

He wanted to approach her to check on Morgana's injury, as it seemed quite bad, but she hastily stepped back and shouted to remind him, "Don't worry about me, worry about what's coming!"

Ever since he arrived on this island, he had always felt it was strange. That feeling amplified when his spirit reading got distracted when he tried to get a read. Fortunately, even so, he could still use his senses. At this moment, he could hear noises coming from behind the trees, as well as a certain smell of something rushing toward them.

Morgana noticed it as well. She turned her gaze back to Emery and urgently demanded, "Give me a weapon!"

Without delay, Emery threw the sword in his hand toward her and pulled out another one from his spatial storage. At that exact time, he could hear a loud growl quickly closing in on them. Immediately after, they saw the creature finally jump out of the treelines.

It was a wolf beast.

The beast was exactly as the old woman described. The wolf was actually even bigger than a bear, its pitch black fur appeared to be sharp like a sword, and its large fangs, sharp claws and two pairs of red eyes could make anyone tremble in fear. Noticing Emery's presence, the beast stared at him for a while, before returning its gaze toward Morgana.

Seeing the direction of its gaze, Emery quickly casted [Blink] to appear right in front of Morgana, obviously trying to protect the wounded girl.

Unfortunately, Emery's gesture of kindness was not appreciated. Out of his expectations, Morgana used the sword he previously gave to slash his hips.

Splat!!

Her actions caught Emery off-guard, causing him to drop to a half-kneel on the ground from the pain. He wanted to ask her why, but his question was immediately answered.

"It's my hunt!" Morgana simply stated and right after, her four limbs transformed and she with enhanced speed and strength, she swiftly charged at the wolf with her sword.

At that moment, the wolf also charged at her with its fangs, but Morgana was able to find the right timing and immediately dodged toward the ground. She instantly side-stepped and stabbed the wolf's side without hesitation. Although it only made a shallow wound, she was actually quite surprised with the sword Emery gave to her.

Not willing to lose her chance she hastily pushed her sword across the wolf's body in an attempt to make a long cut through the wolf's side,

Blood dripping on the wolf's side and the large wolf howled in pain. To her surprise, the wolf slammed its entire body toward her and threw her away a few meters back in retaliation. In an instant, her body smashed onto a tree, the impact causing her to spit out blood.

Seizing the moment, the wolf quickly charged toward her, but right when it was only a meter away from her, its advance halted. Its body as well as all its limbs were entangled by what seemed to be a mix of various plant roots.

[Entangled], a tier-one plant spell.

Ever since the spirit seed bloomed, Emery regained the ability to cast tier-one spells; [Entangled] was one of them. Moreover, it was a tier-one spell with a powerful spirit force of over 500.

The large wolf was held down. It tried using its claws and fangs to cut the roots and break free, but more roots began tying it down just as the wolf managed to cut a portion of it, entangling the beast even more tightly.

Morgana looked at it with mixed feelings. Even so, it didn't last long. After all, how could she have the heart to waste such a good opportunity? Without hesitation, she raised the tier one sword Emery previously gave her and stabbed the wolf on its neck.

The large beast howled loudly. It tried its hardest to struggle and, using the last of its strength, it managed to break away from the entangling roots and swiftly rushed back to the woods.

Seeing this, Morgana screamed in irritation. She swiftly used her half-transformation on her feet to catch up to the escaping wolf, only to end up falling as she was about to chase after it.

Emery stood up and quickly rushed toward the girl who was panting loudly for the pain. There were numerous bruises all over her body. Not to mention, she was bleeding profusely from her shoulder.

He reached out his arm to her with the intention to help, but Morgana resisted. At first, he thought of just letting it go since she didn't want his help, but seeing the flowing blood, Emery decided to be forceful. He carried her regardless of her unwillingness and laid her back to a tree before tearing the clothes on her shoulder.

Seeing his actions, Morgana only looked away in embarrassment. Emery silently examined her shoulder injury. It appeared that at some point, the wolf managed to bite her shoulder.

Unfortunate as it was, Emery was currently only capable of casting tier-one spells, so he was unable to cast [Nature's Blessing] to heal her. Not yet, at least.

Emery used his spatial storage, took out his healing paste and began to gently apply the paste on her shoulder. The application took some time. After all, the bite wound on her shoulder could not be considered small at all.

"You better explain to me what just happened," Emery sternly demanded.

He then applied some of the past to the injury on his hips, on the sword injury from Morgana.

Morgana stayed quiet for a while, before slowly whispering, "I'm sorry I hurt you... but it's my hunt... teh wolf is mine!"

## **Chapter 524: Wolf Hunt**

While Emery was still tending the fiery red-haired girl, he also took advantage of this opportunity to start asking questions, strongly hoping she would be willing to answer.

"So, how many days have you been here?"

The girl was silent. It was apparent she didn't want to say anything, but Emery persisted. He shifted his body and looked straight into her eyes, waiting for an answer.

Perhaps because of the emotions within Emery's eyes or something else entirely, Morgana turned her head to the other way and muttered in an extremely soft, almost inaudible voice.

"...Three days."

Nodding his head at her answer, Emery proceeded to pull and tie the clothes he had used to bandage her wound, causing her to hiss slightly.

"Now, tell me. How do you know this place?"

Morgana, once again, didn't immediately answer his question. But moments later, she slowly said, "It was... the High Priestess. She told me about this place."

The unexpected answer actually made Emery confused for a moment. As much as there were mysteries the High Priestess had, he wondered why she didn't tell him about such a place.

Then again, Emery was shown the Gaya temple by Gaia, hence it should be no oddity for Morgana to be shown this place. Agreeing his speculation was most likely what had happened, Emery proceeded onto the next question.

"Now, please, tell me Morgana..." he said looking directly at her, "What hunt were you talking about before?"

This time, Morgana seemed to have no intention to answer. She forced her body to stand up, picked up the sword lying on the ground and began to move her body where the blood trail went. Clearly, she wanted to seek the beast.

Emery stood in front of her to make her stop. Unaffected by her glare, he said

"You have to walk behind me, or you're not going anywhere."

Morgana was annoyed, but knowing her condition, she eventually nodded and followed behind him.

The two quickly followed the blood trail that was very apparent on the grassy ground. They were hoping to find the beast's corpse eventually, as Morgana did stab the latter cleanly on the neck, which should be critical enough.

But apparently, reality was not that optimistic, as it had been an hour since they started walking and they were still following the trail.

"There's already so much blood coming out of it! The beast must be dying already..." muttered Emery, secretly amazed by the beast's vitality.



The two found themselves standing at the bottom of a mountain, where the blood trail abruptly ended among the shrubs. Intently scrutinizing where the trail ended, Emery realized there was actually a cave hidden behind a thick bush.

"A wolf den?"

While the traces of blood clearly indicate Emery and Morgana to enter the cave, the two were still careful and went in slowly. Morgana used her fire spell to illuminate the dark cave, while Emery walked at the front with his sword brandished.

After walking through the murky cave for a few minutes, finally, thanks to his enhanced senses, Emery perceived a faint growl, which unmistakably originated from the beast. Turning his head around, Emery lowered his voice and said, "Be careful. The beast should be up ahead."

There, in the middle of a half-frozen cave, they could see the beast lying helplessly on the ground. The beast also seemed to notice their arrival, as it turned its head toward their direction.

Unexpectedly, it expended the rest of its energy to try biting the two, but only for naught, as its attacks were all dodged. Eventually, it gave up and lay on the ground again, closing its eyes as if resigned to its fate.

Emery was sure the beast wasn't dead yet, as he could still hear its breath which, though faint, sounded rhythmic.

"She's dying." Emery said and Morgana surprisingly responded immediately. "How do you know it's a she?"

Emery walked a few steps past the beast and showed her the view hidden behind by its body. There were five wolf pups as big as normal wolves licking the dying wolf.

"Apparently, she forced her body to come back for her little ones."

Seeing this, Morgana abruptly raised her sword, which in return caused Emery to stop her.

"What! What are you doing, Morgana?!"

"Releasing her from agony," replied Morgana in a calm voice.

"Wait, wait!! Wait!" Emery said, as he saw her raise her sword again.

He was disheartened to see the beast die. Hence, he tried to persuade Morgana to let him heal the beast. She found the request completely unreasonable, but even so, Emery already approached the dying beast and started applying the [Healing Paste] he had.

"What are you doing?! You are making a mistake!! Stop right now!" Morgana said loudly.

Emery realized that from the story of the old woman, the one beast that was killed last year must be the male and this female must be its companion. Its pregnancy was probably the reason why there was no killing in that period of time.

It was only after she gave birth she started to come out of its nest and kill people a few months ago.

"That beast is a killer! We should kill it while it is still weak!" Morgana said, in her attempt to dissuade Emery from healing the beast.

In fact, Emery agreed with her. However, he was also reluctant and unsure at the moment.

For safety precaution, he cast [Entangled] at the beast to make sure when it woke up it wouldn't go berserk. Afterwards, he spoke something that made Morgana calm down and listen.

"I can feel a strange aura from the cave. Let's investigate it first before deciding on the beast. What do you think?"

Emery's words had successfully piqued her interest, so Morgana decided to follow along, for now.

Leaving the partially-healed wolf and her pups, the two made their way into the cave. As they walked deeper, they could feel the temperature gradually rise, which was a weird phenomenon. After all, they just came from a half-frozen cave.

In the end, they found a pond whose surface was boiling. A hot spring situated in a frozen cave, this was definitely something worth checking.

Emery did a slight investigation; noticing the markings around and searching around the spring. From the clues he saw, he guessed the wolves had been drinking and bathing in this place, or rather, the hot spring.

When he looked carefully at the hot spring, he realized the water was sparkling. There was actually a silvery liquid mixed in the water.

Emery took a sample and used his [Analyze] on it.

[Corrupted Spring Water]

### **Chapter 525: Hot Spring**

[Corrupted Spring Water]

The information Emery received from this sample of water certainly surprised him. Every time he used his apothecary skill [Analyze], he would receive certain information regarding the items he analyzed.

Even though there were times where the information was scarce and almost had no value, he at least received a little information. But this sample of water strangely had nothing, except its name derived by the [Analyze] skill.

Fortunately, Emery had another trick on his sleeve to tackle this dilemma.

[Fragmentation]

As the skill took effect, the numerous blobs of the hot spring water gradually floated gently to the air as they coagulated. They then suspended there for a moment, before slowly hovering toward each other, gradually coalescing into a singular mass.

Subsequently, it separated into two lumps of different liquids. One was the translucent spring water, while the other was a shimmering liquid with silvery hue.

[Essence discovered]

[Lycanthrope Corruption]

The amount of silvery liquid was very little when compared to the hot spring water, to the point it almost couldn't be seen by naked eye. Even so, Emery still received information about it that was currently displayed on the symbol on his palm.

Apparently, this silvery liquid was the result derived from the breakdown of the essence of a wolf bloodline. Intrigued by the discovery, Emery proceeded to do an investigation of the hot spring, to see if there was anything that could possibly be the cause of such an anomaly.

Unfortunately, he could not find anything substantial in the area, other than the markings and scratches created by the beast.

Realizing Emery was really interested in the hot spring, Morgana asked, "What is it?"

"There's definitely something strange with the water, but I don't know what it is. Stay here, I'll see what's under it."

He began to undress, which surprised Morgana as she immediately turned her head away. Faint color of red could be seen on her face, but Emery was too occupied by the mystery so he didn't notice it.

After taking his clothes off and leaving only his underwear, he swiftly dived into the hot spring.

Upon entering the water, Emery immediately noted the temperature of the hot spring reached the level a normal human body wouldn't be able to withstand it. Luckily, Emery was more than a normal human. Besides the initial scalding sensation, he could swim unhindered.

Diving to the depth of the hot spring, Emery discovered it wasn't too deep. The hot spring was about the depth of a one storey house. His feet could touch the bottom of the hot spring, while he could still see the surface.

To be thorough, Emery swam until his hand touched the bottom of the hot spring. He then proceeded to scour through all of the rock surfaces. In the end, he discovered that, apart from the searing heat, there was nothing strange about it.

Not giving up, Emery decided to sit on the bottom of the hot spring and start using his [Spirit Reading] ability to carefully feel the entire spring and the frozen cave that surrounded it. However, quite a long time had passed, but he still found nothing out of the ordinary.

He didn't even know if the water in the hot spring was coming from the gap between the rocks or falling from the melted ceiling.

Just as he was about to give up and leave the hot spring, Emery suddenly felt the blood inside of him stirring - something that normally happened when he was transforming into his fey form. The problem was, he didn't utilize his transformation ability.

Because of this, he decided to stay a little longer inside the hot spring, to see if anything interesting would happen. And to his surprise, the symbol on his palm suddenly lit up and a notification popped into his mind.

[Your bloodline had just went through a purifying process]

[Genes purified]

[Fey Wolf gene essence percentage increased to 26%]

The notification surprised Emery, even more so when he read through them. He naturally knew he was on the verge of a breakthrough in his Gene Essence, but it was indescribable that staying inside this hot spring for only several minutes was able to help him go through that barrier.

He could not believe a hot spring could do such a miraculous thing.

While he was still in deep thought, Emery heard Morgana calling out to him. Therefore, he quickly swam to the surface again.

As he reached the edge of the hot spring, an idea came into his mind. He wanted Morgana to enter the hot spring as well, because she also had the same bloodline as him. If the hot spring really was the reason for his sudden breakthrough, then Morgana should receive similar benefits as well.

Emery then started to tell Morgana of his findings. He had only reached halfway through the explanation when the girl had already started to undress herself.

"Look away!" Morgana said when she saw Emery was still looking at her.

Turning his head in hurry, Emery could only continue his explanation with his back facing her. For the next few seconds, he heard nothing but the faint sound of something slowly entering the hot spring.

Worried about her, Emery slowly turned his head halfway and was stunned by what greeted his eyes. Even though the cave was dimly lit, thanks to his enhanced sense, he could still clearly see the palpable curves of her half-naked body.

The red-haired girl was certainly a beauty, without him realizing it, Emery swallowed his own saliva.

Realizing what he just did, he quickly closed his eyes and chanted in his mind repeatedly. "Don't think! Don't think!"

Unfortunately, his [Spirit Reading] ability allowed him to still be able to see his surroundings even with his eyes closed. It also didn't help that the red-haired girl swam closer to where he was, making this harder for him. Once again, his mind chanted the magical sentence louder and faster.

"DON'T think! DON'T even dare to think, Emery!"

As he was busy struggling in his mind, Emery was awakened by Morgana's voice coming from his right.

"Tell me how."

"How...? Ohh, yeah! How... Uhm, actually, I don't really know. Just try to feel something in the water... I guess?"

Emery's sudden stutter only made the red-haired girl staring at him with a suspicious gaze.

"You're not trying to do anything funny, are you?!"

"Huh?! Of course not! No! Never!" Emery was shocked by her accusation that came out of nowhere, so he firmly denied it as if his life depended on it. As a result, there was a certain long, awkward staring contest where no one had words to say.

At the moment, Emery just hoped Morgana would have the same reaction to the spring much sooner, and thus, the current awkwardness would naturally go away with it.

He, himself, once again tried to emulate the same sensation, while submerging most of his body in the hot spring. He tried casting [Nature Grasp] to see if there was any effect and he was suddenly drawn into his cultivation.

Emery didn't know how much time had passed, whether it was minutes or hours. Eventually, he was awakened from his deep state by another notification appearing in his mind.

[Genes purified]

[Fey Wolf gene essence percentage increased to 27%]

There was definitely something special about this hot spring, but Emery still hadn't found out what exactly.

Swearing he would definitely unravel the mystery, Emery opened his eyes and then realized Morgana's face and body were all red... She looked like she was in a lot of pain and when she noticed that Emery opened his eyes, she collapsed into his arms.

### **Chapter 526: Terrified**

Emery quickly brought Morgana out of the hot spring and covered her half-naked body with her clothes.

He could feel her body burning from her forehead to the neck. Even her fingers felt like they could scorch him. Not only that, but Emery could still feel her temperature rising at a considerable speed.

With his limited medical skills, he checked her pulse. It was extremely chaotic. Even though he knew Morgana needed urgent help, due to his limited medical knowledge, Emery did not know what he had to do in this situation. With his current predicament, he tried calling out to her.

"Morgana! Morgana!"

The response the girl gave were only sluggish movements, attempting to push him away. But there was no way Emery would let go. Not with her like that. He held her tight, embracing her from her back.

He could tell from how heavily Morgana's body was trembling that she was in a lot of pain. He was not sure if she was consciously doing it or not, but she was even biting his arm hard.

Emery was momentarily taken aback. He did not expect that she could bite this hard. Her bite was so strong he felt it could probably bite a chunk of his flesh out, but he simply let her and silently endured the pain, hoping it would at least ease her pain.

"Hang on Morgana... you can get through this... you can!"

After a while, Morgana slowly let go of her bite and turned half-unconscious. Because of her movement, Emery turned his gaze toward her mouth, that was no longer biting him, and noticed that her lips were dry. Considering how severe her fever was, she must be very thirsty.

Looking around, he thought of a way. He was not sure if it was appropriate, but he quickly reminded himself the situation was dire. Hesitation would not lead to anything good. He grabbed a piece of ice, crushed it in his mouth and poured it directly into hers.

Emery's face was so close to her his heart started racing. But it really was no time to hesitate, the girl in his arms was in a lot of pain.

Not long after, her trembling began to lighten and, following it, her fever started to cool down little by little. But just when Emery let out a long sigh of relief, Morgana suddenly screamed and her body began transforming to her wolf form. He was sure it was her second transformation, as he could feel the strength that came with her transformation this time. On her body, black and red fur slowly began to grow until she was all covered in it.

Seeing her sudden transformation, Emery was now sure her previous fever and pain were side effects from her genes being purified. With this in mind, Emery quickly opened up his [Spatial Storage], took out an item and unhesitatingly grabbed the berserk Morgana.

He held her tight and put the [Beast Pendant] over her head before letting her go. At first, it did not seem to have any effects on her, but as if to prove itself effective, the pendant quickly allowed her to calm down.

He anxiously waited as the transformed Morgana slowly turned back into her human form. When he noticed she was about to fall, he quickly rushed to grab her again.

Emery tried to call her name again and again, hoping she would wake up, but it appeared she was too exhausted to respond.

After he was sure she was completely back to her human form, Emery carried her out of the cave and used his [Spatial Gate], he swiftly moved toward the old lady's house.

The old lady was initially surprised when she saw the unconscious girl in his arms, but she soon let him use one of the beds for her to rest on and gave Morgana a few clothes she could use.

Seeing her finally able to rest on a warm bed, Emery once again let out a long sigh of relief.

He checked her pulse once again to make sure she was okay. He was glad to find that her pulse had begun to calm down significantly. With this, he was sure she was now just exhausted and fell asleep due to the fatigue.

While she was resting, Emery spent that time creating a potion out of one of the various herbs he had in his spatial storage to make her some stamina potion to restore her health.

To make sure she would be able to drink the potion right after waking up, he stayed next to her the whole night.

At this moment, seeing the girl silently asleep, Emery was reminded of the time they last spoke.

The girl went into a rage after knowing about his relationship with Gwen.

Morgana's feelings for him could not be more clear, but it was his feelings for her that he did not know. He knew he cared for her deeply, but he was not sure where that care stemmed from.

What just happened a few hours ago made him realize he really cared for her and was terrified with the thought of losing her. Even so, he still was not sure if those feelings were enough; and it would be wrong to say something he was not really sure of. The girl deserved better.

He knew perfectly well he disappointed her. He was a fool. When it came to matters of the heart, he had no talent at all. Not to her nor Klea.

While Emery was deep in thought, he suddenly realized Morgana had actually woken up.

Morgana seemed confused at first. She was about to get up, but Emery gently held her and said,

"You really need to rest."

It seemed his touch caused her to have flashbacks of what had previously happened, causing her to stay completely silent for a while. She unconsciously touched her lips while glancing at him, a hint of confusion apparent on her face.

She was not sure whether she should be thankful, embarrassed or angry, so she decided to stay quiet.

Emery himself preferred not to discuss it, as he knew what he did was inappropriate. So he quickly took the bowl filled with potion and helped her drink it slowly.

Once again being under Emery's care, Morgana's heart was conflicted. But for the time being, she was too tired to resist his care, so she decided to just lay there quietly and receive his kindness.

### **Chapter 527: Two weeks**

The next day, seeing that Morgana was already feeling much better, Emery decided to go back to the cave.

Unlike Morgana, it seemed the wolf beast had not gotten any better. He checked the wound that had been previously covered in [Healing Paste]. It seemed to have healed up quite nicely. And yet, the wolf beast still did not get any better. From this, Emery assumed the beast was most likely hurt internally. The sword stab probably pierced one of his organs.

All that was left was to hope the creature had a high enough regenerative ability to heal herself. Emery could also see the little pups rolling around the mother beast's body. Seeing such a scene, Emery decided to look for some food for them to eat. In the end, he managed to catch some fish and rabbits to feed the wolf beast and her five little pups.

He suddenly realized Morgana was already standing near him.

"What are you doing...?" she asked while shaking her head. "You're only wasting your time with them."

Emery took a deep sigh. He pulled one of the white pups close to her and said, "Seriously, do you really feel no compassion for such a sad pup?"

Not waiting for Morgana to answer, Emery put the little pup into her arms. "Hold that one," he said, before then showing her the other four pups. He asked with a smile, "One white, four dark, aren't they similar to your sisters? Surely you won't be that cruel not to care about them at all, right?"

Unable to retort, she ended up holding the pup, while Emery fed little pieces of meat to it.

For a moment there, Emery could see the girl showing her rare smile, but as soon Emery turned to look at her, she could only be seen with a frown.

Afterward, Emery went to use the hot spring again. He needed to know how much of his genes the hot spring could purify, so he decided to enter the hot spring and cultivate his [Nature Grasp] inside the pond.

Morgana, knowing Emery entered the hot spring, followed Emery once again despite his previous warning.

Fortunately, she no longer had the fever. Emery wasn't sure as to whether it was actually thanks to the [Beast Pendant] or because her body had begun to build up and immunity.

She wished to return the pendant, but Emery told her to keep it, at least if she wishes to enter the hot spring.

A few days passed, but no notifications aside from notifications of increases in his spirit force came through. However, Morgana could feel she was getting stronger every day. Due to that testimony of hers, Emery did blood tests on her on a daily basis and found her battle power had indeed been increasing at a steady pace, a sign her bloodline genes had improved.

Still feeling curious about the pond, Emery decided to stay for a few more days. But before he could do that, he had to tell Kanut to return to Bergen Town with the other warriors. However, contrary to his expectations, Kanut declined without hesitation.

"Sir, however long you need to stay here, I will wait," were his exact words, as he looked at Emery's eyes with determination. From this, Emery could see Kanut was dedicated to following his jarl's orders to the letter.

After another week, the notification he had been waiting for finally appeared.

[Your bloodline has just gone through a purifying process.]

[Genes purified.]

[Fey Wolf gene essence percentage has increased to 28%.]

Emery was elated when he saw the notification. Although it took two whole weeks this time, it was still a big leap for him. After all, he would only need another 2% to achieve another breakthrough in his bloodline.

It had been two weeks since he first arrived on this island. In the time he was on the island, he spent his days with Morgana. They did a lot of things together, from catching fish and regularly feeding the pups to bathing in the hot spring.



In the days they spent together on the island, Emery began to notice Morgana had slowly returned to her old self.

With him having gotten a bloodline upgrade, Emery decided to celebrate by making a fireplace to grill some fish and rabbits.

To his surprise, the girl was in a good mood as well today. She took a seat next to him and started taking one of the fish he grilled.

"You can't even grill properly," the girl said, as she looked at the sides of the half-burnt fish.

Emery could only smile wryly in response, but he could feel the barrier that had separated them since their last fight was finally opened.

At this time, Emery decided to ask a few things and hoped she would open up to him. "Please, Morgana, tell me the truth. Why are you here? What was that hunt you mentioned?"

Emery could see she wanted to say something, but it felt as if the words were stuck in her throat. She glanced at him one more time and mustered up her courage.

"Emery, actually..."

Before she could explain, a bird suddenly came flying toward Emery, interrupting their conversation.

Emery clearly recognized it. It was a messenger bird belonging to Gaius, the Logress wizard. In its claws, he could see a letter that was not very clean, most likely due to the weather or the environment it had gone through. And as he expected, it was a letter for him.

He carefully opened the letter and looked at the name of the sender.

It was Arthur.

Emery opened the letter and began reading its contents.

"Emery, this is the third bird I sent. I hope that one way or another, this letter will be able to reach you. Things have become direr here in Britannia. All the signs are present and war is imminent.? My father insists on contacting you for help, but for me personally, I have a more important matter to tell you.

Ever since you left Britannia, Gweneth has been acting differently. I previously did not wish to know about what happened between you two, but now that she has accepted my marriage proposal, I feel I must know. We will be married after the yearly tournament of the Knights of Divine Order. I hope to hear from you, or at least to have your blessing."

The message unexpectedly bothered him more than he expected it to. The message was clear. Knowing about the yearly tournament, Emery quickly counted the date and realized the tournament would start within a few weeks.

Emery's sudden change of expression was clearly noticed by the girl next to him.

## **Chapter 528: Decision**

The Divine Order Tournament was always held at the same time every year. Emery has tried to count the date; he predicted it would be held in the same week this month. With this most likely correct guess, he had two weeks until the fateful day.

Thinking about this disturbed Emery far more than it should.

"What is it? Tell me." The girl who was sitting next to him asked.

Morgana was actually close enough to read the letter with her peripheral vision, but on the other hand, it appeared she still had difficulties comprehending the common tongue much less reading it.

Emery's first thought was to tell her directly about the contents of the letter. But then he remembered how angry she got about Gwen before, so he hesitated. He merely decided to talk about the upcoming dangers that would sweep the seven kingdoms and left aside the part about Gwen altogether.

She was silent for a moment. Deep in his heart, Emery felt guilt for not telling the whole truth.

He decided to steer the conversation back to what Morgana was about to say.

"I am tired, I will head back to sleep." Morgana shook her head, sighed and went back.

Emery watched her leave, the pain already festering in his heart worsened with the realization he had messed up again.

Once more, he gave the letter a quick read, his memories drifting through his uneasy thoughts as he did so. The memories of his time with Gwen hit like a tidal wave.

He had thought his childhood friend was already out of his mind. But this moment dispelled that notion in one fell swoop. He couldn't help but question: what would happen after she married Arthur? What would happen if she don't?

Considering his current circumstances, he tried to distract himself by thinking about how long it took to head back to Logress. If he decided to ask Kanut to take him to the Briton shores, he felt the Danes warrior would agree without question, despite the danger such a long journey would present.

The journey across the sea, according to his calculations, should only take a week. After reaching the Britannia eastern shore, it would take a few days at most to reach Logress. He would actually make it if he left soon, but then what would he do next after he managed to reach the place in time? What end would it serve to him?

He then thought about the threat of war mentioned in the letter, which he knew to be real. His mind conflicted between the teaching of his father about being the knight who protected the kingdom and the teaching of the academy of a Magus' duty.

In the end, he came to the same conclusion he had made earlier, he was just making excuses for himself so he could go back and visit Gwen. He would have a better way to handle the all-out war situation if his problems with Gwen were out of the picture.

With this, Emery decided to return back to the cave and enter the hot springs once more. He dove in and sat in the bottom of the pond, concentrating on his cultivation and trying to calm his beating heart.

The waters of the spring cooled down his heart and absorbed out the worries battling for his attention within his mind.

No matter what he decided to do, he would eventually be involved in the Britannia war. The fall of Logress would only create a worse chaos within the seven kingdoms; eventually, it would only endanger the Feys and Gaia. He also knew Gaia had a plan for Arthur and she would not let Arthur fall in battle.

In other words, he would have to return sooner or later. As for the problem with Gwen, he could deal with her later when, or if, he saw her.

With that in mind, Emery decided to retire for the day.

The next day, Emery immediately told Kanut to prepare for a trip to Briton. As he previously thought, the Danes agreed without question, but before leaving, he needed to do something else first with the hot springs. Before he could do anything, however, Morgana stopped him.

She appeared to be disturbed and asked? "Are you leaving?"

"Yes, but don't worry. We can always go back here and, if my plan succeeded, we can-"

Before Emery could finish his sentence, Morgana cut in and said. "No, I will not be coming with you."

The scathing tone made Emery pause for a moment, but he pleaded. "Morgana, listen to me, I believe if we-"

Emery's words died in his throat halfway through his explanation. Her expression was a mix of anger and disappointment, but at most, fury burned through her gaze. Before he could ask about the reason, she turned around and left.

Instinctively, Emery tried to grab her hand, but the stare full of rage she gave him made him freeze in confusion. "Don't follow me!"

Once again, Emery was placed in a dilemma. She couldn't just leave the girl here on this island.

With it he thought about postponing the trip for a few days until she cooled down. He decided to return to the cave and, this time, he didn't just dive. He also took vials of it and experimented by seeing its reactions to different chemicals in order to find out the secret of the corrupted water. He was so drawn to this experiment and thinking about the results, he once again returned to dive. When he came to his senses he realized several hours had passed.

He noticed Morgana hadn't joined him in the hot spring today. Feeling a little worried, he quickly walked out from the pond to find her.

As he walked out, he smelled the nasty odor of blood. He rushed towards the smell, only to find the wolf beast had already died with gaping, bloody wounds. He wanted to check and see what was the cause, but he realized the five pups were also missing.

He suddenly thought of something that made him feel like thunder had jolted his body and kick started his brain. He ran in rushing out of the cave. He used his spirit reading, and found a disturbing fact.

With dread growing in his gut, he cast [Spatial Gate] towards the port only to find the boat already gone, along with the rest of the Danes

"Where were they going? What was going on?"

### **Chapter 529: What happened?**

Stunned by the sight of the port that was devoid of any boat, Emery quickly proceeded to use his Spirit Reading. It was just pure annoyance that the island had this strange aura that dampened his ability.

At the same time, he noticed a storm was coming from the sea. Torrential rains began to lash on the island, while flashes of lightning accompanied by loud thunder could be seen on the blue expanse.

"They might just be gone because of the incoming storm; right, try to think positively" Emery tried to convince himself.

Taking one last glance to the empty port, Emery then used [Spatial Gate] to reach the old woman's house. He wished the latter would know something about the boat's disappearance or Morgana, only to find out she didn't know anything about them. Apparently, she had not even seen Morgana for days.

Emery exited the old woman's house with a dark expression. Seeing the downpour that was gradually becoming fiercer, he gritted his teeth and finally shot towards the forest.

Under the onslaught of raindrops and a barrage of strong winds, Emery swiftly ran through the forest, while continuing to utilize his disrupted Spirit Reading. His body was completely drenched by the rain, but he didn't even show the slightest hint of concern as he continued to shout the red-haired girl's name.

A lot of time later and he had traversed dozens of miles, but Emery still couldn't find her.

He eventually stopped under a tree exhausted, while once again trying to think the best out of the situation.

"She might take the pups away from their mother's corpse and is currently taking care of them. Yeah, that's probably it."

An hour later, Emery finally stopped his fruitless search and realized he was wasting his time and being in denial. There was actually one certain way to know what really happened.

He went back to the cave and arrived at where the wolf beast's body was. He then checked the state of its body, or more precisely, the wounds.

There, he found it. There was a new wound, it looked as if something within the wolf's body was taken forcefully. Emery still couldn't believe it, even when the evidence was right in front of his eyes.

It was clear there was no other explanation than that the girl killed the wolf beast and took the Danes with her forcefully or by trick.

A moment of silence fell in the cave as Emery was asking himself why she did it.

It seemed that from the very beginning, she came here for the beast organ. It must have something to do with why she called it 'the hunt'.

At the moment, he also hoped Morgana would not do anything awful to the pups. She definitely wouldn't, would she?

Emery went deeper into the cave, heading in the direction where the hot spring was, while thinking what he should do next. He was about to walk to the edge of the hot spring, when he saw something nearby -? a small object that was familiar to him. It was the beast pendant.

He must have missed it when he smelled the odor and rushed out of the cave.

Picking the pendant up and holding it in his hand, Emery had just found another reason for him to head back to Brittania right away. That girl must be trying something stupid and he had to stop her.

Before leaving, Emery decided to do something he had already planned from yesterday. He took a large amount of the hot spring water and used [Fragmentation] on it. It took hours before small drops of the silvery liquid [Lycanthrope Corruption] were extracted from the hot spring water. He collected enough to completely fill a small vial. He hopes its enough to further study this essence back at home.

Emery also did not forget to bury the beast's body in the forest right outside of the cave. The storm was still going on, but he clearly didn't care about it and made a proper resting place for the monster.

There was actually no need for him to feel sorry for the wolf, since it was already on the verge of death, but Emery couldn't help but do so when he thought about Morgana's actions.

Emery decided to set a stone formation on the island as well, as he had a hunch he would be returning to this place in the future. With that, he was ready to leave for Briton.

Several trees in the forest were cut by Emery's sword, as he needed them to make his means of transportation. Binding and joining them together using his [Entangled] spell, he quickly got himself a simple, handmade makeshift raft he could use.

Satisfied with the results of his hard work, he carried it to the shore. As the storm was still intense, Emery decided to wait for tomorrow and hope the sky would clear up.

Luckily, the next day, the storm had passed and therefore he was ready to go. Riding on his raft, Emery took advantage of the wooden oars he had made and his water element spell [Whip Splash] to sail out to sea. The combination of the two carried the raft eastward, towards the Danes' territory.

It took Emery a day and a half of rowing to finally reach the other shore. The moment his feet touched the sandy shore, he was immediately shot toward the direction of Bergen Town. Arriving in the town, he quickly tried to find a ship bound for Brittania.

Unexpectedly, he didn't have a hard time looking for one. The whole bay of Bergen Town was filled with warships, there were at least hundred of them. It was the invasion force and they were about to leave for Brittania.

As a special guest, the Jarl allowed him to come along when he asked if he could hitch a ride on the ship. The Jarl even let him join the flagship, a warship that was three times the size of the other, manned by almost a thousand warriors.

It didn't take long for Emery to hear the Jarl, who stood at the front of the deck, shouting at his subordinates.

"My warriors! Follow me towards Glory!!"

WOOOAAAAAHHHH!!!

Thousands of warriors shouted their battle cries, deafening the sky, as they were ready for battle, for glory and for a piece of land.

As his gaze turned to the western horizon, Emery's mind was still filled with the question of why Morgana did what she did.

### **Chapter 530: The Curse**

The girl had always been proud and confident in her skills. She had always been sure of herself.

She was considered the strongest fighter in the village. Both her sisters and the inhabitants of the village could always depend on her.

But all of that immediately changed the moment she laid eyes on the boy. It was the first time she had been defeated in a show of strength, after all. Since then the image of the boy had always lingered in her mind.

Even after the boy hurt her and broke his promise, the girl was still unable to be angry with him or harbor any feelings of resentment. The girl simply just loved being with him, so she decided to make a silent promise with herself to always stand by his side.

Later on, she realized she was not the only person on his mind. The boy showed her the beautiful, regal princess he always talked about, and the girl suddenly felt a different kind of anger.

She couldn't stand it, nor could she control it, as much as she wanted to push these ugly feelings aside. That girl was a princess and she was just a wild village girl.

What was she compared to her? The more she came to know about the princess, the more she realized how amazing she was: she was beautiful, smart, fierce and kind hearted. It dawned upon her that there was really no competition from the beginning. It's no wonder the boy chose the princess over her.

And that was why she chose not to stand between them, but she couldn't understand why the more she tried to resist, the more she tried to repress her emotions, the more she couldn't stop thinking about him.

In fact, it was as if her whole body rejected it. She shuddered at the thought of him being with that girl.

She was stuck in this sorry state, not sure what to do about it or what caused it, until one day the High Priestess told her why she felt this way.

"Morgana, you cannot fight it... It's the curse and the blessing of our Fey bloodline. This is simply the way it is, especially for females."

"What do you mean, High Priestess?" She asked, brows furrowed.

"Morgana, you have already imprinted on him. Like I said before, this is not something that you can resist."

Apparently, there was something within the Fey bloodline that made the alpha female naturally attracted to the alpha male of the pack. This was the way it was, by blood.

When she discovered the truth, she didn't feel calm, or that her questions had been answered. Instead, she was driven to anger yet again. This time, she felt fooled by the boy.

She was really confused and unable to accept that all the strong feelings she had towards the boy were all just a lie.

Being with him was torture even, it only got worse when she saw him with her. She couldn't stand it anymore, she was at her wits end. She needed this to stop right now.

She went back to the High Priestess for more answers, but the woman's words only brought her more calamity and sorrow.

"The only way to resist is to become stronger than him. I am sorry Morgana, but there is no other way. This is simply the natural order of things, neither you nor I can change it."

Ever since then, she became steadily more obsessed with getting stronger. It was a good distraction, momentarily at least. Anything to keep the thought of him away from her. But none of the people in the village could help her anymore. Hence the reason why she decided to set out and find the only person who could, and finally, she did find her.

The sister of the High Priestess herself, the witch, Maeve.

"Little young Morgana, you wish to get stronger?" The witch addressed her with a languid, pitying gaze. "I will help and tell you how... We are family, after all."

Maeve was amused by the Fey girl, one look at her reminded the witch of her younger self. She taught her the various ways she could get stronger.

Morgana spent months with her, learning magic and helping the witch by doing her bidding, but later when she finally told the witch the reason behind her motivation, she simply laughed in response.

"Hahaha! You will not achieve this by magic! The only way to get rid of the curse is to get the blood inside of you improved, but don't worry, I will tell you how!"

The witch told her of a particular island she found, and a certain hunt which could improve her bloodline.

"They say there is another beast out there. You should hunt the beast, rip the beast's heart and eat it. Then you will find that your bloodline has been upgraded."

So that's what she did, when she arrived at the island, apparently, the beast was not so easy to kill. She was not strong enough to kill it. And as if fate was playing tricks on her, the boy came and rescued her again.

It was as if the curse was once more controlling the course of her life, as he managed to influence her actions yet again.

Just within days, she had almost forgotten what she came here for in the first place... The girl couldn't help it. If they could stay together like this, she would eventually forget about everything and stay by his side forever.

She decided to come clean and told him everything, only to be interrupted by the tweeting of a messenger bird.

The boy thought she wouldn't understand, but Arthur and the Quintin woman had taught her enough to know the letter was about that princess again... And what the most painful thing of all was the fact he lied to her face.

Just a minute ago, the boy asked her to tell the truth, but the boy was merely a liar himself.

The curse was real and she had to fight it with every ounce of her strength. It was the only way for her to regain control of her life.

That was why she did what she had to do. She killed the beast out of agony like she should have done weeks ago, and tricked the sailors.

"It's better for the boy to never leave the island, not until she finally gets stronger and lifts the curse once and for all."